

**NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY 1053729**

The Town Hall, Market Hill, ORFORD, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 2NZ

**Minutes of the 203rd meeting of the New Orford Town Trust held on
Wednesday 16 November 2016, at 6.30pm in Orford Town Hall**

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs I Thornton (Chairman), D Brenchley, M Finney, M Golder, M Green, J Howard, A Macro, R Mallett, J Robinson, M Smy and P Smith. Clerk in attendance

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr M Iliff (work commitment), and apologies for lateness were received from Cllr M Green.

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr D Brenchley: allotment holder; Cllr M Finney: member of Orford Sailing Club, river user, Chairman of the Orford and District Inshore Fishermen's Association, Trustee of Orfordness Lighthouse Trust, Director of Cobra Mist Ltd; Cllr M Golder: relative lives in Bakers Lane cottage, supplier to Orford Country Market; Cllr M Green (allotment holder); Cllr J Howard: Commodore of Orford Sailing Club, plot holder; Cllr M Iliff: member of Orford Sailing Club; Cllr A Macro: allotment holder, supplier to Orford Country Market, Chairman of the Recreation Ground Charity, and married to a quay user (fisherman); Cllr R Mallett: relative of an allotment holder; J Robinson as a river user and member of Orford Sailing Club; Cllr P Smith as a river user and member of Orford Sailing Club; Cllr M Smy: allotment holder, plot holder, mooring holder.

3. Minutes of the 202nd meeting held on 19 October 2016

These were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising from the 202nd meeting held on 19 October 2016

- Cllr A Macro has arranged a meeting with the bank regarding internet banking.
- A new bin for the QSCP has been ordered, and Mark Thacker will fit asap.
- Cllr M Finney reported that there is no progress on the Orfordness Memorial. He has been in touch with the National Trust, who will be in touch with the artist about this. NOTT needs to know more details so a mounting can be prepared on the plinth, work on the brickwork having been completed.
- No one has yet come forward to edit Village Voice and Cllrs were asked to see if they could think of anyone who might be interested in taking this on.
- The advert for a new Treasurer has gone out, with an application deadline of Monday 21 November.
- No response has been received from the person who made a complaint about the Quay Warden.

5. Treasurer's report

Cheques and balances from 1– 31 October 2016
These were accepted and signed by the Trustee.

6. Committee reports

Minutes of an **Estates/Highways** meeting held on 10 November 2016

Councillors commented on how good the porches were looking, and Cllr J Howard and P Smith confirmed that ventilation in the porches was not necessary, and was not in building regulations.

Highways Committee had agreed to plant 2 x silver birch trees and grass in the area in the car park behind where the recycling bins used to be.

Cllr J Howard explained that the Committee had asked him to meet with a couple of building contractors to see what work might be considered to upgrade the Quay Street Car Park toilets. The toilets are somewhat outdated and not easy to keep clean. Once some ideas have been looked at the Committee will consider costings and make a decision about when to budget for any work.

At 6.46pm Cllr M Green entered the meeting.

Minutes of a **Riverside** meeting held on 24 October 2016

The hoist is yet to go on Ebay. Cllr J Robinson will sort this out.

A Moore should begin work on the planking on the Quay at the beginning of December when the tides are right.

More clearance work has taken place around the pond, and the Committee has agreed to ask Chris Green to source 3 x alder trees for the river bank.

It was reported that Glen Rose will be working on the concrete plinth for the riverside bin area next week. Cllrs J Howard and J Robinson will check the measurements.

Stony Ditch: possibility of newspaper article: Cllr I Thornton explained that after his letter to Mr Peter Riches had been returned, the same bundle of papers had been sent to the Crown Estates' representative Iain Mills. No reply has been received to date. If the reply is negative, it is understood that the East Anglian Daily Times might be interested in putting together a newspaper article which might help NOTT's cause.

Mr Simper has not been seen on the river recently.

7. **General Trust business**

- Clerk's report on outstanding matters: Birketts are still chasing the National Trust re outstanding issues
- Recording of NOTT meetings: after discussion the Cllr I Thornton proposed that NOTT meetings should be recorded, and kept for a period of 6 months, after which time they would be deleted, and that this system should be trialled for a year. This was seconded by Cllr M Golder and agreed unanimously.
- Cllr M Smy had attended a meeting of Orford and District Inshore Fishermen's Association with Natural England (NE) regarding the proposed Alde and Ore Marine Conservation Zone, which is currently in a period of pre-consultation. He reported that NE didn't seem to realise that NOTT had ownership of part of the river bed. Cllr M Smy queried how any byelaws imposed might be enforced, and it seems that IFCA would have the power to do this. NE also wants to extend the protection of Orford Ness to 5m below the high water mark, which would impinge on NOTT's ownership of the river bed, which extends to mean high water. Cllr M Finney had organised the meeting with ODIFA to show the fishermen's engagement with the issue, and suggested that NE should be asked to come to speak with NOTT about the proposed MCZ and the implications it would have for our part of the river. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Natural England to see if they can come to meet with the Trustee to discuss any issues. Cllr M Finney is the Parish Council's representative on the AOEP, and Cllr M Smy is happy to represent the fishermen. It was agreed that Cllr P Smith would represent NOTT in any future meetings.
ACTION Clerk to arrange a meeting with Natural England

It was pointed out that the last time the Alde and Ore was suggested as an MCZ Therese Coffey was very supportive of those who were against the proposal, and she is now a minister in Defra. It was agreed that she should be contacted again regarding this.

- Letter from Orford Business Association regarding the Orford website. The letter informs NOTT that OBA has decided to tighten up its charges, and if NOTT wishes its pages to

remain on the website, then there will be an annual charge of £130 for the pages currently on there. If NOTT does not wish to pay to be included, then its pages will be switched off on 1 January 2017. A similar letter has also been sent to the Parish Council. The Clerk reported that One Suffolk used to host the Parish Council website, along with those of many other parishes. Community Action Suffolk has now taken on the hosting, and for a charity website there is an annual charge of £30 (for Parish Councils the charge is £50, but there should be a way of doing a joint website). The Clerk had spoken with the Parish Clerk and they felt that between them they should be able to manage such a website, once set up, fairly easily as part of their duties. There has been some talk of the website in the village and it was commented that NOTT should try and diffuse conflict and to represent the majority view in the village. After lengthy discussion, the Trustee agreed, with 10 votes for and one against, that it should have its own website, and not be part of the current Orford website.

ACTION Clerk to investigate website set up as above and respond to OBA

8. Correspondence

- Letter of thanks from Suffolk Accident Rescue Service for NOTT donation
- Letter from Mr Rindy Frost of Butley, asking if there was any possibility of him renting some land on which to erect a small shed from which to carry out the servicing and maintenance of motors etc. All of the plots in front of the river wall are occupied, with a waiting list in operation, but the Trustee had no objection in principle to leasing him some land behind the river wall. This being the case, it can be progressed by the Riverside Committee.

9. Items for next meeting: no items were suggested.

The meeting ended at 7.38pm.

10. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 18 January 2017