

# *Little Oakley Parish Council*

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## **Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 Held at the Millennium Room, Ramsey.**

**Present:** Cllr Cullen (Vice Chairman), Cllr Attrill, Cllr Griggs, Cllr Hunnaball

**Also Present:** County Cllr Erskine, Jeanette Sands (Clerk/RFO) and Members of the Public

Start Time 19:00

<b>17/193</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Apologies have been received from Cllr Griffiths, Cllr Steer and Cllr Bush In the absence of the Chairman Cllr Cullen agreed to Chair the meeting
<b>17/194</b>	<b>Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest</b> No interests were declared
<b>17/195</b>	<b>Signing of the Minutes</b> The Minutes of the meeting held on February 7 <sup>th</sup> 2018 were accepted as a true record and signed. Proposed: Cllr Attrill Seconded: Cllr Griggs
<b>17/196</b>	<b>Urgent Matters</b> There were no urgent matters.
<b>17/197</b>	<b>Clerks Report</b> Footpaths Residents from Oakridge have emailed the Parish Council and are concerned about the deep ruts caused by farm machinery. Cllr Cullen advised he would speak to the relevant people involved. See also Minute reference 17/202 War Memorial The cleaning of the War Memorial has been booked and the acceptance form sent. This will take place before Remembrance Sunday. Playground Onestop Steelshop have been contacted and due to a mix up with dates they are going to rebook to look at the railing. Playquip have been contacted and would like a copy of the report to see if they are able to help with any of the repairs.
<b>17/198</b>	<b>Finance</b> The finance report was given and a request for a transfer of £1332.00 was approved. This is to cover expenditure and to protect the grant of £860.00 for the new website. Expenditure for April is approximately £687.64. Income was £116.25, this is a bursary cheque from EALC for courses taken by the Clerk. The Finance report and expenses were approved. Proposed: Cllr Attrill Seconded: Cllr Griggs

<b>17/199</b>	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>38 Harwich Road 18/00245/FUL This is for an extension on the rear of the property, Cllr Attrill explained that next door to this property had already extended to the same distance as the proposed extension. The plans showed the extension to be similar to the neighbouring one and the properties are not overlooked. No objections were raised and the Planning Department are to be advised that the Parish Council is Neutral to this application.</p> <p>114 Rectory Road 16/00301/CHGUS3 Cllr Attrill advised that the Planning Department had replied to an email stating that they had been made aware the garage had an annexe and the owners of the property were living in the annexe. The report had been sent to Mr Howard therefore the Parish Council were not aware of this. The use of the annexe has been agreed while the new property is built. Concerns were raised as to how long the use of the annexe as a full time residence could go on for, the Clerk is to contact the Planning Department and ask if this is time sensitive.</p> <p>96 Rectory Road – Determination 17/01429/FUL The demolition of the old sheds and their replacement has had full approval.</p>
<b>17/200</b>	<p><b>Flooding in Rectory Road</b></p> <p>There had been several emails and telephone calls regarding the pond and ditches opposite the Rectory which had flooded the entire road. This had reached a depth of around one foot and had made it difficult for people to drive out of the village unless they went down the Maltings. County Cllr Erskine had been contacted after District Cllr Bush had received an email asking for something to be done to clear this. County Cllr Erskine advised the meeting that this area had been jetted prior to the snow melting but had reoccurred due to the water not being able to drain away quickly. It was cleared again as there were concerns that sewage was present but this problem is still ongoing as the weather conditions are not suitable for anything to be done. It can be looked into further once the weather is suitable to carry out the work.</p>
<b>17/201</b>	<p><b>Overgrown Hedges</b></p> <p>There are two properties with overgrown hedges. 106 Rectory Road and 53 Harwich Road. Cllr Attrill will try and speak to the residents at 53 Harwich Road. The other property will be contacted and asked to cut the hedge back as it is on a bend and blocks the view of vehicles.</p>
<b>17/202</b>	<p><b>Footpath between Oakridge and Little Oakley Memorial Club</b></p> <p>There has been a reoccurrence of someone using the land next to the footpath at Oakridge as a toilet. Also once again there is soiled toilet paper left on the ground. It was suggested that the Clerk should write to environmental health and see if they could help.</p> <p>Residents from Oakridge also attending the meeting to voice their concern about the deep ruts left by farm machinery after the harvest. At this point Cllr Cullen brought forward the public speaking as this covers the same subject.</p>

	<p>The side of the footpath between Harwich Road and the corner of the Oakridge estate has been badly churned up by farm vehicles and the area leading from the estate to the field is now very badly churned up with the ruts made by the tractors being around 18 to 24 inches deep. With the very wet weather these are filling with water. Residents are worried that this will also stagnate and will begin to smell badly. The area as you approach the estate is also very unsightly. A debate followed as to the ownership of the land. Cllr Cullen said he would contact the agents and find out who owns the land. He will also contact the farmer and /or the agents to see if this can be tidied up. However Cllr Cullen did advise it may not be possible to do anything until the weather is drier.</p>
<b>17/203</b>	<p><b>Fixed Asset Register</b></p> <p>This had been amended but after a discussion the replacement bus shelters are to be put back onto the register. The Clerk will update this ready for the next meeting.</p>
<b>17/204</b>	<p><b>Waste Collection Consultation for TDC</b></p> <p>The proposal is that waste collections will be fortnightly with the introduction of wheelie bins. Black bags would be collected weekly from flats and terraced properties where it wasn't feasible to use wheelie bins. The changes are being proposed in order to save fuel costs of vehicles travelling to the sorting centre as this is on the A120 and the route used to go to the centre is via the Ardleigh roundabout. A discussion followed and Councillors were concerned that this change would lead to less recycling by households as everything may end up being thrown out into the wheelie bins. Also having the wheelie bins at the front of properties or on the pavement would cause a very untidy cluttered look and could prove dangerous for pedestrians in some cases. It was generally thought this type of waste collection was not suitable for a rural area and may lead to an increase in fly-tipping. These opinions are to be put on the Parish Councils reply to TDC.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Attrill Seconded: Cllr Hunnaball</p>
<b>17/205</b>	<p><b>Outdoor Gym</b></p> <p>The placement of an outdoor gym was discussed and it was felt by Councillors that the area best suited would be on the greensward on the approach to Oakridge. Councillors also felt that it would be better to start with fewer pieces of equipment – possibly around 4 items and increase over the following years if it was felt this was necessary. County Cllr Erskine mentioned various grants that we may be eligible for. The Clerk is to contact Cllr Bush to update him and also contact James Martin to advise him that the Parish Council had decided to change the proposed positioning of the gym to the other side of the village.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Griggs Seconded: Cllr Cullen</p>
<b>17/206</b>	<p><b>General Data Protection Regulations</b></p> <p>A recent email from EALC had confirmed that at present it is not possible for Clerks to also take on the role of Data Protection Officer. This is due to the problem that a conflict of interest could occur. The GDPR toolkit is still being</p>

	<p>looked at and there are likely to be courses run to over this in future months. County Cllr Erskine suggested speaking to the clerks at Great Oakley and Wix to see what they are doing as one possibility would be clerks becoming the DPO for another Parish Council.</p>
<b>17/207</b>	<p><b>Report from District Councillor Bush</b> District Councillor Bush was unable to attend the meeting, no report was given</p>
<b>17/208</b>	<p><b>Report from County Councillor Erskine</b> County Cllr Erskine reported that due to the recent very wet weather teams had been very busy working to clear floods. With the clearing of ditches it was hoped that this would cut down flooding in the future. Chelmsford MC Rally County Cllr Erskine reported that there had been no input from Highways with regards to the rally other than this legally can be done. There has been a lot of resistance from some groups/residents living on the route, residents living on the routes will have limited times when they can leave/return to their properties. During the race some roads will have diversion whereas others will be closed during that stage of the race. There will also be marshals along the routes. The idea of the race is to boost tourism in the area due to the extra media coverage. It is also felt that the race will bring extra money into the area while it is in progress but at present little is known about this. However there are concerns that after the race there may be problems with people racing along the routes especially from 'boy racers'. The organisers have said they try to stop this by showing them areas where they can go to race safely.</p>
<b>17/209</b>	<p><b>Public Speaking</b> This had already taken place – please see 17/202</p>
<b>17/210</b>	<p><b>Items for the next Agenda</b> Rectory Road blockage</p>

The meeting closed at 21.05

<b>Main Account balance - 1st March 2018</b>	<b>£595.90</b>
<b>Income to Main Account</b>	<b>£116.25</b>
Transfer from Savings	£1,332.00
<b>Total Income for March 2018</b>	<b>£2,044.15</b>

<b>Expenditure March 2018</b>	
A & J Lighting D/D	£41.26
Hire of Hall	£20.00
SSE D/D	£72.54
1 & 1 Internet	£1.19
Clerks Expenses - Annual Meeting and Parish Annual Meeting	£42.95
Clerks Expenses - Course End of Year Accounting	£41.60
Tizertech	£23.88
TDALC Affiliation Fees to pay by chq	£0.00
Harold Griffiths Expenses ( software)	£9.48
Playground Inspection CO	£63.00
Wages - Clerks wages	£200.00
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£515.90</b>
<b>Total in Main Account end of March 2018</b>	<b>£1,528.25</b>

<b>Saving Account balance - 1st March 2018</b>	<b>£13,877.12</b>
<b>Income into Savings Account March</b>	<b>£1,332.00</b>
<b>Outgoings form Savings Account Mar</b>	<b>£1,322.00</b>

<b>Total in Savings Account end of Mar 2018</b>	<b>£12,555.12</b>
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<b>Overall total in Main and Savings account</b>	<b>£14,083.37</b>
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<b>Payments for April</b>	
A & J Lighting D/D	£41.26
Hire of Hall (Finance and Parish Meetings)	£40.00
SSE D/D (approx)	£49.71
Harold Griffiths Expenses ( software)	£9.48
Hire of Hall	£20.00
Clerks Wages	£200.00
! & 1 Internet	£1.19
EALC Affiliation (approx)	£316.00
TDALC - Cheque payment	£10.00
<b>Total expenditure for April</b>	<b>£687.64</b>

