Little Oakley Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th September 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), Coates, Griggs, Harbour and Lane.

Also Present: Emma Haward (Clerk/RFO).

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

23/050 Public Announcements

There were no public announcements.

23/051 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from District Cllr Bush.

23/052 Declarations of Interests

There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or Personal Interests.

23/053 Signing of the Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Harbour, seconded by Cllr Coates and RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Wednesday 12th July 2023.

23/054 Public Speaking

A member of the public asked why the park contractor was being paid more to re-do a job they had already been paid to do. Cllr Attrill advised that although not an ideal solution, it was important that the Parish Council maintained a good working relationship with the contractor. Some of their remedial work is free-of-charge and their total costs still remain less than the quotes received from other contractors.

A member of the public raised an objection to the renewal of the 'No Horses' signs on the public footpaths and explained that the Land Owner can give permission to any horse rider to use their land. Cllr Attrill explained that the decision to renew the signs or not will be taken in agenda item 13 and thanked the member of public for their input.

In relation to the maintenance of other bridleways / footpaths near Little Oakley, two were in the parish of Ramsey and Parkeston, but the one behind Two Village School was in Little Oakley and had recently been cut by ECC after representation from the Council.

The Council thanked the member of the public for all that they do in the village, especially the maintenance of hedges and verges.

23/055 Report from District Councillor Bush

No report due to absence.

23/056 Report from County Councillor Land

No report due to absence.

23/057 Clerk's Report

Noted.

23/058 Finance

It was proposed by Cllr Attrill, seconded by Cllr Coates, and RESOLVED to approve expenses and payments for September.

Clerk to move S106 monies to reserves for Oakley Coronation Park.

23/059 Planning Applications

23/01121/HHPNOT - 60 Rectory Road Little Oakley Harwich Essex CO12 5LA - Prior Approval Application under Part 1, Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for proposed single storey rear extension (Depth 4.6m, Maximum Height 2.93m, Eaves Height 2.58m).

The Parish Council noted the application.

Determinations

23/00894/NDPNOT - Two Village C of E Primary School Mayes Lane Ramsey Harwich Essex CO12 5EL - Application under Part 14, Class J of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for erection of roof mounted solar panels with a total capacity of 95kWp.

Full approval was granted on 18th August 2023.

23/060 Sea Wall Realignment Planning Application

Cllr Attrill advised that there were no additional comments or documents in relation to Planning Application 21/02144/FUL. Farming hasn't stopped thus far as previously advised.

It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the Case Officer at Tendring District Council to request an update on the progression of the application.

23/061 Rectory Road Light

The Parish Council received a quote from UK Power Networks for the reinstatement of power to the disconnected light.

It was agreed for Cllr Coates to contact UK Power Networks directly to challenge the quotation since the lamp was originally removed by their contractor.

23/062 'No Horses' Signs

The current condition of the 'No Horses' signs on the village footpaths have deteriorated since first fitted by the Council many years ago. Horses have been using the footpath as found from evidence of fouling.

It was agreed to note the concerns of residents raised regarding the signage. Unfortunately, the issue is not the Parish Council's responsibility but of the Land Owner's to replace or improve signage.

23/063 TDC Corporate Plan

The Parish Council discussed the TDC draft Vision (Corporate Plan), Clerk to issue Cllrs with link to complete online survey if they haven't already done so.

23/064 Oakley Coronation Park

The Parish Council previously agreed to accept a quotation for up to £1,000 of remedial works to be completed in the next two weeks. Cllr Attrill advised that the contractor's actual quotation fell below this at £400.

Concerns from members of the public (on FaceBook) were raised regarding the aerial runway; this was inspected by the installer and the wire was re-tensioned on 12th September.

Only a couple of the saplings gifted by the Woodland Trust, have survived due to the weather conditions at planting and since, but Cllr Attrill advised there had been no financial outlay to the Council.

23/065 Waste Bins

Deferred.

Cllr Griggs to monitor the use of the bin on Cherry Tree corner and report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

23/066 Irlams Beach litter

Images circulated.

It was noted that beach litter has accumulated near the sea wall of Irlams Beach. It was agreed to approach the Environment Agency to report the litter with the aim of getting it cleared.

23/067 Sewage, Rectory Road

Cllr Coates advised that she contacted Anglian Water, who came 9 months ago and completed percolation tests. They have provided a response to say that they have considered the conditions for the road to have a sewage system. Their decision is that they are satisfied that the application meets the conditions and accepts that the drainage gives rise to adverse effects to put in a sewer system however, it is not considered the best value solution and therefore will not go ahead.

Cllr Coates advised that there was nothing for the Parish Council to do and she will personally appeal Anglian Water's decision and take the issue further with the Environment Agency, also contacting the local MP for further advice and support.

23/068 Meeting Dates

It was proposed by Cllr Attrill, seconded by Cllr Griggs and RESOLVED to amend the schedule of meetings for 2023-24 as follows:-

Full Council, 8th November to be moved to 15th November

Full Council, where there is no meeting, to hold a meeting on 13th December

Full Council schedule to resume on 14th February

Clerk to request changes to the use of the Millennium Room.

23/069 Items for the Next Agenda

- Reserves Policy to discuss and agree a draft policy for future funding applications since the Essex Community Initiative Fund requested a copy of the Parish Council's Reserves Policy and one wasn't in existence.
- Manure and Blocked Pond by Essex Way, Ramsey to discuss and agree any actions.

Cllr Harbour sent his apologies for the next meeting.

Meeting concluded at 20.12 pm.