

## ***Little Oakley Parish Council***

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in the Millennium Room, St Michael's Church, Ramsey starting at 7:00pm.

Emma Haward

Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

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**Present:** Cllrs Attrill (Chairman), Bush, Coates, Griggs, and Lane.

**Also Present:** ECC Cllr Land, and Emma Haward (Clerk/RFO)

**Members of the Public:** There were two members of the public present.

### **22/123 Public Announcements**

There were none.

### **22/124 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Hunnaball and were accepted by all.

### **22/125 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **22/126 Signing of the Minutes**

It was proposed by Cllr Coates, and seconded by Cllr Lane, and RESOLVED that the minutes from the Full Council meeting of **11<sup>th</sup> January 2023** were accepted as a true record and duly signed.

### **22/127 Public Speaking**

A member of the public spoke about the gate at Lodge Road leading into a cleared area, on one side is an ivy bush leading to the bridal path. A horse was spooked with an experienced rider and it was noted that there should be sufficient space for horses to ride two abreast.

- Clerk to request TDC rangers to cut back ivy hedging to create adequate width of bridle path.

### **22/128 Report from District Councillor Bush**

- Cllr Bush advised that Essex recycling centres have introduced a booking system, pedestrians are not required to book appointments.
- A proposed scheme by the Independent Remuneration Panel was agreed at the meeting of the Full Council for uplift of allowances to be increased by 7%, and the introduction of Allowances for Special Responsibilities backdating to April 2022.
- Voter ID has been introduced ahead of the upcoming election where photographic ID must be provided to be able to vote. Further information and guidelines can be found at the Electoral Commission website (<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id?gclsrc=aw.ds>).
- Cllr Bush advised that the Tendring Community Fund was available for further bids. Cllr Bush previously circulated details. All to consider opportunity for other groups in Little Oakley.
- Cllr Bush also informed the Parish Council that 69 parcels of TDC land could be sold for social housing, three in Little Oakley:

- End of Seaview Avenue - 13 properties.
  - Two in Bay View Crescent - 9 properties.
- Cllr Bush advised that he was advocating with TDC for District Councillor grants to be made available to parishes to spend on King Charles III Coronation festivities.

#### **22/129 Report from County Councillor Land**

- Cllr Land reiterated Cllr Bush's concerns in terms of social housing and budgets. Tomorrow, Cllr Land will be attending ECC's budget meeting to approve budget at ECC full council around council tax being allocated towards vulnerable, sick and elderly residents.
- It was noted that ECC Highways required £70m to maintain roads to a good standard.
- ECC Cllrs pothole scheme has been completed. Some additional funds will be allocated to ECC Cllrs in the near future for further fixes. Cllr Land is attending monthly meetings with a Highways representative, Cllr Land reminded members that potholes need to be reported using the highways reporting system.
- Cllr Land advised that a small portion of the Locality Fund given to ECC Cllrs remains.
- Cllr Land attended a meeting today regarding recycling centres – he was hopeful that people use recycling centres for the right means. Cllr Land to share telephone number for booking appointments online. Concerns were raised by the Parish Council regarding the potential for increased fly-tipping, traffic and litter.
- Cllr Land received contact from a Ramsey PC Cllr regarding Lodge Road recreation ground and the potential for fencing around the perimeter.

#### **22/130 Clerk's Report**

Report previously circulated.

- Clerk to request a full report from UKPN with images of the lamp and bracket, to provide A&J Lighting with details.
- Clerk to ask A&J Lighting for quote to fix a new lamp and bracket to the pole.
- Clerk to write back to Postal Review Service to send thank you for their response, and request a King Charles Post box.

#### **22/131 Lodge Road Recreational Space**

It was noted that some of the oak saplings have been moved to the boundary, the gate has been installed, and the ground is ready for seeding.

Cllr Bush has received representation from the developer behind the premises regarding right of access through the field, it was noted that the lease agreement does not specify driving through the accessway and solicitor / ECC land agent details were passed to the developer.

It was agreed not to proceed with fencing around the perimeter of the site at this stage.

It was proposed by Cllr Bush, seconded by Cllr Attrill and RESOLVED to proceed with the quotation from Playquip. It was agreed to organise for Playquip to inspect the site and prepare a timescale.

It was proposed by Cllr Griggs, seconded by Cllr Coates, and RESOLVED to source an additional quotation for an A1 size sign for the recreational space.

It was also agreed to source a quote for poles and fixings for the recreation ground sign.

- Clerk to write to RCCE and Essex Playing Field Association to request information relating to the availability of grants for local projects and community improvements.

## **22/132 Finance Report and Expenses**

Report previously circulated.

- It was RESOLVED to transfer £3,000 from the savings account.
- It was RESOLVED to accept the expenses and payments for February.

## **22/133 Planning Applications**

### **Applications**

23/00051/FULHH – 24 Bay View Crescent, Little Oakley, Harwich, Essex – Proposed erection of front porch and pitched roof.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council holds a neutral position for the application. Clerk to submit comments on Planning Portal.

23/00118/FULHH - 106 Rectory Road Little Oakley Harwich Essex - Proposed removal of existing converted garage and replace with new larger single Storey Extension. Internal Alterations to suit new extension.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the application. Clerk to submit comments to Planning Portal.

### **Determinations**

22/01986/TPO - 22 Harwich Road, Little Oakley, Harwich CO12 5JF - Oak - 30% reduction, thinning and crown lifting.

Full approval was granted on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

## **22/134 Service Provision at ECC Recycling Centres**

Clerk to write, on behalf of Parish Council, to Portfolio Holder at ECC to express concerns relating to the difficulty of use of the booking system by the elderly and vulnerable, the potential increase of fly-tipping and enforcement (cost increase implications for TDC), increased use of grey bins for recyclable items (cost increase implications for TDC and environmental harm), increase in burning of rubbish and increase costs for ECC for booking system enforcement. Cllr Bush to request figures of monies spent as a result of fly-tipping over the last two years.

## **22/135 Memorial Club Playground Repairs**

Cllr Hunnabal has removed the damaged railings for Dunninghams to fix, these will be ready by the end of the week. Cost estimated to be £150-£200 +vat.

## **22/136 Rectory Road Drainage Ditches**

Clerk to arrange a meeting with Land Owners, a Highways representative, and Cllrs Attrill and Lane on behalf of the Parish Council.

## **22/137 King Charles III Coronation Weekend**

It was agreed not to hold a 'Big Lunch' however, to decorate key spaces in Little Oakley such as, the phone box, village sign and planter.

It was agreed to request a quote for the planter to have a red, white and blue themed bulbs.

**22/138 Governance and Policy Documentation**

It was proposed by Cllr Attrill, seconded by Cllr Griggs and RESOLVED to adopt the Social Media Policy.

It was proposed by Cllr Attrill, seconded by Cllr Coates and RESOLVED to adopt the Councillor Induction Pack.

It was proposed by Cllr Bush, seconded by Cllr Griggs and RESOLVED to accept the recommendations for the scheme of allowances proposed by the Independent Remuneration Panel. Members of the Parish Council agreed to refuse the payment of their own allowances if they so wished. It was agreed that the Finance Committee will have to include such allowances in future Precept budgeting.

**22/139 Items for Next Agenda**

- Multi-Use Bins at Lodge Road Recreation Ground
- Elections, Nominations and PURDAH
- Schedule of meetings remaining to May 2023
- Remote Meetings policy

**22/140 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting:**

Full Council Meeting, Wednesday 8th March 2023, Millennium Room, St Michaels Church, Ramsey at 7.00pm

Meeting concluded at 9:33pm.