

Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting

Held at The Village Hall 7.30pm Tuesday 20th June 2017

Present: Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr J Tierney, Mr B Eaton, Mrs J Mason, Mr N Daniels, County Cllr A Erskine, District Cllr M Bush

Apologies: Mr M Keating, Mr T Spurge, Mr M Bransby

Chairman opened meeting at 7.30pm.

Declaration of Interest: There were none declared.

Public Participation – 15 mins: There were 10 members of the public present.

Mr Brown suggested providing copies of bus time tables and information with the shop, school, Doctors and pub which was supported by the Parish Council.

A Parishioner reported a pot hole near the entrance to Partridge Close. This will be reported to Highways.

A Parishioner asked if there had been any progress on the issue with the ditch in Beaumont Road. Cllr Erskine responded by saying the matter is with Essex County Council but there is a new Cabinet member so the response hadn't yet come through.

At a previous meeting a Parishioner asked if it was possible to recycle foil trays in the Tendring area. Mr Tierney had contacted Tendring District Council to be told they can't recycle foil.

Council was asked if there were any updates on the new Village Hall or the housing application opposite Partridge Close. Chairman reported that there were none at this time.

Cllr Bush attended a meeting to discuss the future of Harwich Hospital where a recommendation was made to build it up to be a minor injuries unit. There will be a meeting at The Venture Centre, Lawford, on 27th June at 2pm where a decision will be made.

Co-Option of Councillor: Chairman received a letter from Mr C Mayman expressing a wish to join us as Councillor for Great Oakley Parish Council. The vacancy has been advertised for a few months now and TDC have received no nominations which means we can co-opt.

Mr Mayman introduced himself to all Councillors and members of the public who were present. Proposed to co-opt Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Eaton, carried unanimously.

New Village Hall: Nothing new to report. Mr Daniels to contact Mr Thompson for an update on the previously mentioned presentation on the design of the buildings to be constructed.

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 16th May 2017, after being circulated, were proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Eaton, carried unanimously.

Progress Report:

Fly Tipping

Mr Keating had reported fly tipping in Pesthouse Lane which has now been removed.

Post Office Meeting

Councillors have been trying to arrange a meeting with the Postmaster to discuss the future of the Post Office facility within the Parish. We have been provided with dates which will be circulated to Councillors.

Partridge Close Signs

Council is having signs put up at Partridge Close to help deter parking in the turning circles. The contractor has requested a deposit for the cost of materials. All agreed this can be paid.

CCTV – EALC

Clerk has been trying to get some information from EALC regarding CCTV in Parishes. No update as yet, Clerk to chase.

Gift for Work at Burial Ground

Following a lot of voluntary hard work clearing the burial ground it was agreed by Councillors to give a gift as a thank you. This has been delivered by the Clerk.

Fly Tipping CCTV

Mr Keating is now nearing the end of his three month trial for the CCTV fly tipping prevention project. He has requested another three months. After consideration, Councillors granted a further six months. Proposed Mr Huk, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously.

Mr Keating has received permission to place signs on the poles and signage has now been erected in accordance with the Codes of Practice at Red Barn Lane, The Soils and Pesthouse Lane.

Sign – Farm Road

Mr Daniels has refurbished and re-erected the sign at Farm Road for which Council expressed thanks.

Highways:

Stones Green

Following the resurfacing work through Stones Green, the surface water gullies were blocked with Tarmac. Crews attended on 5th June 2017 and carried out cleansing and jetting to the highway drainage. Highways have confirmed these are all clear and in working order.

Mr Eaton reported that the road level has increased by 4-5 inches in height and when it rains, the water now runs into his garage and house.

Mrs Mason reported pot holes on Colchester Road Stones Green through to Honeypot Lane. This will be reported to Highways.

Mrs Mason reported that the edge of the road is breaking away along Colchester Road with a muddy edge which is causing a slip hazard. Highways will be contacted suggesting a gravel surface to prevent slipping by vehicles.

Mr Keating asked if there is a repair date for the railings at the school and Cllr Erskine said there isn't as yet.

Mr Keating observed that enforcement notices are in place near the school. Cllr Erskine said it is the Essex Parking Partnerships responsibility to warden these areas and being in a rural area, it is harder to get them here. Chairman suggested we ask them to come out. Mrs Mason suggests CCTV to prevent illegal parking – we would need to check the legality of this.

Mr Keating also brought to our attention the number of cyclists passing through our Parish which at times can cause a “rolling road block”. Mr Tierney said that most of them are following the National Cycle Route. Chairman observed that there is not much that can be done about the cyclists.

Mr Daniels raised the issue of limited parking near the War Memorial, exacerbated by patrons of the Maybush, and, subject to the outcome of the Community Hubs purchase of “The Red House”, would like the Parish Council to support the acquisition of a piece of land from Mr Thompson off Farm Road for overflow parking. Mr Daniels suggested this could potentially be a project for section 106 monies. Cllr Erskine suggested CIF funding, Mr Bush said that someone was already looking into this. Chairman said we support in principle.

Audit:

Chairman read out the Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements for 2016/17 which was proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Mrs Mason, carried unanimously.

As a result of the Audit, in the next twelve months Council needs to re-assess the value of our assets and produce an up to date Risk Assessment.

Public Rights of Way:

Mr Keating would like to report the following:

- Footpath 29 - Requested footpath inspector to attend due to undermining of footpath surface. Agreed, with works to be undertaken. Also discussed the additional way marking posts. On visiting Sunday 18th June situation remained unchanged so footpath inspector informed via text.
- Footpath 27 - Conditions of Stiles still causing concern, remedial/enforcement action with ECC enforcement department.

Grass Cutting

Mr Tierney observed that more care is being taken when the grass cutting at Partridge Close however the Burial Ground and the Recreation Field both need attention. We will inform the contractor and ask to be notified within 24 hours when an area has been cut so it can be inspected.

Mr Daniels asked if we had proceeded with the idea of having a “handyman” for carrying out minor works, Chairman said we still need to move forward with this.

Village Hall:

Gas Tank

Council had previously agreed to change the gas supplier for the Village Hall but we couldn't find anyone willing to change the fencing around the gas tank to comply with the new contractor. Clerk contacted our current supplier who has quoted a competitive rate. Councillors asked if they can provide a better standing charge rate for the tank. Clerk will find out. Councillors agree to go ahead if a better price is provided. Proposed Mr Daniels, seconded Mrs Mason, carried unanimously.

TDALC Report: Mr Tierney reported that a lot of Councils still haven't paid their subscription fees. TDALC have very little expenses with £2,000 - £3,000 in their bank account.

A representative from Tendring District Council said they are considering what to do about fly tipping (as they do not control the waste Recycling Centres). Mrs Mason asked why can't we recycle glass? Mr Daniels suggested a bottle bank at the new parking area should this proceed.

Planning:

Application No: 17/00759/FUL

Proposal: Proposed porch and sun room

Location: Great Oakley Lodge Harwich Road Great Oakley Harwich

Great Oakley Parish Council had no objections to make regarding this application.

Galloper Windfarm

Galloper Windfarm Ltd have contacted us to say they have submitted an amendment to TDC. When the details come to the Parish Council they will be discussed at a Parish Council meeting.

Local Plan

The Local Plan consultation is now open for 6 weeks.

Accounts for Payment:

Parish Council Expenditure

Jobsihate	Grass Cutting 2 months	722417	£1,107.80
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 122.92
A & J lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722418	£ 46.08
Miss J Bootyman	Expenses	722419	£ 32.50
Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722420	£ 250.85
Autela Payroll Services	Payroll	722421	£ 40.80
Tending Signs	Sign Deposit	722422	£ 150.00
TOTAL			£1,750.95

Village Hall Income

Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Garage Sale	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Yoga	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Children's Party	Hall Hire		£ 20.00
TOTAL			£ 105.00

Village Hall Expenses

Mrs Turner	Expenses	Cash	£ 4.00
Mrs Turner	Wages	400761	£ 156.00
TOTAL			£ 160.00

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

RCCE Village Hall Membership

The RCCE membership is due for the Village Hall at a cost of £60. Proposed Mrs Mason, seconded Mr Daniels, carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

Seafarers UK

Chairman received a letter from Seafarers UK regarding raising public awareness of the UK's on-going reliance on seafarers and shipping. They have suggested flying the Red Ensign flag or a flag-hoisting ceremony to mark Merchant Navy Day on 3rd March.

As we do not have a Flag Pole, it was agreed to pass the information on to the Community Hub who may wish to make an event of the day.

Mrs Mason suggested the new Village Hall could have a flag pole for this type of occasion.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 9.14pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....