

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
The Town Hall, Market Hill, Orford, Woodbridge, Suffolk. IP12 2NZ
Tel: 01394 459172

E-mail: orfordtownhall@btconnect.com

Minutes of the 204th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 11th January 2017 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall

Present: Cllr Anne Macro (Chairman)	Cllr Derick Brenchley
Cllr Richard Mallett	Cllr Michael Finney
Cllr Peter Smith	Cllr Margaret Green
Cllr Jonnie Howard	Cllr Michelle Golder
Cllr Ian Thornton	

In Attendance, Marie Backhouse (Clerk).

Opening remarks

Public Forum

There were 2 members of the public plus John Lefever, Hastoe Group.

Mr Orford asked if anything had been done to help prevent the speeding cars at night on the quay car park.

Mrs Tristem commented that she had contacted the Police and has a reference number.

Cllr M Finney suggested that we need to collect the registration of the car involved.

Cllr M Golder asked if anyone was aware of the make or model of the car.

Mr Orford said he thought it was a red golf, but was not sure.

Cllr M Green commented that they have had a lot of problems with speeding cars on the Rendlesham car parks, therefore these may well have been moved on from there.

Cllr D Brenchley said that he had been told that someone had been driving over the Sudbourne Cricket Pitch creating a lot of tracks on the grass.

Mrs Tristem asked if it would be possible to place a CCTV camera on the car park.

Mr Orford said that the cars concerned often go to the quay first.

Cllr A Macro said that the CCTV of the quay could be looked at to see if there was anything useful on it.

Cllr M Finney suggested that we just mention the fact that we are considering placing CCTV on the car park, this may be sufficient to deter the speeding cars. Is there a pattern when this is happening?

Mr Orford said that it was not as frequent as it had been.

Cllr A Macro thanked them for attending and informing us of the situation.

Cllr A Macro asked John Lefever to introduce himself to the Council and explain a piece about his company.

John Lefever thanked us for inviting him and gave a talk about his company, Hastoe Group.

Hastoe is a housing association, and it builds affordable houses outside village boundaries. There is no right to buy these houses, but may be shared ownership up to 80%. The company is able to build everything from 1 bedroom apartment to 5 bedroom houses. Some of the houses are on the open market and this helps to subsidise the affordable houses. Rural exception sites are unlike general needs housing as they are only for local people. Hastoe would act as our agent. The housing association is not for profit making and any surplus is placed back into the new builds. The rents are controlled, and capped to the Local Housing Allowance. The first step would be to undertake housing needs survey. They would also undertake a call for sites and talk to the landowners. The landowners would be offered £10,000 per plot. This would be about £120,000 per acre as they aim to build 12 houses per acre of land.

Cllr A Macro said that when a housing survey was undertaken before it identified the need for 15 house and the housing association agreed to be 5.

John Lefever said that general needs housing is at risk and can be sold; rural exception sites are for local needs and are not for sale.

Cllr D Brenchley commented that at the last meeting you said that if we built near the School we may offer to build them a car park.

John Lefever said that this was the case and even if they built on allotments they would find alternative land to become allotments.

Cllr J Howard asked if we completed the housing needs survey and the Parish Council identified a piece of suitable land; your company would then complete a feasibility study. If we wanted could we then pull out?

John Lefever said that there would be no cost to the Parish Council.

Cllr M Finney said that the land we identified would presumably need to be outside the flood plain.

John Lefever replied that now houses may be built that will rise with the floods. Flood plain land is worth very little money. Basically Hastoe would work with an architect and identify a suitable piece of land and then contact the landowner directly.

Cllr A Macro thanked John Lefever for attending the meeting and asked if anyone had any questions, could they send them to the Clerk to send on to John.

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

Apologies sent and a report was submitted to the Councillors.

2. District Councillor Ray Herring

Please see later in the minutes.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr J Robinson, Cllr M Iliff & Cllr M Smy

3. Declarations of interest:

Cllr M Finney – Correspondence – Royal British Legion request was written by him.

4. Applications for dispensation:

None

5. It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the 203rd Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th November 2016, the Planning Sub-Committee meeting held on the 13th December 2016 the F & GP meeting held on the 14th December 2016 be accepted as a true record.

Ray Herring arrives at 7.55pm.

6. Matters arising from the 203rd Parish Council Meeting held on 9th November 2016, the Planning Sub-Committee meeting held on the 13th December and the F & GP meeting held on the 14th December 2016.

Cllr I Thornton asked if we could have another representative on the Flower Show Committee, we should send a letter to say that we would like more members from the Parish Council to attend.

Cllr A Macro said that she would find the date of the open meeting an March and some of the Councillors may like to attend that.

Clerk to contact the Flower Show Committee.

7. Finance

7.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st November – 30th November 2016.

8. Planning

DC/16/5194/LBC & 5193/TBC – Great House, Church Street, Orford

This was a request to demolish the existing conservatory; place a new roof light to the east elevation; new glazing to the north elevation; form a new window and door opening to the west elevation; new glass roof to the west elevation; new glass canopy to the west elevation; new sky light to the west elevation; build up existing window openings and form a new small window opening to the west elevation; form new window to the west elevation; internal structural alterations to ground floor and first floor; installation of new plant to ground source heat pump.

Cllr J Howard commented that this is not a huge impact on the village as most of the work is internal or it faces the rear garden.

The Parish Council had no objection to this proposal.

Cllr A Macro informed the Councillors that the radio base station around the Broom had been giving the go ahead. The Councillors were very pleased that the mobile phone signal issues would soon be solved.

9. Parish Council Business:-

Cllr A Macro invited Ray Herring to give his report.

Ray Herring commented that broadband speed continues to be an issue in the rural parts of Suffolk. They are putting interim schemes in place to boost this; there is £200,000 in a budget to support this scheme. This is to place repeaters and support aerials along the coast as well.

Ray Herring said that everyone has moved to the new premises in Melton. There is still some consultation regarding the merge with Waveney. If this merge was to go ahead this would mean a saving of £1.3million. There are many similarities between Waveney and SCDC.

Stage 2 of the Sizewell C consultation is underway. SCC and SCDC will be putting in their response within the next two weeks.

A complaint has been received about the condition of the toilets in Bakers Lane. They do need refurbishing, and it is not a good advert for the tourism. Ray Herring asked if the PC would be willing to match the funding the SCDC would put in to refurbish the toilet block.

Cllr M Finney asked if the road sweeper was still visiting the villages. Some areas of the village have not been touched.

Ray Herring reported that there is a schedule of works for this.

Cllr A Macro thanked Ray Herring for attending the meeting.

(1) Affordable Housing

Cllr J Howard said that we should undertake the housing survey if this will be of no cost to us.

Cllr I Thornton commented that we need to clarify that there is no cost to us.

Cllr M Finney said that the problem for the housing may be finding the needed land.

Cllr A Macro asked for any questions to John Lefever to be passed to the Clerk to pass on.

Clerk to send any questions or comments to John Lefever.

(2) Lime Tree, Quay Street

Cllr A Macro reported that the work had been carried out on the Lime tree in Quay Street and an email had been received from Mrs Tristem who was very pleased with the result.

(3) Passenger Transport Waiting Area

Cllr A Macro read out an email that had been sent to the office concerning a bus shelter to be placed on the village green adjacent to the shop. The email stated that at the moment there was no suitable bus shelter only the one located near the school.

Cllr I Thornton asked if a canopy could be placed over the seating next to the town hall.

Cllr A Macro stated that a canopy could not be placed there as the Town Hall is a listed building also there is insufficient buses coming to the village to warrant the need of another shelter.

Clerk to respond to email stating no requirement at this time.

(4) Community Asset Register – Orford General Store

Cllr A Macro asked if Cllr M Finney had been to see Sue Snowden. Cllr M Finney replied that he had not been yet but it should be discussed later.

Cllr A Macro commented that we can register the shop but if the shop fails and a change of use is required the planning committee may not take any notice of the register.

Cllr M Finney proposed that this should be left for the time being with ability to re-open when necessary. This was seconded by Cllr P Smith and agreed by all.

(5) Policies – Financial Regulations, Grants Policy, Publication Scheme, Financial Risk Assessment.

The Clerk reported that the only changed policy was the Financial Regulations, of which a new model was brought out last year.

Cllr D Brenchley proposed that we adopt these policies; this was seconded by Cllr M Finney and agreed by all.

(6) Dates of this year's meetings

Dates for the meetings are: 8th Feb, 8th Mar, 12th Apr, 10th May, 14th June, 12th July, 13th Sept, 11th Oct, and the 15th Nov. The Annual Parish Meeting is on the 26th May. This was agreed by all.

(7) Insurance quote

The Clerk asked if she could have the authority to contact the insurance companies to gain a quote for adding the volunteers and councillors onto our insurance policy.

Cllr J Howard proposed that the Clerk should contact the insurance company to gain a quote; this was seconded by Cllr I Thornton and agreed by all.

(8) Website update

Cllr A Macro reported that the new website is online and looking good.

(9) Recreation Ground Roundabout

Cllr A Macro informed the Councillors that she had asked Mark Thacker to look at the roundabout as it had been mentioned in the Annual Play Inspection Report that a few of the slats were rotten. Mark Thacker had explained that in order to quote precisely he would need to remove the top slats therefore making more sense to complete the job. The invoice for this job was £650. It was agreed by all to pay this invoice.

(10) Goals for the Recreation Ground

Cllr A Macro said that a funding form had been sent to Ray Herring for a contribution towards some new smaller goals for the back football pitch. We have been advised that Ray Herring will contribute about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the needed money, this is however, not definite until we have received the email from him. The rest of the funding may come from the Sportspace fund, although this would need to be approved by Sudbourne PC as well.

Cllr M Finney commented that Cobra Mist would be able to donate some money towards the goals.

10. Correspondence

- **The Peninsula Practice**

Cllr A Macro informed the Councillors that this was a letter stating that as from April there will no longer be an open Surgery on a Tuesday afternoon.

- **Snape Parish Council**

Cllr A Macro said that Snape PC had been in contact with us to ask if the PC would be interested in assisting to fund a PCSO. This PCSO would be used in the local villages.

Cllr I Thornton suggested that we contact Snape PC stating that we would be interested in more details about the funding; if a meeting was to be held then a couple of people may represent the PC. We should listen to the details of what is involved before making a decision. This was agreed by all.

Clerk to contact Snape PC regarding more details.

- **Royal British Legion**

Cllr A Macro read out a request for a donation towards a poppy wreath from the Royal British Legion. All agreed to a donation of £75.

- **Suffolk Highways**

Cllr A Macro informed the Councillors that a licence had been received from Suffolk Highways to allow the PC to tidy up the area around the village pump.

Cllr M Finney asked if we were allowed to place railings there.

Cllr A Macro said that railings were not allowed; she had hoped to take out the grass that is there, place some new soil, cover it with black plastic, put in a few rose bushes and cover with wood chips.

Cllr R Mallett asked who would be looking after the rose bushes and who would be liable if someone fell into them.

Cllr I Thornton suggested that we use lavender instead of roses.

11. Items for next meeting:

12. Date of next meeting: 08/02/17 at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.56pm.

Signed _____ **(Chairman)**

Date _____