

*Little Oakley Parish Council*  
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**Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
In the Millennium Room, St Michaels Church, Ramsey  
Meeting Start Time 19.00**

**Present: Cllrs Griffiths (Chairman). Attrill, Bush, Cullen (Vice Chairman) McNee and Griggs**

**Also Present: Jeanette Sands (Clerk/RFO)**

**18/176**

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Hunnaball. It was **RESOLVED** to accept these apologies

**18/177**

**Declaration of Pecuniary and Non Pecuniary Interests**

No interests were declared.

**18/178**

**Signing of the Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting and these were duly signed.

Proposed: Cllr Attrill

Seconded: Cllr McNee

**18/179**

**Urgent Matters**

A recent closure of Rectory Road had been queried on the Friends of Little Oakley Facebook page as no advance notice had been given. Cllr Griffiths informed the Clerk and ECC were contacted. ECC had no details for the closure. Cllr Griffiths went to Rectory Road and was advised by workmen that UK Power Network had been carrying work but the road was now open.

**18/180**

**Clerks Report**

Elections – forms were given to Councillors and the Clerk has offered to take completed ones to Clacton.

Playground – the new bench will be covered under Agenda item 10. TDC were contacted regarding details of companies who carry out repairs to playground equipment but they do not hold any details. Playquip were contacted and came out on March 12<sup>th</sup>. They will send out a quote for the repairs.

Street light near Seaview Avenue – this has now been reported.

Donation to Scouts – this has been made and they were very pleased with this.

Old Parish Council Documents – the Clerk advised Councillors that the oldest Minutes date back to 1894. Cllr Attrill had requested the date for the Facebook page.

Mayes Lane development – the latest update regarding the placement of refuse bags and recycling boxes is that either the refuse lorry will go onto the road or bags will be collected at the bottom of the road.

### **18/181**

#### **Finance**

The current account balance as at 1<sup>st</sup> March was £225.35 and the savings account balance was £22473.81 which includes the reserve balances. There is a £10 difference to the current account balance showing on the report which is due to an uncleared cheque.

Expenditure for March is £416.04 and proposed expenditure for April is £375.04. The RFO asked for a transfer of £700 from the savings account to cover the expenditure. A full finance report can be found at the end of these Minutes. There was a reminder that the next Finance Committee meeting will be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the report, payments and transfer.

Proposed: Cllr Cullen

Seconded: Cllr Attrill

### **18/182**

#### **Planning**

Determinations – there was only one determination which was for Lodge Road, this was approved on 5<sup>th</sup> March

Applications – Stowford House, 19/00378/FUL

Proposed erection of one & two storey front extension & single storey rear extension along with associated internal remodelling & external works.

Plans were looked at for the above property and a decision of Neutral was agreed.

Proposed: Cllr Attrill

Seconded: Cllr Bush

Burnt House Farm – although not in Little Oakley it was noted that the garage of the last house on the plot has been moved forward slightly as originally it would have been very close to the bridle path.

### **18/183**

#### **Pavement Improvements**

There is to be an investment of £700,000 to be made to improve pavements throughout the County. Councillors have been requested to discuss this and give details of any work which is needed. It was **RESOLVED** to request repairs to the kerb stones on Cherrytree Close and the pavement on the right hand side (when walking towards the old school) of Rectory Road.

### **18/184**

#### **Footpaths**

ECC have a grant available for improving services such as cutting footpaths. It was decided to look into this with the possibility of applying for help to cover footpath cutting. Other Parishes have also applied for this plus help with costs of employing a handyman. Cllr Cullen is looking into quotes and received one so far. This will not be discussed here for confidentiality reasons.

**18/185****S106 Money**

After the Clerk spoke to TDC it was found that there may be S106 money available to cover the cost of the new bench for the playground. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would look into the S106 funding in more detail.

**18/186****Litter Picking Action Day**

Cllr Bush reported that due to adverse weather conditions only five people attended. However it was a successful day and 15 bags of rubbish were collected. Costing of pickers, hoops and bags are still being looked into.

**18/187****Bus Shelters**

Cllr Griffiths reported that the bus shelters near the old post office are in need of painting on the outside and kindly offered to do this. Cllr Cullen will price up the paint. The Clerk is also going to look into replacement shelters under the same scheme as the others that have been replaced.

**18/188****Special Constables**

Cllr Bush reported that other Parish Councils are also looking into this but that decisions have been deferred until after the elections. Essex police have now started a police cadet force in the area which will be run from Harwich, applications for this close on March 25<sup>th</sup> and there are details on Harwich Town Councils Facebook page.

**18/189****Oakridge sign and Little Oakley sign**

The Oakridge street sign has been reported to TDC as they arrange replacements for these. The Welcome to Little Oakley sign however needs to be replaced by the Parish Council and Cllr Bush offered to look at quotes for this. It was also felt that the Cherrytree Road sign should need replacing.

**18/190****Facebook**

The Facebook page is up and running and is now linked to the website. Cllr Attrill advised that there are many more items to go onto the page which will be done over time, post office opening times were discussed and these may be added to the page. Cllr Attrill has also contacted Friends of Little Oakley to ask if they will add a link on their page.

**18/191****Playing Field**

This will be followed up once the elections have finished.

**18/192****Noticeboard Maintenance**

Cllr Griffiths reported that both noticeboards have now been oiled and when the weather gets warmer he will oil them again.

**18/193****Website**

Cllr Griffiths reported that this is now stable and he will also add the post office opening hours to the site. It was suggested that new photographs should be added to the website and Cllr Attrill offered to forward some to Cllr Griffiths.

**18/194****Devolution**

A meeting has been held at County Hall with the trial councils but there was no mention of who will fund the changes proposed. This will be looked at again after the elections.

**18/195****Report from District Councillor Bush**

District Cllr Bush reported that discussions regarding business rates have been going on. It was felt that local councils need more help rather than the majority of the funds going to central government. Business rates for online businesses are also being looked into

**18/196****Report from County Councillor Erskine**

County Cllr Erskine was unable to attend therefore no report was given.

**18/197****Public Speaking**

No members of the public attended.

**18/198****Items for the next Agenda**

Telephone box

Telephone number for the defibrillator

**The meeting closed at 20.40**

<b>Current Account balance - 1st March</b>	<b>£215.35</b>
	£0.00
Transfer from Savings	£700.00
<b>Total Income for March</b>	<b>£915.35</b>

#### **Expenditure March 2019**

A & J Lighting D/D	£41.26
Hire of Hall	£20.00
SSE D/D	£59.79
1 & 1 Internet D/D	£11.99
Wages - Clerks wages	£200.00
Ramsey Church - hire of Hall	£20.00
Playground Inspection Company	£63.00
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£416.04</b>

<b>Total in Main Account end of March</b>	<b>£499.31</b>
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<b>Saving Account balance -</b>	<b>£22,473.81</b>
<b>Income into Savings Account</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Outgoings form Savings Account</b>	<b>£700.00</b>

<b>Total in Savings Account end of March</b>	<b>£21,773.81</b>
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<b>Overall total in Current and Savings account</b>	<b>£22,273.12</b>
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#### **Proposed Expenditure for April**

A & J Lighting D/D	£41.26
Hire of Hall	£20.00
SSE D/D (approx)	£59.79
Clerks Wages	£200.00
1 & 1 Internet D/D	£11.99
Clerks Expenses (Cilca)	£42.00

<b>Total Proposed Expenditure</b>	<b>£375.04</b>
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**Reserves**

Playground	£5,022.00
Website	£860.00
Street Lights	£500.00
Office Equipment	£500.00
Chairmans Discretionary Fund	£500.00
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>£7,382.00</b>

**Unallocated Funds Available**

Current Account	£124.27
Savings Account	£14,391.81
<b>Total Unallocated Funds Available</b>	<b>£14,516.08</b>