

Little Oakley Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on the 12th March 2014

Start time: 19:00

Present: Andrew Cullen, Harold Griffiths, Malcolm Steer, Tom Howard, Caroline Thomas and Richard Griggs (19:10)

Also Present: James Martin (left at 19:35), Sam Rowley, County Councillor Andrew Erskine and 1 member of the public

14/032 Apologies of Absence

There are apologies from Val Wrycraft, Saul Hunnaball and Alan Jackson

14/033 Declaration of Pecuniary and Non Pecuniary Interests

Tom Howard declared a pecuniary interest in item 14/026 - Finance

14/034 Signing of the minutes from 5th February 2014

It was **Resolved** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2014 as true and correct.

Proposed: Harold Griffiths

Seconded: Andrew Cullen

14/035 Police report

Tom Howard read out the police report.
(See appendix 1)

14/036 Updates

Mayes Lane - Closing Mayes Lane in the next 18 months. Will inform the council 2 weeks before closure.

Notice boards – Saul to do notice boards on the 2nd of April

Quotes for plaque – Stan Beecham £290 – John Harris £1080

It was **Resolved** to go for the quote by Stan Beecham.

Proposed: Harold Griffiths

Seconded: Andrew Cullen

Insurance renewal quotes- Clerk still waiting for quotes, hoping to hear by the April meeting.

Tree removal Rectory Road – There was a tree removed outside number 11 due to being loose. Ask Andrew Bruce if he can lower his price.

Little Oakley Parish Council

LED light – Has been fixed. We should keep an eye on it!

14/037 LOFC Update

(see appendix 2)

14/038 Bank

This was discussed and it was decided to put it on the next agenda.

14/039 Neighbourhood Watch Report

Sam Rowley read out a report/update about Neighbourhood Watch. She also asked for £35 to register with the ICO.

It was **Resolved** to give Neighbourhood Watch £35

(See appendix 3)

Proposed: Andrew Cullen

Seconded: Caroline Thomas

14/040 Emergency Planning

There has been no progress of the Emergency Plan. Deferred to next meeting.

14/041 Highways

Outside 95 and 97 Harwich Road new chevrons have been put in place.

Harold Griffiths reported that the dropped kerb outside his and his neighbours is disappearing into the road.

There was also a Veolia green waste lorry and Tuffnells van seen speeding along the Harwich Road.

14/042 Finance

There is £6082.97 in the savings account and £1514.77 in the cheque account.

Cheques tonight are:

£1215.50 Clerks wages

£6.00 Bruce Landscapes

£150.00 - Ray Rowley

£20.00 - Hire of Hall

£13.67 - Accent Stationers

Which total: **£1405.17** and there is a cheque for Bruce Landscapes for £686.40 still to come out., bringing the total of cheques to **£2091.57**

Direct Debits are:

A & J Lighting - £41.26

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Eon - £61.94

Bank charge - £10.00 - Returned Cheque

Total outgoings are: £2204.77

Please can I have permission to transfer £2000 from the savings account to the cheque account leaving £4082.97 in the savings account and £3514.77 in the cheque account.

Proposed: Harold Griffiths

Seconded: Andrew Cullen

14/043 Planning Reports

There were no planning reports

14/044 Report by District Councillor Tom Howard

(see appendix 4)

14/045 Report by County Councillor Andrew Erskine

County Councillor Andrew Erskine gave a brief report.

14/046 Public Speaking

There are 15 minutes allowed for public speaking

14/047 Items for next agenda

Any items to go on the next agenda

Insurance Quotes and Andy Bruce

Bank Account

Emergency Planning

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

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Appendix 1 - Police report

COURT WARN	1	
CRIM DAM	1	Bayview Crescent, vehicle damage
HARASS	1	Oakridge text messages
INDUSTRIAL	1	male fallen from ladder
NUIS NEIGH	2	x 2 Bayview Crescent
NUIS-NOISE	1	Bayview Crescent
SUS CIRCS	1	Rectory Rd suspicious plants
Grand Total	8	

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Appendix 2 - LOFC - James Martin

Little Oakley Football Club Project

Grass 50 x 30 expansion in car park and overflow carpark

Stagger the use of the football on Sundays

Smaller children by Malcolms garden from end of April

400 children

weekdays – school

3:30 community use

6pm lofc

funding – less expensive £500,000 still need £50,000

Detailed planning permission being put together by planning agent

Have had survey on the ground

Could get the project done about September this year.

Other clubs won't be hindered.

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Appendix 3 - Neighbourhood Watch - Sam Rowley

Sam Rowley asked the Council if they would pay for the ICO for Neighbourhood watch. The council agreed to this.

Sam Rowley also reported that she had had a meeting with the Clerk and they had driven around the village for appropriate places to put the new Neighbourhood Watch signs. She said there were already a couple up in the village that would just need a clean.

Sam explained that you can only put the signs up at the ends of the road or entrance to an estate where a co-ordinator lives.

She went to say that she had also had a meeting with Mike Vaughn Chatfield, who is the area co-ordinator for Tendring and he will get and put up the signs.

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Appendix 4 - District Councillor Tom Howard Report

Report for Little Oakley Parish Council from District Councillor Tom Howard March 2014

Garden Waste Pilot

TDC has announced the roll out of a Garden waste collection pilot. It is starting in Clacton but is expected to roll out across the district in the coming months. The pilot will include Little Oakley at some point.

The scheme will provide fortnightly collection of garden waste from households using a Wheelie bin. The cost will be £25 upfront for the Wheelie bin and then £50 per annum for the service. It is not compulsory and residents may use it if they wish.

Given the distance to the nearest tip from here, many households would quickly save any expense of opting into the scheme in their petrol cost savings from not driving to and from the tip, and that is without considering the saving in residents time.

Broadband

I have been continuing to chase up the progress of our broadband provision within the area.

Little Oakley is still provisionally scheduled to receive its broadband upgrade in October-December 2014 as part of the BDUK roll out. However, this continues to have the caveat of it being subject to change. BDUK are also very vague about which cabinets will be upgraded and what speeds residents will get. Broadly it seems that cabinets for areas not yet getting 2 Mb/s will be upgraded and may get 24 MB/s while those already receiving at least the minimum 2 Mb/s may not be upgraded at all. Also, even if a cabinet is upgraded to 24 Mb/s there will be a drop off between the cabinet and the household related to the distance of the household from the cabinet.

Information I have received has been contradictory and I have put in a Freedom of Information request to obtain further more specific information.

MLL who will be providing the Coastal wi-fi service, are apparently expected to be in a position to provide Wireless internet to peoples homes in parts of Tendring from the summer of this year.

Outline planning permission has been granted for the Horsley Cross development and that includes a mast to be provided by Micrologic that will be able to provide wireless internet to residents once it has been erected. Timescales and costs are yet to be confirmed.

Dovercourt Swimming Pool

The Conservative administration has added a further £200K to the existing £700K budget to provide the upgrade to the Dovercourt swimming pool. Having campaigned for this upgrade to go ahead, I unreservedly welcome this extra commitment, albeit that this project is long overdue and the administration have failed to provide it in the last 5 years since they were first instructed to by Full Council.

I welcome the extra investment and also look forward to the additional disabled parking spaces that I added as a condition to the planning permission when I proposed the approval of the planning

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application for this upgrade when it came before the Planning Committee last year.

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TDC Mail Outs

TDC will shortly be sending out parking permits to households to provide free resident parking across TDC owned car parks as it has done in recent years.

Additionally, each household will also receive a Leisure activity voucher for use at TDC leisure facilities in Clacton, Brightlingsea, Frinton/Walton, Dovercourt, Harwich or Manningtree. They will allow free use of an activity at their chosen site and can be used by any member of the family.

Local Plan

I have submitted a response as District Councillor to the TDC Local Plan consultation. This reflects the general views of local residents and highlights areas of contention where they exist.

Recycling Centre Consultation

ECC are currently reviewing Recycling Centres across Essex and there is an online survey available to complete at:

<http://surveys.essexinsight.org.uk/TakeSurvey.aspx?PageNumber=1&SurveyID=98L35n2&Preview=true>

I have also written to the Cllr Roger Walters who is the portfolio holder responsible for this review expressing my concern about any further cuts to the hours of the Dovercourt facility, my concerns about any potential complete closure of the Dovercourt facility and my concerns that any such further cuts to this service will add to the increased fly tipping that has already taken place since the opening days were reduced to 5 days a week from 7 days a week. He has 'noted' my concerns.

Council Tax freeze

TDC has frozen its council tax for the coming year. I fully support this as it retains future income (by not cutting the council tax) while still attracting the government grant worth of the order of £192K for not increasing our council tax.

Leadership

At the last meeting of TDC's full council we elected a new leader - Mick Page and a new deputy leader - Nick Turner.

This is the 4th leader in 3 years for the Conservative administration, so hopefully they can keep these ones until at least the next election and bring about some much needed stability to the council. The new leader has made a positive start by demonstrating commitment to Harwich and the surroundings in terms of spending on economic development and leisure in the area. Let's hope this continues!