



**GREAT OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Clerk: Mr D Land**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ON TUESDAY, 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7.00 PM**

**PRESENT:**

**Chairman:** Cllr N Daniels

**Vice Chairman:** Cllr M Bush

**Councillors:** Cllrs S Harris, C Bush, C Browne, Y Bailey

**District Councillor:** Cllr M Bush

**Essex County Councillor:** Cllr D Land

13 members of the public were in attendance.

**09 / 2023- 01 | Welcome**

Chairman welcomed Cllrs and members of the public.

**09 / 2023 – 02 | Apologies for absence**

No Apologies.

**09 / 2023- 03 | Declarations of Interest**

None Declared.

**09 / 2023 – 04 | To agree the minutes of the last meeting (18<sup>th</sup> July 2023)**

**Resolved:** That the minutes be agreed as a true record. Proposed Cllr Bailey Seconded Cllr C Bush – all in favour.

**09 / 2023 – 05 | Outcomes from the actions of the last meeting**

Signs at Recreation Field are installed.

Roof at VH is concrete asbestos, not an issue unless interfered with.

Repeater signs have been done.

Governance policies have been done by Cllr C Bush.

Cutting within the village has been reviewed and agreed with the contractor.

Spoils BT cover now identified – **ND to check if fixed.**

YB has spoken to the contractor about the church footpath and burial ground, items identified for action.

K6 phone box, ND has made remedial works.

**DL to provide a map of PC maintained areas.**

MB noted that there are no grants for trees through TDC.

Lease of the soils – wait for TDC.

MB has provided a new version of the finances.

ND has written to highways about the type of crossing at Beaumont Road.

We can now post to the great Oakley FB group as GOPC.



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**09 / 2023 – 06 | Public Forum**

MOP asked if the cabinets that have been removed from the VH are able to be brought back? YB provided an update. Once the repair and refurbishments have been completed then a review of the space can then take place.

MOP asked about the grant which was awarded for the village hall through OAKSTONES and the cooker. They explained that the chosen cooker is not suitable for bookings of the hall. YB explained that we were governed by rules which have to be taken into account. ND gave an explanation of the plans and why things are having to be done in a certain order. All views will be taken into consideration.

MB outlined that the storage areas that were once used are affected by water ingress / damp. This stops us thinking about further works until these are cleared. There are no objective views that an induction cooker would not be utilised.

MOP said that there could be medical implication to heart patients that use an induction cooker.

**Are people working in the kitchen covered by our insurance?**

MOP asked about the expensive gas bills in quick succession.

MOP mentioned that TDC were inspecting Sparrows Corner for drains, trees and 'parcels of land'.

**09 / 2023 – 07 | Clerks report / correspondence**

Clerk reported the following matters.

**CB to advise which trees need looking at to then obtain a quote.**

**DL to write to the rectory about the trees overhanging – email to SH.**

**09 / 2023 – 08 | Chairman's Report**

The Chair reported on the following matters.

A few issues have been raised about the village hall. Meeting has taken place with caretaker.

There are three public consultations ongoing:

Essex County Council waste strategy

TDC corporate strategy

TDC dog Strategy

**DL to add consultations to the website**

**09 / 2023 – 09 | District Councillor Report**

Cllr Bush gave updates on the following points:

- bins are not being emptied, **therefore buy a new bin to be located outside the park**
- **think about signs on the recreation field around dog fouling**
- **write on behalf of the PC in relation to the consultations**
- waste contract – under review through TDC/ECC
- MB had called UK power networks about overhanging trees and they had agreed with him about the transformer in the VH garden overhanging

**09 / 2023– 10 | County Councillor Report**

Cllr Land gave an update on the following matters:

- TDC dog strategy
- waste strategy



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- councillor led pot hole scheme – stones green road
- road improvement / resurfacing – through to Little Oakley
- locality funding – 3 grants put forward, one returned
- **devolution deal on the table for Essex, Southend and Thurrock include this on future agendas**

**09 / 2023 – 11 | Reports**

**Parish Council Maintained Areas**

Cllr Bailey provided a conclusive report prior to the meeting. There is a motion on the table this evening to address the various needs.

Recreation field – waste bin was emptied after concerns, a local neighbour picked up six bags and took them to the recycling centre and they were sent a thanks from the PC. Signs are all up. Inspection report was all 'low risk' for the recreation field. CB mentioned about having a trim over the trim trail **ask for quote from contractor.**

**Public Rights of Way / Highways / Pavements**

From break of day to the new development needs cutting along the pavement. **CB to ask the owners if it could be cut.** Mosses farm footpath has a padlock. **SH to investigate.** CB mentioned that there is a large amount of debris on the field. **CB to send a photo.**

ND mentioned the new sign on Beaumont Road has been hit. **Speak to signs made easy about a new post. Write to Wix Parish Council about the hedge on the turning to Oakley Road.**

K6 telephone box to be reviewed in 3 weeks. Litter pick on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October.

**Great Oakley Environment, Villages in Bloom, Planters**

Cllr Daniels explained that GOCI have requested that the six octagonal boxes are taken back under their duress. Some Cherry Trees were lost in the initial planting and they will need to be replaced, ND said we could plant more trees along the open spaces which would create a wonderful spectacle.

**TDALC**

Cllr Bailey circulated a report prior to the meeting. Speeding appears to repeatedly come up. There will be a campaign put forward that all villages should be 30mph. The pylons were discussed again coming through Ardleigh. 180kms of pylons in the offering. Leader of TDC talked about the 4-year corporate plan and asking for responses. Overgrown and faded signs along the carriageways.

**Village Hall and New Community Facilities**

A report has been submitted and motions are on the agenda tonight. Chairman thanked volunteers for their efforts including neighbours who had cut back hedges to enable further works that were 'needed' to progress the overall project and ideas.

YB outlined what had been done and the proposals to move forward since the last meeting in July. Works have taken place by volunteers and neighbours have helped. Quotes have been obtained, fire doors have been amended, two picnic tables have been donated by a local business and a further bench has been is being funded by Cllr Land's locality fund. Internally the spaces have been cleared, Curtains re-hung, books removed with a sale undertaken and the remaining books being given to charity. There are outlets for books within the village moving forward. Storage rooms have been cleared in prep for painting and



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decoration, this will be done when bookings are not in the hall 'where possible'. It will all be done by volunteers where possible. One missing table has been located. Fencing quotes have been received and will help not only the user groups, but the neighbours also. Kitchen improvements have been considered and are part of the proposals this evening. Heating system and toilet refurbishments will follow in the future- winter 2024. MB has received quotations for sustainable heating options.

#### **09 / 2023 – 12 | To consider planning applications received from Tendring District Council.**

TPO- no issues.

#### **09 / 2023 – 13 | Cheques and finance authorisation**

To consider this month's payments for approval

Proposed by Cllr Bailey, Seconded Cllr Browne – all in favour.

#### **09 / 2023 – 14 | Motions**

To approve all motions on block before the council this evening.

Proposed Cllr C Bush Seconded Cllr S Harris- all in favour

**Emergency proposal** for the lock, back window and the outside windows of the hall to be fixed – approved unanimously. **C Bush to let contractor know to proceed.**

#### **09 / 2023 – 15 | Agenda Items for Future Consideration**

Policies

Banking

Christmas Tree

Devolution

Meeting closed 21:00pm

Date and Time of next meeting | Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.00pm | Village Hall