

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the 206th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 8th March 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 Matthew Smy Cllr Michelle Golder
 Cllr James Robinson Cllr Jonnie Howard
 Cllr Mary Iliff Cllr Ian Thornton

In Attendance, Marie Backhouse (Clerk).

Opening remarks

Public Forum

There was one member of the public.

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

A report was circulated to all Councillors, and was summarised by Andrew Reid.

2. District Councillor Ray Herring

Absent and no report sent.

2. Apologies for absence:

None

3. Declarations of interest:

None

4. Applications for dispensation:

None

5. It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the 205th Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th February 2017, the In camera minutes of the 8th February and the F&GP minutes of the 6th February be accepted as a true record.

In the 205th minutes item 6 it should read 'not been resolved' and not 'been resolved'.

In the 90th F&GP minutes item 4 should read 'majority' and not 'all'.

6. Matters arising from the 205th Parish Council Meeting held on 8th February 2017, the In camera minutes of the 8th February and the F&GP minutes of the 6th February 2017.

None

7. Finance

7.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st February – 28th February 2017.

8. Planning

DC/17/0669/FUL – Town Lodge, 13A Town Farm Estate, Orford

This was a request to replace the existing single storey garden shed 10.49 sqm by a log cabin 15sqm on the existing shed site. The new building is to be used as recreation/storage garden room.

Cllr J Howard commented that this is just replacing an outside building almost like for like. The Council had no objection to this proposal.

4 Mundays Lane, Orford

A request had been sent to the Parish Council regarding the planning application for 4 Mundays Lane. The planning department were considering sending this application through to the Planning Committee, and wanted to know if we wished to agree with this.

Cllr J Howard read out a letter of objection to 4 Mundays Lane which seemed to be based on a personal view as they had objected to the shape and the materials used.

After some discussion a vote was taken and all the Councillors agreed to keep our original comment which stated that we had no objection to the proposal.

9. Parish Council Business:-

(1) Affordable Housing – update

Cllr P Smith informed the Councillors that in 2014 there was written a 10 year plan for Parish Councils in our District that set in place the need for houses and it was agreed that Orford needed 10 houses in the next 10 years. These would be built in 2 acres of land beside Mill Close identified as the optimum area for development in the village. This plan from Suffolk Coastal District Council was sent to Central Government for review. Several amendments were made to the report by Central Government including changing the “provision of Affordable Housing” to the provision of only a “contribution to Affordable Housing” in this plot of land adjacent to Mill Close.

A small group of Councillors met with Greg Dodds (Orwell Housing) and Jack O’Sullivan (SCDC Community Housing Fund). Cllr A Macro and Cllr P Smith also met with a local landowner, Mr Cordle who owns the plot of land for development adjacent to Mill Close. Mr Cordle, feels that he is unable to provide plots of land for Affordable Housing in a future development in this site. The area of land could actually provide space for 20 houses but the provision is for 5-15 houses. A provision for increased supporting infrastructure for the village is also thought necessary before any building takes place particularly as regards increasing sewage treatment capacity.

Cllr M Finney commented that he is part of the Alde & Ore Estuary Partnership. There is a separate subcommittee of the Partnership, which is chaired by Sir Edward Greenwell, and includes some local landowners, to facilitate enabling development at sites in our local Parishes. This in turn will create money to support the maintenance of the sea/river defences. Mr Cordle has donated several sites for this enablement development.

Cllr J Howard asked if Mr Cordle sold the land in 10 house sized pieces, does this mean that the Affordable House scheme would not be apparent. The answer to this question was yes within this plot identified adjacent to Mill Close.

The piece of land that has been identified for development adjacent to Mill Close could take up to 20 houses providing the supporting Parish infrastructure is improved but only 10 houses are likely to be built. There is nothing to stop SCDC seeking money to buy the houses and letting them as affordable.

Cllr P Smith said that we are one of a few looking Parishes looking for support at present. The only way forward is to seek further advice from Jack and Greg, who are very positive.

Cllr P Smith asked how we should respond to Jack O'Sullivan, how do we wish to move forward; what are our options? We need to have facts to send to the landowners. The fund is still available for the houses.

Cllr M Finney asked what the demand was like for the affordable houses.

Cllr M Iliff commented that in 2013/14 a mail shot was done in the village and only 1-2 people registered.

Cllr P Smith reported that it is important that we have people registered on a housing list if there is an Affordable Housing need.

Cllr A Macro commented that in 2012 there was the need for up to 15 houses by 2027.

Cllr I Thornton asked if we needed to build affordable houses, is there a requirement?

Cllr A Macro reported that a piece of writing had been placed in the village voice asking people to register on the Gateway to Home Choice website.

Cllr M Finney said that we do have the cottages in Bakers Lane, which could be used for some people; if they wished to move to a larger house, where could they go?

Cllr J Howard replied that people could join the waiting list for the houses in Peacocks Pyghtle. There is currently no one on the waiting list; if a house was to become empty, the Suffolk Housing Officer may use it for anyone needing a house.

It was agreed by all that the way forward was to ask Jack O'Sullivan for the funding, Orwell Housing to build, and Mr Cordle to sell the land.

The Chair thanked Cllr P Smith for the update.

(2) Village Green

Cllr A Macro read out an email from Mrs Tristem concerning the village green outside her property in Quay Street. Mrs Tristem was requesting permission to change her access and exit from her property to go straight from her gate up and over the village green, over the footpath and onto the road. She would be willing to pay for the ramp and the yellow lines.

Cllr A Macro also read out an email from LCPAS in response to the email, which states that she is unable to change her right of way, and she may be prosecuted if she damages the village green in any way.

After some discussion it was agreed by all to forward the email from LCPAS to Mrs Tristem stating that she is not allowed to change her access and exit.

Clerk to forward the LCPAS email.

Mrs Tristem had also commented about the dog fouling on the village green. The clerk had asked for a quote for a dog waste bin. The cost for a 25l Fido bin was £175+VAT and the 50l Fido bin was £215+VAT. The Councillors all agreed to purchase the smaller bin for Quay Street.

Clerk to contact Suffolk Coastal Norse.

(3) Marine Conservation Zone

Cllr M Finney reported that at the moment there was no update. The Chair of the AOEP was putting together all the responses for everyone to pass to Natural England.

Cllr M Iliff asked if Aldeburgh Parish Council had discussed this.

Cllr M Finney reported that as they do not own their riverbed they do not seem as concerned.

(4) Community Asset Register

Cllr A Macro reported that there was no update or further concern with this at the moment.

(5) Recreation Ground Track

Cllr A Macro reported that the new goals should be fitted next week. The football team had been in contact regarding the grass cutting; they have been advised not to cut the grass themselves as we would need to see proof of a liability insurance before they did so; also last time they left large piles of cut grass on the recreation ground. The football club has also left some white stains on the front of the

recreation ground hut where they have used the outside tap to wash out their white lining equipment.

Cllr I Thornton commented that the football club only use a small mower.

Cllr A Macro reported that the grass is to be cut by Norse next week.

Cllr M Golder commented about the state of the track leading to the recreation ground hut.

Cllr M Smy said that there is a large pothole, some have been filled with crushed concrete, but this has moved.

Cllr M Golder reported that she had offered some road plainings to the PC at a cost of £6 per ton. These could be used by the Groundsman to fill holes when necessary.

Cllr J Howard suggested that the unevenness of the track should be sorted.

Cllr I Thornton commented that we should go back to the person who did the levelling and check that it was completed correctly.

Cllr M Finney asked if he achieved what was on the quote.

Clerk to find the quote from D Worne and pass to Cllr M Smy & Cllr M Finney.

Cllr M Golder to ask the cost per ton of the road plainings.

Cllr M Smy commented that there is an area outside the recreation ground gates near to the road that also need to be sorted.

The Councillors agreed that Cllr M Smy & Cllr M Finney meet with D Worne to discuss the track.

(6) Quote to repair the gates around the play area.

Cllr A Macro showed the Councillors a quote from Mark Thacker to replace the gate posts and re-hang the existing gates on the play area at a cost of £400. The gates are always failing on our annual inspection as they do not close properly and they have a finger entrapment. The area has to be fenced in to prevent children running onto the track and also dogs entering.

It was agreed by all that we should gain another quote from Kiwi Fencing.

Clerk to contact Kiwi Fencing

10. Correspondence

- **Corinne Lusher – bridleway sign**

Cllr A Macro read out an email from Corinne Lusher concerning the placement of a bridleway sign on the entrance to the village. Corinne had written to the Highways Department but needed support from the Parish Council.

The Councillors all agreed to support this road sign on the entrance to the village.

Clerk to contact David Chenery and Corinne Lusher.

11. Items for next meeting:

12. Date of next meeting: 12/04/17 at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) Date _____