

Little Oakley Parish Council
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th March 2021
The meeting was held remotely via Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions.
The Meeting started at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllrs Griggs (Vice Chairman), Bush, Coates, Hunnaball, Lane and McNee

Also Present: Jeanette Sands (Clerk/RFO)

Members of the Public: No members of the public requested details to join the meeting.

20/161

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Attrill and were unanimously accepted. The meeting was Chaired by Cllr Griggs as Vice-Chairman

20/162

Declaration of Pecuniary and Non Pecuniary Interests

No declarations were made.

20/163

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes from the February meeting were accepted as a true record and will be signed once normal meetings resume.

Proposed: Cllr Griggs

Seconded: Cllr Lane

20/164

Urgent Matters

Dog Waste left on the footpath between Little Oakley Memorial Club and Oakridge
Members of the public have voiced their concerns that the amount of dog waste left on the above footpath has increased and poses a problem for residents using the footpath, especially those with pushchairs and young children. Currently dog waste bins are located on the greensward near the entrance to Oakridge and on the greensward between Lodge Road and the road leading to the Memorial Club. Re-location of both bins was discussed, the Oakridge bin being relocated to the opposite end of the greensward and the other bin relocated to the railings between the footpath and the Memorial Club car park. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should contact Tendring District Council (TDC) to enquire if relocation is a possibility and also the Memorial Club to get approval for the dog waste bin to be attached to their railings. The Dog Warden was also contacted and suggested signs warning that not removing dog waste is an offence.

20/165

Public Speaking

No members of the public had requested to join the meeting therefore no public speaking took place.

20/166

Report from District Councillor Bush

District Councillor Bush reported that Section 2 of the Local Plan is with the examiners.

20/167

Report from County Councillor Erskine

No report was received.

20/168

Clerks Report

Resignation of Councillor - following the resignation of Cllr Nicholson Tendring District Council (TDC) have been informed and the notices for two Casual Vacancies are now on the notice boards and website. TDC will notify of any need for an election or give the go ahead to co-opt by 23rd March 2021.

Trees on Farmland - the work has now been carried out but was organised by residents. The Parish Council had no prior knowledge of this.

Hedgerow Cutting Back - the hedges opposite Ye Olde Cherry Tree and on the approach to Oakridge have been trimmed back. Mr. Pile has been emailed and thanked for arranging this prior to the start of the hedge cutting restrictions.

Correspondence - Concerns have been raised regarding vehicles working on the new build site blocking the entrance to the footpath. This was forwarded to Ramsey Parish Council who have looked into this and the problem has been rectified.

Footpath to play area - Little Oakley Memorial Club enquired as to whether the Parish Council could apply for S106 money to put in a path from the side of the 3G pitch to the play area as this is getting quite muddy. This cannot be applied for as the funds are only available for the playground.

Playground Gate - the details from Playquip regarding a fault with gates shutting mechanisms does not apply to the gate at the play area as this is not one of their gates. It was **RESOLVED** to email and enquire if this is a fault of the hydraulics would this be covered by warranty as Playquip installed this.

20/169

Finance Report

Account Balances

1st March the accounts balances were

Current Acct £11350.06

Savings Acct £28182.68

These figures include the reserve values in the savings account

Confirmed Payments for February

Payment to	Details of Payment	Net £	Vat £	Gross £
A & J Lighting	Monthly Maintenance	34.38	6.88	41.26
SSE	Electrical Supply	60.58	3.02	63.60
Mr A Attrill	Reimbursement - Zoom	11.99	2.40	14.39
Mrs J Sands	Clerks Salary	260.64	0.00	260.64
Mrs J Sands	Back dated pay	172.00	0.00	172.00
Mrs J Sands	Extra hours Sept to Nov	186.25	0.00	186.25
S Scott Electrical	Kiosk Electrics	158.00	31.60	189.60
EALC	Intro to Planning	70.00	14.00	84.00
Totals		953.84	57.90	1011.74

Expenditure for March paid to date and expected payments.

Payment to	Details of Payment	Net £	Vat £	Gross £
A & J Lighting	Monthly Maintenance	34.38	6.88	41.26
SSE	Electricity Supply	60.58	3.02	63.60
Mr D Attrill	Reimbursement Zoom	11.99	2.40	14.39
Mr D Attrill	Reimbursement Tape	4.99	0.00	4.99
VCS	Website Hosting	50.00	0.00	50.00
EALC	Co-options/Elections	70.00	14.00	84.00
EALC	Intro to Planning	70.00	14.00	84.00
Essex Pro Paint	Kiosk painting	245.00	0.00	245.00
Mrs J Sands	Clerks Salary	260.64	0.00	260.64
Totals		807.58	40.30	847.88

Proposed Expenditure for April – this is subject to change

Payment to	Details of Payment	Net £	Vat £	Gross £
A & J Lighting	Monthly Maintenance	34.38	6.88	41.26
SSE	Electricity Supply	67.65	3.37	71.02
Mr D Attrill	Reimbursement Zoom	11.99	2.40	14.39
Mrs J Sands	Clerks Salary	260.64	0.00	260.64
Totals		374.66	12.65	387.31

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the March payments

Proposed: Cllr Bush

Seconded: Cllr Lane

Year End

The accounts will be closed on April 4th and details will be prepared for the internal audit.

VAT

The quarter 4 VAT will be reclaimed at the end of March.

20/170

Planning

Determinations - 20/01457/FUL St Clair alteration to design. This was approved but a condition was placed on the usage of the cart lodge.

Application - 21/00280/TPO - cutting back of several trees at St Mary's House. It was **RESOLVED** to give a Neutral decision to this application.

20/171

The Oakleys and Wix Neighbourhood Plan

An initial meeting of the Chairmen of above Parish Councils plus District Cllr Bush and Dan Land (Clerk Great Oakley Parish Council) discussed how they could work together to put forward a Neighbourhood Plan. Dan Land contacted Tendring District Council (TDC) to discuss this but was advised that it would be better to wait until the local plan is finished.

20/172

Policy Review - Remote Meeting Policy

Cllr Bush proposed that the Remote Meeting Policy be adopted as it covers all that is required. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to adopt this policy. Following the resignation of Cllr Nicholson it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Coates would join the Governance Group. The Privacy Policy is to be reviewed before the April meeting.

20/173

Harwich Road from Foulton Hall to Mayes Lane

The deterioration of the road surface from Foulton Hall corner on Harwich Road to Mayes Lane and the amount of chippings on the pavement from the road was discussed. Cllr Attrill has already reported this to Essex County Council (ECC). It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would also contact ECC and copy in County Cllr Erskine. Traffic calming was also discussed as it is felt that there is a safety risk with speeding vehicles. It was **RESOLVED** that County Cllr Erskine would be contacted and Cllr Kevin Bentley copied in to request a speed survey.

20/174

Scrubland/ Recreation Ground

Cllrs Attrill, Bush and Griggs have visited other sites whilst adhering to Covid restrictions and have contacted other Parish Councils for details of equipment suppliers and which items equipment appear to be the most popular. Discussions around surveys of residents and presenting a narrative to residents explaining the proposed recreation ground took place. Zoom meetings with Susan Carpenter are planned which keep the dialogue will open with Essex County Council (ECC). Planning for the next stages would need to include wording for a survey, the narrative for social media, notice boards and website. Also to look at the possibility of putting in a hedge on the right hand side of the path to help screen the houses thereby giving privacy to the residents in those properties.

20/175

Footpaths and Horse Manure Heap

A reply to the concerns of the footpath and the filling in of the pond have been received. However Essex County Council can only deal with any issues if there is a safety concern due to their workload at the moment.

20/176

Litter Picks

The next litter pick for Little Oakley will take place on Sunday 2nd May, details are on the website. It was mentioned that litter clearing on the A120 has now started. The A12 was mentioned as another road cluttered with litter which is an environmental problem and does not help when the area is looking to attract tourists. Cllr Lane had contacted Tendring District Council (TDC) to enquire as to why more recycling was not being done in the area and the lack of decent sized recycling boxes especially for families. Although a reply has been received it did not address the issues. It was **RESOLVED** to formally write to Neil Stock and Michael Talbot with these issues.

20/177

Proposed Harwich and Felixstowe Freeport

Funding concerns were discussed with regards to Harwich possibly not getting the funding that Felixstowe will receive. Some of the funding would need to be used on the infrastructure in Harwich such as a customs centre in Harwich to cover the food inspections coming into the area. This would help create employment and will be an investment in

jobs. Larger ships were discussed but these are not able to come into Harwich due to the depth of the water. Problems with the A120 were also discussed.

20/178

Items for the Next Agenda

Along with any ongoing items
Community Assets

20/179

Confidential Item for Discussion

Motion to exclude public & press: in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted. The Public and Press be temporarily excluded from this meeting and will be instructed to withdraw.

No members of the Press or Public attended the meeting but the discussion is of a confidential nature and will not be Minuted.

20/180

Date and Time of Next Meeting

This will be held on Wednesday 14th April starting at 7.00. This will be using the Zoom platform unless otherwise stated.

The Vice-Chairman closed the meeting at 20.23

Signed (Chairman) Date

Minute number 20/168 Footpath to play area was originally incorrect and has now been amended. The S106 money available can only be used for the playground and cannot be transferred for usage anywhere else.

Signed (Clerk) Date