

Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting

Held at The Village Hall 7.30pm Tuesday 19th June 2018

18/133 Present: Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr T Spurge, Vice Chairman, Mr J Tierney, Mr B Eaton, Mr C Mayman, Mrs J Mason, District Cllr M Bush, County Cllr, A Erskine.

18/134 Apologies: Mr M Keating, Mr N Daniels, Mr M Bransby.

18/135 Feed-back from the Tendring Road Rally: Messres Clements, Bowie Rivett and Andrews from the Chelmsford Motor Club (CMC) attended at 7.00 pm ahead of our meeting to report on and receive feed-back on the recent Road Rally.

22 members of the public were present.

Mr Clements reported that the Rally had been a great success and had brought £200,000 to £300,000 of benefit to the District and would hopefully be repeated next year on Sunday 28th April 2019 using a similar route.

The feeling of those members of the public present was that the event had brought no benefit to our Parish and had caused significant inconvenience. Concerns were raised over the pre-event consultation and the quality of the marshalling on the day.

Questions were asked regarding where the monies raised from the event and where they were to be spent but no answer was forthcoming.

It was also observed that the number of “Boy-racers” in the area had noticeably increased since the event.

The Chairman acknowledged that the members of the CMC might well have enjoyed the day, perhaps also visitors, residents and businesses of Clacton, but a considerable number of our local residents had not enjoyed the noise and inconvenience caused.

After an hour of full and frank discussion, Chairman thanked the members of CMC for attending and closed the discussion with the request that, if they insist on repeating the event next year, that they find an alternative route and leave our Parish alone.

18/136 Chairman opened meeting at 8.00 pm.

18/137 Declaration of Interest: There were none declared.

18/138 Public Participation: There were nine members of the public present.

- A Parishioner reported the 40mph sign had fallen over at Beaumont end of the Village. Clerk will report to Tendring District Council.
- A Parishioner expressed a concern regarding the speed of traffic through the village towards Exchem, asking if the speed limit can be reduced from the National Speed Limit to 40mph. Cllr Erskine commented the road does not meet the criteria for a lower speed limit due to the low density of houses but recommended a petition to Cllr Bentley for the extension of the existing 40 mph limit as a potential way forward.
- A Parishioner brought to Councils attention that four garages in the village have been broken into. This will be raised as a concern with local Police. Cllr Bush reported that the Crime Prevention Panel has been reinstated and he will raise the matter at their next meeting. Also, might be worth establishing a Neighbourhood Watch in the village if there is any interest.

- Cllr Bush also informed us that the bus contracts for Clacton are changing. Hedingham are taking over some routes, while others are yet to be decided.

18/139 New Village Hall: There are no new updates.

18/140 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 15th May 2018, after being circulated, were proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Mayman, carried unanimously.

Progress Report:

18/141 Play Area Inspection Course: Mr Mayman expressed an interest in attending a Play Area Inspection Course to enable him to carry out the Annual Inspections on the Play Area. The courses which were available have been cancelled which means we will need to look for a company to carry out the Annual Inspection. The weekly visual inspections can be completed by a member of the Council, which Mr Mayman is happy to do.

18/142 Library Service: The mobile library van is now only stopping at Woodlands. Parishioners would like it to also stop at Partridge Close so residents there can use the service. Having requested this, we were told that the van could stop at Hamford Drive which is more central. Clerk invited the library contact to our meeting but unfortunately she did not attend. Cllr Erskine said that he is opening Beaumont Community Library and this could be an option for the New Village Hall.

18/143 Waste Bin: Following a request from a resident for a waste bin in Red Barn Lane, Tendring District Council were contacted. Clerk will follow this up.

18/144 Horse Warning Sign: Clerk contacted Tendring District Council to see if a horse warning sign can be installed in Stones Green. They have said this request should be directed to Essex County Council. Clerk will look into this.

18/145 Stones Green Speed Sign: At last month's meeting Councillors were keen to have a speed sign put up in Stones Green. Clerk will look into funding possibilities.

18/146 Fly Tipping: Previously reported fly tipping on Wix Road has not been cleared. Clerk will continue to report.

18/147 Phone Kiosk: Some time ago, Council purchased new Perspex for the phone kiosk. Hopefully this will be replaced so it can be used as a DVD exchange, as previously suggested by a Parishioner.

18/148 Highways: A road defect near Partridge Close has been repaired. Mr Eaton reported that surface samples from Stones Green have been taken for analysis. Cllr Bush reported that people are petitioning to have the A120 duelled by 2024.

18/149 Financial Regulations: A copy of the updated financial regulations have been circulated to all Councillors, Formal adoption was proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Mayman, carried unanimously.

18/150 Audit: The Audit has been carried out. Chairman signed all relevant paperwork and Councillors agreed all correct.

18/151 Code of Conduct: Tendring District Council advised Council of their revised Code of Conduct. Chairman has amended this document to provide a more suitable version for the Parish Council. After brief review, the adoption of this new Code of Conduct was proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Eaton, carried unanimously.

18/152 Hedge/Tree Maintenance: Council is waiting for a further price so this will be discussed next month.

18/153 Public Rights of Way: Cllr Erskine reported that ECC Local Highways Panel is pushing more work towards the TDC Rangers. The Rangers should not cut Public Rights of Way but do cut footpaths that school children use in Dovercourt/Harwich. Due to lack of budget, in future, Essex County Council will do one cut of footpaths and want to devolve responsibility to Parish Councils with the costs of equipment being covered by the Precept and using volunteers. We should expect consultation in due course.

18/154 Village Hall: The heater pilot lights have been turned off in the hall but there have been some reports of a smell of gas so the isolation valves need to be turned off.

18/155 TDALC Report: Mr Tierney reported that at the last meeting a presentation from Mr Gove regarding the operation of the Rangers. They have changed the way they work and now have three men and a van; they use hand tools and have split the District into three areas which means they have 4 months in each area and are considerably more efficient. Mr Gove provided his contact details and suggested Councils go directly to him. Clerk is our single point of contact and we should put together a programme of work for them.

Planning:

18/156 Application No: 18/00881/OUT
Proposal: Erection of one dwelling
Location: Land adjacent Acorn Cottage Farm Road Great Oakley Harwich

Great Oakley Parish Council object to this application on the following grounds:

- This plot was never put forward as part of the extensive Local Plan Consultation
- The plot is outside the village housing development boundaries
- Encroaches on the green belt and the coastal protection belt
- The housing allocation for the village has already been exceeded many times over
- The site would constitute back plot development

18/157 Application No: 18/00694/DETAIL
Proposal: Reserved matters application for proposed erection of 2 no dwellings
Location: Land (part gardens) to Harewood House and Boomerang Harwich Road Great Oakley

Great Oakley Parish Council concur with the comments in Essex County Council's letter dated 14th June 2018, specifically Point 6 regarding Method Statements.

Planning Determinations

18/168 Application No: 18/00402/FUL
Proposal: Two storey rear extension, alterations to existing garage, driveway and entrance door
Location: Rose Cottage Back Lane Great Oakley Harwich Essex

This application has been given full approval by Tendring District Council

18/169 Accounts for Payment

Parish Council Expenditure

Lambert Smith Hampton	Recreation Field Lease	722491	£ 275.00
Marvan's	Grass Cutting	722492	£ 528.00
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722493	£ 46.08
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Annual Visit/Repairs	722494	£ 286.92
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 139.70
Clerk	Wages	722495	£ 305.37
Autela Group Ltd	Payroll	722496	£ 54.00
Insurance	Council & Village Hall	722497	£ 819.03
TOTAL			£2,454.10

Village Hall Income

Line Dancing	Hall Hire	£ 17.00
Garage Sale	Hall Hire	£ 17.00
Children's Party	Hall Hire	£ 34.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire	£ 17.00
10 'O Clock Club	Hall Hire	£ 170.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire	£ 17.00
Band Practice	Hall Hire	£ 21.00
Post Office	Hall Hire	£ 50.00
TOTAL		£ 343.00

Village Hall Expenditure

Caretaker	Wages	£ 169.65
Caretaker	Expenses	£ 15.20
TOTAL		£ 184.85

After being circulated, accounts proposed as correct by Mrs Mason, seconded Mr Spurge, carried unanimously.

18/170 Correspondence: There was no separate correspondence.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 10.00 pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....