

Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting

Held at The Village Hall 7.30pm Tuesday 16th May 2017

Present: Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr R Eaton, Mr J Tierney, Mr M Keating, County Cllr A Erskine, District Cllr M Bush

Apologies: Mr T Spurge, Mr N Daniels, Mrs J Mason, Mr M Bransby

Chairman opened meeting at 7.30pm. Chairman congratulated County Cllr Erskine for his re-election.

Declaration of Interest: There were none declared.

Planning:

Applications

Application No: 17/00587/FUL

Proposal: Temporary helipad facility including a new temporary porta-cabin, a new fuel storage tank and refuelling facility, lighting and additional car parking

Location: Great Oakley Lodge Harwich Road Great Oakley Essex

Chairman introduced representatives of the applicant company, Galloper Wind Farms, who had come to the meeting to give a presentation on the background to their application. There were 33 members of the public present and a number of concerns were raised over this planning application. Following the presentation and extended public questions to Galloper, Chairman summarised the concerns raised to formulate the following comments:

Gt Oakley Parish Council have concerns over the potential impact of this application on the village and surrounding area and would like the following points considered and addressed before any permission is granted:

- *Concern over the increase in noise levels – We request that a new, independent noise survey is carried out before any permission is granted to establish the base-line levels and a limit is set for the noise levels from the operation of the helicopters.*
- *We would wish to see a guarantee that, if the permission is granted for an increase in helicopter movements for this specific two year period, any such permission is strictly limited to that two year period, no extensions are granted (without a completely new application) and at the end of that two year period the number of movements reverts to the current limit with no legacy rights remaining.*
- *The existing allocation of 6 helicopter movements per day is included within the total no of movements approved.*
- *The daily operation period is limited to 07:00 to Dusk with the last off-shore pick-up of the day to be scheduled for one hour before dusk, to allow the helicopter a safety margin to return to base well before dusk falls.*
- *Reduced operation hours in summer months.*
- *As the helicopters are not operating after dark, no external illumination visible from the boundary of the airfield to be installed.*
- *The flight paths to be revised to avoid over-flying local settlements and wild life areas.*
- *The helicopters to take off vertically and achieve a minimum height of 1,000 feet before moving off, and ideally 1,500 feet at the air field boundary, and upon return should approach at 1,500 feet before landing vertically, weather permitting.*
- *The access track to the proposed helipad is improved to reduce the impact of vehicle noise and dust on neighbouring properties.*
- *A restriction that helicopters should only be operated when the sea-state (as recorded at Harwich) is, or is officially predicted to be, unsuitable for the operation of boats.*

Members of the public raised no more issues and a further 24 hours were allowed for people to raise any further issues (none were received) and after agreement by Parish Councillors present, the comments were subsequently sent to Tendring District Council.

Determinations by Tendring District Council

Application No: 17/00224/FUL

Proposal: Two storey rear extension

Location: Ivy Cottage Colchester Road Great Oakley

This was given full approval

Application No: 17/00345/FUL

Proposal: Single storey rear extension, replacement roof to side extension and replacement windows and doors

Location: The Pyghtle Farm Road Great Oakley

This was given full approval

Application No: 17/00353/FUL

Proposal: Proposed two storey side and rear extension and single storey front extension

Location: Catania 5 School Road Great Oakley

This was given full approval

Public Participation: There were 33 members of the public present.

Fly Tipping was reported to the Council outside Great Oakley Hall. This will be reported to Tendring District Council.

A Parishioner asked if Council could find out if foil trays can be recycled. Tendring District Council will be contacted.

A Parishioner reported activity in a service ditch. Chairman said that Highways were aware of this and were looking into the situation.

We received reports that the vehicle that had been parking in Partridge Close has been moved.

New Village Hall: There is nothing new to report.

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 18th April 2017, after being circulated, were proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Huk, carried unanimously.

Progress Report:

Post Office

Parish Councillors have requested to meet with the Postmaster who is responsible for the Post Office facility in the Village Hall. A meeting is yet to be arranged.

Audit

Clerk has been requesting prices for this years Parish Council Audit and Council have agreed one price, but Clerk is waiting to hear back from one other person. If this price is more competitive, Council have given Clerk permission to proceed. Proposed Mr Eaton, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously.

Cycle Route Post

The cycle route post at Partridge Close is broken and was reported to Highways by the Clerk.

Partridge Close Signs

Members of Parish Council previously agreed to install “no parking” signs at the turning circles at Partridge Close. Clerk presented them with the proposed design and prices from the contractor. Two aluminium signs were chosen on aluminium posts. Proposed Mr Keating, seconded Mr Eaton, carried unanimously.

The Maybush

The Community Hub previously asked if they could hang a sign from one of the Parish Councils lamp posts near the War Memorial. After a consultation with immediate neighbours of the Maybush, Councillors agreed the sign could be installed, as long as the users of the pub were mindful of the local residents when parking nearby. Members of Great Oakley Parish Council agreed to send a letter requesting the Maybush remind their customers.

Highways

Mr Eaton previously reported that following the resurfacing work through Stones Green, the drains were left blocked with tarmac. Councillors agreed a letter should go to Highways.

Fly Tipping Prevention CCTV

Mr Keating is putting together all the information and all relevant permissions for the Parish Council to install CCTV to help prevent fly tipping in our Parish. Clerk has contacted EALC requesting any information or advice they can provide on the subject.

Burial Ground

Clerk has received a letter from a resident requesting a pathway be installed in accordance with an old plan they have in the new burial ground. Clerk has looked through the minutes of the time the Parish Council had this piece of land consecrated and there is no record to suggest this would be carried out. Clerk will write to the resident.

Burial Ground Grass Cutting

A Parishioner previously reported that the grass cutting is improving at Partridge Close, while attention still needs to be paid in some areas. Clerk has asked the contractor to make sure his employees are doing this. Clerk also advised our contractor that the burial ground has not been cut recently.

Play Area

The contractor for our play area reported that part of the safety surface was in urgent need of repair. Clerk contacted Chairman with the price of £180 which he agreed under his delegated authority as the work was associated with a safety issue.

Highways: A resident who lives in Stones Green approached Highways, reporting flooding to her property. Many avenues have been explored by Highways who subsequently approached the Parish Council to see if they would be willing to use grant funding to employ a contractor directly.

Chairman reported that under such arrangement, the Parish Council would be liable for any costs associated with contract over run or unanticipated costs and that the Parish Council cannot be exposed to such a high risk financially, especially as this was a Highways matter to resolve as the problem had apparently been exacerbated by recently carried out re-surfacing works.

Mr Keating reported that there are no signs associated with the yellow lines which are now outside the Primary School.

Mr Tierney reported that the parking issue around the church is being addressed.

Finance Report: The finance report for year 2016/2017 was circulated to all members of the Parish Council. There were no questions. Report is available to view from the Clerk on request.

Fly Tipping Prevention CCTV: Mr Keating advised Council that we need to appoint a Data Processor. Mr Keating was selected. Proposed Mr Eaton, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously.

Mr Keating expressed a wish to meet with representatives of Essex County Council and Tendring District Council to discuss possible signage.

Public Rights of Way: Mr Keating reported that Tendring District Council are not dealing with dog fouling and is waiting for dog fouling signs to be installed.

It was reported that Mr & Mrs Brooker had yet again carried out maintenance works at the burial ground to ensure a forthcoming funeral could pass without difficulty. It was suggested we send a small gesture of appreciation, proposed Mr Tierny, seconded Mr Keating, carried unanimously.

Village Hall Table and Chairs Hire: Parish Council members wanted to clarify our position for the hiring of Village Hall table and chairs. All Councillors agreed that local residents will continue to pay the current deposit and hire fee. If the person is unknown to us then the request will be referred to the Parish Council and judged upon its merits.

TDALC Report: Nothing to report.

Accounts for Payment:

Parish Council Income

Harwich Funeral Service	Burial		£1,100.00
Harwich Funeral Service	Burial		£ 500.00
TOTAL			£1,600.00

Parish Council Expenditure

Bruce Landscapes Ltd	Play Area Repairs	722412	£ 180.00
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 118.95
A & J Lighting Solutions	St Light Maintenance	722413	£ 46.08
Miss J Bootyman	Expenses – 4 months	722414	£ 21.30
Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722415	£ 250.85
TOTAL			£ 617.18

Village Hall Income

Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
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Children's Party	Hall Hire		£ 20.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Dog Club	Hall Hire		£ 68.00
Table Top & Quiz Night	Hall Hire		£ 34.00
10 'O Clock Club	Hall Hire		£ 102.00
Tendring District Council	Hall Hire – Election		£ 250.00
TOTAL			£ 525.00

Village Hall Expenditure

Julia Turner	Wages	400759	£ 162.50
Julia Turner	Expenses	Cash	£ 9.96
Calor	Standing Charge	400760	£ 20.59
TOTAL			£ 193.05

After being circulated, accounts proposed as correct by Mr Eaton, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously.

EALC

The Affiliation fee is due for Essex Association for Local Clerks at a cost of £282.05. Proposed to renew by Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Eaton, carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

Parking – War Memorial

Mr Daniels received a letter to pass on to Council regarding parking issues around the war memorial. Councillors noted that this was a public area for parking with no restrictions or ownership on spaces so unfortunately nothing can be done about this issue. The Community Hub have been sent a letter requesting that they ask their customers to be respectful of the parking issue when using the facility. Mr Thompson has suggested an overflow car park in Farm Road; Council believes this is something between the Community Hub and Mr Thompson to agree details and conditions of use should it go ahead.

Essex House

A few months ago we contacted Tendring District Council to find out if they could assist the owners of Essex House due to the condition of the property. We have received a response to say they no longer have a conservation budget, therefore there are no longer funds available for them to assist. A copy of the response will be forwarded to the owner of the property.

Bus Services Great Oakley

Mr Brown would like to circulate pocket bus timetables to The Maybush, Shop, Surgery and School so more people are aware of the bus service through our Parish. Councillors agreed this was a great idea and maybe adding Hamford View Café to the list of places.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 10.39pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....