

Little Oakley Parish Council
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**Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 20th June 2018
in the Millennium Room, St Michaels Church, Ramsey
Meeting Start Time 19.00**

As the Chairman was unable to attend Cllr Hunnaball agreed to Chair the meeting

18/020

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Griffiths and Cllr Cullen

18/021

Declaration of Pecuniary and Non Pecuniary Interests

No declarations were made

18/022

Signing of the Minutes

It was **Resolved** to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting. These were then signed.

Proposed: Cllr Attrill

Seconded: Cllr Griggs

18/023

Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

18/024

Clerks Report

Outdoor Gym – the Clerk reported that at present she had not progressed this. Cllr Bush advised that he is speaking to Matthew Brown at ECC with regards to the availability of a new location for the proposed Outdoor Gym.

Scouts

An email was received from Little Oakley Scouts inviting Councillors to a meeting on Thursday 5th July at 7.30 to hear about the re-launch and development plans for the sections. They are also looking for volunteers to help in various roles.

Planning query

The Clerk has received a query regarding the building of a property on Rectory Road. This was discussed and will be looked into further by Cllr Bush. Councillors requested this item should be included on the next Agenda.

Annual Return

The Annual Return has been sent to the external auditors.

The renewal of the contract to supply electricity for street lights is still ongoing.

18/025

Finance

At the start of June the current account balance was £2052.20 which included reserves of £860. Expenditure for June is £1340.04. The savings account balance at the start of June was £19012.01, this included reserves of £4500.00. It was requested that £550.00 be transferred from the savings account to the current account to cover July payments and protect the reserve. Expenses were also presented to the Councillor for acceptance. Expenditure for July at present is £356.64. A full copy of the Finance Report is attached at the end of the Minutes.

The quotes for grass cutting and maintenance have been received and were discussed. The details are not minuted here due to their confidential content.

It was **Resolved** to accept the Finance Report and Expenses.

Proposed: Cllr Attrill

Seconded: Cllr Griggs

18/026

Planning

18/00811/FUL – Variation of Condition 4 of 17/01085/FUL Little Oakley Football Club

This is a change in condition from using the floodlights on Friday between 6.00 and 10.00 and Saturday between 2.00 and 7.00 to Thursday between 6.00 and 10.00 and Saturday between 2.00 and 7.00. After discussion it was **Resolved** that the Parish Council would send in a decision of Neutral but adding that there should be no change of the times the floodlights could be used.

Proposed: Cllr Attrill

Seconded: Cllr Griggs

18/00773/FUL – Side Extension 56 Harwich Road

This is to infill a gap between the house and garage to enable access from the house. It was **Resolved** that the Parish Council would send in a decision of Neutral.

Proposed: Cllr Attrill

Seconded: Cllr Bush

18/00943/FUL – St Clare, Rectory Lane

This is for a 2 storey side and rear extension, single storey side extensions and annex, porch and replacement of outbuildings. Cllr Attrill went over the plans with Councillors, there were concerns that with building machinery/vehicles the lane may be damaged. They were advised that a study will have been carried out and if any damage was done it need to be repaired. It was **Resolved** that the Parish Council would send in a decision of Neutral.

Proposed: Cllr Attrill

Seconded: Cllr Bush

18/027

Flooding on Rectory Road

The water level appears to be the same even though we have had a dry spell of weather. Previously the Parish Council were advised that more investigation was needed to find out the cause of this however at that time the weather was preventing this. County Councillor Erskine will look into this.

18/028

Damaged Footpaths

Both footpaths damaged by farm machinery earlier in the year have now been levelled and the grass cut back. The clerk has received an email from a resident thanking the Parish Council for their help in the matter. It was **Resolved** that the Clerk should write a thank you letter from the Parish Council to the Agent.

18/029

GDPR

The Clerk reported that Privacy notices are now available and will be emailed out to Councillors for their approval.

Consent forms were handed to Councillors to sign to give permission to have Agendas and Minutes emailed to them.

Declarations of Interest were also checked so any updates can be made.

It was felt that the Parish Council should have a statement in place should a situation arise where a Councillor is unable to attend for 6 consecutive meetings due to circumstances beyond their control. It was **Resolved** to contact TDC and take advice from them.

18/030

Playing Field

This was covered under item 18/024.

18/031

Operation London Bridge

TDC have asked that Parish/Town Councils should have a plan in place ready for when there is an announcement that the Queen has passed away. This should be for a book of condolence, area to place floral tributes etc. It was felt that this item should be discussed when more Councillors were present. It was **Resolved** to move this item for discussion at the next meeting.

18/032

Report by District Cllr Bush

District Cllr Bush advised he is still being contacted regarding the overgrown hedge on Rectory Road. This has been brought to the attention of TDC as the speed limit for this road is the national speed limit therefore it can be dangerous to not be able to see oncoming traffic when travelling round that area. TDC have now deferred this to ECC to inspect. County Cllr Erskine will also look into this.

The forthcoming closure of certain bus routes such as the No 3 to Clacton were discussed. District Cllr Bush has voiced his concerns as the loss of the bus route will lead to many people being unable to travel to work, it can also cause problems for the elderly leading to more isolation. Some of the early buses and ones which run during school opening and closing times are under ECC which means they will be looking into this. There are some other bus companies looking into taking on some of the routes due to finish.

It was reported that crime in the area is on the increase. There had been a number of burglaries in Great Oakley both to properties and sheds. At a Harwich Crime Prevention meeting it was seen that crime is moving out of the town and into the surrounding rural areas.

18/033**Report by County Councillor Erskine**

The drainage on Rectory Road had already been discussed in item 18/027. Highways funding was discussed and it was felt that more money could be available for work but only if District Councils fund matched however at present nothing more has been heard about this. The idea of fund matching has been queried by Councillors as to do this takes away funds from District Councils.

Cutting back of footpaths has been seen as another issue as at present footpaths are only cut back once a year. One idea put forward has been to have volunteers trained to do the cutting but this has had little interest. County Cllr Erskine was asked if public rights of way could be cut back by Parishes but at present they are now allowed to. It was felt this may work in the future but probably only in larger Parishes who have volunteers and funding to cover this. At present County Cllr Erskine is trying to get permission for the Tendring Rangers to cut back the footpaths. A discussion followed as to whether the Parish Council could have footpaths cut back as part of the grass cutting and maintenance contract. They were advised that if Parish Councils were to do this would they would need a separate budget and a consultation with residents first to see how well used the paths were and if there was a need for this.

18/034**Public Speaking**

No members of the public attended.

18/035**Items for the next Agenda**

Footpaths

Building on Rectory Road

Operation London Bridge

Playing Field

GDPR

The meeting closed at 20.40

Current Account balance - 1st June 2018	£2,052.20
Income to Current Account	£0.00
Transfer from Savings	£550.00
Total Income for June 2018	£2,602.20
Expenditure June 2018	
A & J Lighting D/D	£41.26
Hire of Hall (extra donation for EGM)	£40.00
SSE D/D	£52.82
1 & 1 Internet	£1.19
Mr JD Martin - final grasscutting payment	£250.00
EALC - Laws and Procedures Course for Clerk	£85.00
Came & Co Insurance paid 1st June	£535.63
Accent	£15.98
Harold Griffiths Expenses (software)	£18.96
Clerks Expenses - 2 courses	£81.20
Bank Charges -30th June (March to June)	£18.00
Wages - Clerks wages	£200.00
Total expenditure	£1,340.04
Total in Main Account end of June 2018	£1,262.16
Saving Account balance - 1st June 2018	
Income into Savings Account June	£0.00
Outgoings form Savings Account June	£550.00
Total in Savings Account end of June 2018	£18,462.01
Overall total in Current and Savings account	£19,724.17
Proposed Expenditure for July	
A & J Lighting D/D	£41.26
Hire of Hall	£20.00
SSE D/D (approx)	£49.71
Harold Griffiths Expenses (software)	£9.48
Data Protection Renewal approx	£35.00
Clerks Wages	£200.00
1 & 1 Internet	£1.19
Total Proposed Expenditure	£356.64
Reserves	
Playground	£5,022.00
Website (held in current account)	£860.00
Street Lights	£500.00
Office Equipment	£500.00
Chairmans Discretionary Fund	£500.00
Total Reserves	£7,382.00
Unallocated Funds Available	
Current Account	£45.52
Savings Account	£13,202.17
Total Unallocated Funds Available	£13,247.69

