

Little Oakley Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 17th January 2018

Present: Cllr Griffiths, Cllr Cullen, Cllr Griggs, Cllr Steer, District Cllr Bush, Cllr Attrill

Also Present: County Cllr Erskine, Jeanette Sands (Clerk/RFO)

Start Time 19:00

17/163	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllr Hunnabal.
17/164	Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest No interests were declared.
17/165	Signing of the Previous Minutes The Minutes of the previous meeting held 20 th December 2017 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed by Cllr Griffiths. Proposed: Cllr Cullen Seconded: Cllr Griggs
17/166	Urgent Matters There were no urgent matters.
17/167	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes 2018-2019 Precept – This has now been applied for. War Memorial Cleaning – We have had an email with an estimate for the cleaning. This is £156.00 including VAT. We will wait for the written estimate to be received. Replacement Bus Shelter – The clerk has emailed again for an update but has had no response so will telephone again. Training Bursary – The training bursary for the two remaining courses of this financial year has been approved.
17/168	Finance The finance report was given by the Clerk who requested a transfer of £500 to cover payments leaving the account during January/February. A cheque for £66.00 has been received from Vikki Howard being a refund for the website maintenance, this has been banked. The Clerk also reported that the original figure given for SLCC membership of £38.00 was incorrect and should have been £93.00. It was also mentioned that once the Data Protection Briefing had been completed we should receive the Bursary for the courses taken by the Clerk. The transfer and all payments were approved and a copy of the Finance Report is attached. Proposed: Cllr Cullen Seconded: Cllr Attrill
17/169	Planning St Marys Church – plans to replace stone shields over the West door were received by post. The replacements are due to two shields being worn due

	<p>to age and exposure to the weather. The new shields would be copies of the original ones and two other shields would show the current owners coat of arms. It was decided that the Parish Council would be Neutral for this application.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Griffiths</p> <p>Seconded: Cllr Griggs</p> <p>Cllr Attrill will also look at details for a previous planning application for a property on Rectory Road as the property is very close to the neighbouring properties.</p> <p>There was one Determination for trimming a tree on Harwich Road which has now been completed.</p> <p>Cllr Attrill mentioned that Great Oakley airfield had requested that their windsock be changed to a free standing one. There was also a query raised regarding the two year consent date for the helipad as the date had changed, it is not clear whether the two years would run from the original date or the date on the revised application. Cllr Bush mentioned that there may be problems using the port for the helipad due to wildlife in the area being affected. This could in turn lead to Great Oakley becoming the permanent base. However no details were available and this is still on going.</p>
17/170	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Allotments - The Clerk has received a request about renting one of the allotments and replied giving details of who should be contacted.</p> <p>Fires - An email had been received from a member of the public as they were concerned about the fires being lit at New House Farm. These occur during the evenings and have not caused any problems until recently when the items being burnt appeared to give off a chemical type of smell. The Clerk contacted 4 Seasons Skip Hire who advised they do not burn any items but some items are burnt by other users of the building and in this case it was old furniture which had been fly tipped plus some bush. He also advised there is a licence for the burning of bush for the building. The businesses using the building are moving out at present so any future fires would be small ones contained in a drum just to help workers keep warm.</p> <p>Playground Report – The latest playground report has been received and as per the previous report there are only low risk items to look at. Cllr Griffiths reported that the area around the gate had been cleared which helped closing the gate but that there could be problems with the mechanism which would need a maintenance company to look at. The sign requires contact details adding. The wooden bench also needs repairing but it was decided it might be better to replace this with a steel bench. It was felt the steel benches already around the village would be unsuitable as small children would not be able to stand on them so a steel bench with small holes would be the better choice. Cllr Steer is going to look into this.</p> <p>Maintenance -The Clerk was asked to look at getting a maintenance company to do the repairs at the playground and to also contact Great Oakley Parish Council to see if they already have a maintenance company or</p>

	<p>if not would they like to see if we could use the same one and tie up together to possibly save costs. The One Stop Steel Shop is also to be contacted as one of the fence rails needs welding back into place.</p> <p>Footpath between the Memorial Club and Playground Gate – This area gets very muddy and slippery when there has been a lot of wet weather. The football club had said they would put in a path and were asked if they could advise when this would take place. An email has been received stating they would put the path in place when finances allowed and that they did not have a specific date by which the path had to be completed.</p>
17/171	<p>Christmas Present</p> <p>Cllr Griffiths mentioned that in previous years the Parish Council had given Terry a Christmas Present as a thank you for clearing up litter in the village which he does voluntarily. It was decided that Cllr Griffiths would see Terry and give him £75.00 as a thank you from the Parish Council. As we are unable to take cash from the bank Cllr Griffiths would cover the cost and the Parish Council will reimburse this.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Steer Seconded: Cllr Attrill</p>
17/172	<p>Website</p> <p>The Parish Council now has the original website and the new website which is under construction. Cllr Griffiths has been able to update some of the website and this will be ongoing in the next few weeks. EALC are aware of what is happening and funding has been applied for to help with costs of the new website. It was suggested that a new email address should be looked into and also making both websites fit onto mobiles and tablets. The Clerk is to contact Tizertech to carry on with the hosting for another year to enable to new website to be completed before it goes live.</p> <p>Cllr Attrill asked if the Parish Council thought a Facebook page would be useful. This could also be used to direct people to the website for items such as Minutes etc. The Facebook page could also give out weather warnings/road problems etc. EALC are running a course to cover this and it was felt someone should attend this before setting up a Facebook page. The Clerk is to book a place on this course, Cllr Attrill would like to attend if possible.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Griggs Seconded: Cllr Bush</p>
17/173	<p>Report by District Cllr Bush</p> <p>District Cllr Bush reported that he has a meeting with TDC and James Martin next Monday regarding the proposal for an Outdoor Gym next to the playground at the Memorial Club. Grants are being looked into plus alternative sites around the village. The green near the War Memorial and the green at Oakridge were mentioned and the Clerk will contact TDC to find out if there are any planning restrictions for these areas. It was felt that if the Outdoor Gym was to be fully funded by the Parish Council then it needed to be situated where it is accessible to all members of the public.</p>

	<p>Other costs such as insurance, inspections and maintenance would also need to be looked at.</p> <p>District Cllr Bush has had a complaint about items being placed on the footpath outside a property being built on the corner of Mayes Lane near the entrance to Two Village School. This along with lorries being parked nearby have made access to the school difficult. District Cllr Bush is to look into this and visit the area.</p>
17/174	<p>Report by County Councillor Erskine</p> <p>County Cllr Erskine reported that there are problems with pedestrian access at Two Village School. There are gates from the school to the nursery but these have to be shut so when children are coming out of school they are having to walk in the area where lorries make their deliveries. There is a footpath area marked on the road but no dropped kerb for buggies. This area however belongs to the school and not Highways but will need to be looked into.</p> <p>Parents from Two Village school have also complained that there are bonfires lit in Mayes Lane very close to the school at the time the children are coming out of school. The fires are also very close to scrub land raising concerns that the fire could easily spread. There are also cars parked in this area during that time as the entrance to the school gets too busy. County Cllr Erskine mentioned that some parents are parking on the pedestrian crossing in the school grounds and that parking problems are getting worse. The above are all ongoing.</p> <p>20 is Plenty Campaign – There has been a petition by opposition parties to put this campaign in place in Essex. However a study has shown that when the speed limit is reduced to 20mph the number of accidents has increased. Also with so much parking around schools speeding has not been a problem.</p> <p>Highways – County Cllr Erskine reported that the budget for repairs to roads, pavements and kerbs was £3m. The local highways budget is based on previous year's costs for improvements and higher populated areas get more to spend on improvements than smaller areas. At present a lot of improvements are required (potholes etc.), this is a result of not keeping up with maintenance in the past.</p>
17/175	<p>Public Speaking</p> <p>No members of the public attended the meeting</p>
17/176	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>None</p>
17/177	<p>Items for the next meeting and update/correspondence</p> <p>The list of assets will be looked at</p> <p>District Cllr Bush also gave his apologies for the next meeting</p>

The meeting closed at 20:40

**Little Oakley Parish Council
Finance Report**

Main Account Balance – 1st December 2017	£896.46
Income to Main Account	£0.00
Transfer from Savings Account	£2000.00
Total Income for July	£2896.46
Expenditure for	
A & J Lighting D/D	£41.26
Hire of Hall	£20.00
SSE D/D (approx.)	£51.33
Harold Griffiths Expenses (Software)	£9.48
Clerks Wages – December	£200.00
Accent Stationers (Printer Cartridges and various stationery items)	£98.84
A & J Lighting new LED lights x 4	£1867.20
Harold Griffiths Expenses (Poppy Wreath)	£20.00
SLCC Membership due 1 st January (approx.)	£38.00
Total Expenditure	£2346.11
Total in Main Account end of December 2017	£550.35
Saving Account Balance – 1st December 2017	£16371.01
Income into Savings Account	£0.00
Outgoings form Savings Account	£2000.00
Total in Savings Account end of December 2017	£14371.01
Overall total in Main and Savings Account	£14921.36
Payments for January 2018	
A & J Lighting D/D	£41.26
Hire of Hall	£20.00
SSE D/D (approx.)	£49.71
Harold Griffiths Expenses (Software)	£9.48
Clerks Wages – January	£200.00
Total Expenditure for January 2018	£320.45