

Little Oakley Parish Council

Email: clerk@littleoakleypc.org.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th November 2023 in the Millennium Room, St Michael's Church, Ramsey starting at 7:00pm.

Emma Haward

Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer

Tel: 07534172696 Email: clerk@littleoakleypc.org.uk

Present: Cllrs Attrill (Chairman), Griggs, and Harbour

(The clerk was absent due to an emergency medical appointment, so Cllr Attrill stood in as the Proper Officer and the meeting was recorded for minute taking purposes.)

Members of the Public: There were 6 members of the public present.

23/090 Public Announcements

There were no public announcements.

23/091 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Coates and Lane and accepted by all.

23/092 Declarations of Interests

There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Personal Interests.

23/093 Signing of the Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Attrill, seconded by Cllr Griggs and RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Wednesday 11th October 2023.

23/094 Public Speaking

Members of the public spoke around issues relating to mains sewage. They advised that they sought advice for sewage solutions however, due to their properties being on the smaller scale and built on solid clay, their properties are not be suitable for individual sewage treatment plants. Cllr Attrill previously passed the members of the public contact details for Cllr Coates to advise of the process of linking to the mains drainage solutions. If residents were to apply to Anglian Water to be connected to mains sewerage, the Parish Council agreed to fully support them. Members of the public also spoke around issues relating to the planning application 23/01422/FUL.

23/095 Report from District Councillor Bush

No report due to absence.

23/096 Report from County Councillor Land

No report due to absence.

23/097 Clerk's Report

Report circulated.

23/98 Finance

Report circulated.

It was proposed by Cllr Attrill, seconded by Cllr Harbour, and RESOLVED to approve expenses and payments for November, subject to confirmation of invoice for Great Oaktree Land Services.

Clerk to contact Great Oaktree Land Service to seek clarification or refund relating to the value of invoices for grass cutting. A quotation (#105) was previously submitted in January 2023 for 12 cuts per year, at £120.00 per cut, this invoice and previous payments were the value of £125.00.

It was also proposed by Cllr Attrill, seconded by Cllr Griggs, and RESOLVED to accept and agree the LGA National Joint Salary Scales for 2023/24 and agree the Clerk's salary increase and back pay.

23/099 Planning

Applications

23/01422/FUL - 52 Rectory Road Little Oakley Harwich Essex CO12 5JU - Proposed 3

bedroom assisted living bungalow to rear of existing care home to increase supported and independent living provision.

The application was discussed in detail and it was RESOLVED to object to the application on the following grounds:

1. Non-compliance with the Tendring District Local Plan (2013-2033 and Beyond) policy LP8, Backland Residential Development, in that it does not comply with all the criteria set out in that policy, in particular Sections a, b, c & f. It will lie behind the line of existing frontage development (ie Rectory Road), has no frontage to the existing public highway and is piecemeal development. In addition, the Parish Council considers it would be a 'tandem' development under the definition of the policy.
2. Over-development for the size of the plot, making it feel cramped and out of character for the location.
3. Lack of on-site parking for staff, visitors, deliveries etc and the fact that the inevitable offsite parking in the vicinity would be restricted to a narrow country road, probably half up on the pavement, as is often becoming the norm these days.
4. The impact on neighbouring properties in respect to loss of light and privacy, especially to no.54.
5. The design of the roof in that it not in keeping with neighbouring properties and in not being a hipped roof, it will increase the loss of light to no.54 even further.
6. The proximity of the development to the boundary of no.54. The plans indicate that this would be less than one metre with the kitchen window facing directly in to a living space of no.54, thereby increasing loss of privacy even more. Cooking smells emanating from the kitchen window might also be considered a nuisance.
7. General increase of traffic along the shared private driveway, both during construction of the development and when occupied causing disruption and privacy loss, especially to no.50 Rectory Road.

Clerk to submit comments to Planning Portal.

Determinations

There were no determinations.

23/100 Oaklea Montessori Nursery

The nursery has recently given notice that they will be closing. Sir Bernard Jenkin MP wrote to Gavin Jones, Chief Executive of Essex County Council and received a reply which assured Sir Bernard Jenkin that ECC had been working closely with the owners of the nursery to come to a solution for the nursery to remain open until an adequate childcare provider can be sought to take over the running of the nursery in the summer months of 2024.

Oaklea Montessori has since been offered a grant to remain open in the meantime. The Parish Council agreed to monitor the situation and offer any help and support if necessary.

23/101 Rectory Road Light

Cllr Attrill wrote to UK Power Networks on 23 October questioning why the Parish Council were being asked to pay for the reconnection of the light. No response has been received at this time.

Cllr Attrill to contact UK Power Networks to ask why a response has not been provided.

23/102 Oakley Coronation Park

The Parish Council received notification that they were unsuccessful in their application for the Community Initiative Fund.

The bank of grass has been seeded and there is still a concern that there is a lack of fencing around the adjacent development site.

Great Oaktree Land Services are scheduled to undertake 12 cuts per year, at £120 per cut. It was agreed to look at the grounds in February to see if it would be necessary to bring cuts forward.

23/103 Litter Bins

The Parish Council discussed installing/replacing litter bins at various locations in the village.

After consideration and due to budget restrictions, it was agreed not to purchase any more litter bins at this time and review the situation in 6 months.

23/104 War Memorial

The Remembrance Sunday service took place with the attendance of John Wallace LLM from St Michael's Church, a bugler and around 70 residents.

Clerk to send thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to Saul Hunnaball to thank him for the donation of the orders of service, and Ashley for tidying the memorial ahead of the service.

23/105 Items for the Next Agenda

- Supply of Musical Instruments to Two Village School

Meeting concluded at 20.00 pm.