

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the 212th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 11th October 2017 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall

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

In Attendance, Marie Backhouse (Clerk).

Opening remarks

Public Forum

There were 0 members of the public.

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.
Absent and no report received.

2. District Councillor Ray Herring
Please see section later in the minutes.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr J Robinson, Cllr M Smy & Cllr M Iliff

3. Declarations of interest:

Cllr M Golder – Enabling Development, family land owners.

4. Applications for dispensation:

None

5. It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the 211th Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th September 2017.

Cllr P Smith said that we must ensure that any comments from the Alde & Ore Partnership states clearly that it is what they have said, not what the Parish Council endorses.

6. Matters arising from the 211th Parish Council Meeting held on 13th September 2017.

Cllr M Finney asked if the Clerk had found any further information about the tightening of the zip wire. The Clerk replied that it is important that we use an approved company for this tightening, as I have asked our play equipment inspector.

Cllr I Thornton said that as we have asked for advice it is important that an approved company is used for the tightening of the zip wire.

7. Finance

7.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st September – 30th September 2017.

7.2 Quarterly Accounts

The Council received, noted and approved the quarterly accounts from July – September 2017.

8. Planning

- **DC/17/3964/TCA – Haven House, Front Street, Orford**

This was a request to reduce the crowns of 2 Birch and 1 Holm Oak by 40% to allow more light to the garden.

Cllr R Mallett commented that he could see no problem with reducing the size of these trees; if there was a problem Nick Newton would have commented.

The Councillors had no objection to this application.

Other notifications

- **87 Market Hill, Orford**

Cllr M Golder reported that the planning application for 87 Market Hill had been withdrawn.

9. Parish Council Business:-

(1) Alde & Ore Estuary Partnership – Enabling Development

Cllr M Golder said that all the questions received by the Parish council had been passed to the Alde & Ore and they have answered them. A copy of them will be placed on the noticeboard also a page is to be put on the website.

Cllr P Smith said that we need to make sure that it is written that the answers are from Sir Edward Greenwell and Amanda Bettinson.

Cllr M Finney commented that the Alde & Ore has a launch evening this Saturday at 6pm in the Town Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Cllr P Smith asked where the residents of Chillesford go to find out any information.

Cllr M Golder felt sure that the Alde & Ore had organised a meeting for all parishes to give each one the information they requested.

(2) Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Review.

Cllr P Smith reported that he had attended a meeting on the 26/9/17. This was to discuss the Local Plan Review up to 2036. East Suffolk wanted to have a joint planning policy that ensured 7,900 houses would be built in the district by 2027. East Suffolk is keen to look at parking, health provision, education etc.

Cllr P Smith and Cllr M Golder have put together a new local plan. They wanted to ensure low cost housing was included; this is to balance out the community as we have rather a lot of high end houses. The average cost of a standard house in the village is double the national average price. There is another meeting on Friday with the local planning team at East Suffolk.

Cllr M Finney suggested that we build on the riverside car park and then put a car park on the outside of the village boundary.

Cllr I Thornton said that even in the height of summer the car park is not full. There is a lot of illegal parking that is not policed. Builder's vans cause issues.

Cllr P Smith commented that there is an awful lot of parking on the double yellow lines.

Cllr M Finney asked if the policing is something we should do ourselves, would it be self-supporting or do we employ a company to do this for us?

Cllr I Thornton said that there are lots of companies that would be able to police this.

Cllr P Smith asked if we could have this enforced, do we treat the residents differently? We should think about the future of the village.

Cllr I Thornton said that if we gave residents parking permits how many would we give per household.

Cllr M Finney said that this would relieve the parking in Quay Street. Some time ago English Heritage spoke about increasing visitor numbers; they would need to have some off-site parking with a way of ferrying people to the castle. Although, clearing land to build a car park would not be seen as good use of the land when we need low cost housing.

(3) Play equipment inspection by David Bracey

Cllr M Golder reported that the annual play inspection had gone well with only a recommendation to fill in some areas of wear underneath the play equipment. This work had already been completed by the Groundsman. There is some adjustment needed to Postman Pat's van steering wheel to prevent finger entrapment.

Cllr M Finney asked if we should employ specialists to repair all the equipment on the recreation ground.

Cllr I Thornton said that as we have asked an expert for advice about repairing equipment we need to accept that advice.

Cllr D Brenchley commented that as the work has been completed by a specialist it is traceable and if there was an accident we would be covered.

(4) Trees - update

Cllr M Golder reported Elite would be starting the work in Munday's Lane on the Tuesday 17th October 2017.

The tree sponsorship has gone well. There has been a request from one of the sponsors that, when the time comes, they may place their ashes in front of the tree.

The Clerk has spoken to an undertaker who said that this kind of thing is very common and as long as the land belongs to the Parish Council there is no problem with it; they did suggest not planting the casket, just digging a small hole and tipping the ashes in. The Clerk contacted LCPAS for some advice also, and they said that there is no problem with this.

All the Councillors agreed that the sponsors should be given permission to place their ashes in front of the oak tree in Quay Street.

(5) 20 mile per hour speed limit

Cllr M Golder reported that an email had been received from SCC Highways regarding the 20 mile per hour speed limit. It would need to be proven why we wished to have the speed limit in place; also we would need some assistance from our County Councillor.

Cllr P Smith said that there is already a 20 plenty advisory by the school.

Cllr M Golder read out a few more pointers, for example she said that there would be no signs erected if it was an AONB area, also if it was an A or B class road.

Cllr M Finney suggested that he contact David Chenery of the Highways Department and ask him if this would be possible; we would then need to have a public debate to see if this is something the village would want. It may be the way ahead but we would need to investigate beforehand to see if this is possible.

All the Councillors agreed that Cllr M Finney should ask a few more questions regarding the possibility of a 20 mile per hour speed limit.

(6) Bonfire Night

Cllr M Golder reported that there are a list of items that would need to be completed before the bonfire and fireworks take place, i.e. risk assessment and approval of 2 representatives for a working party.

Cllr R Mallett agreed to be on the committee and it was also agreed to ask Cllr M Smy to see if he would be willing to be on the working party.

(7) Staff Appraisals

Cllr M Golder reported that the Staff Appraisals need to be completed before the next F&GP meeting to set the budget.

Cllr I Thornton agreed that Cllr M Golder should not be involved with the Staff Appraisals as the Treasurer is her mother and the Clerk is her employee in another role.

Cllr D Brenchley agreed to undertake the staff appraisals and it was agreed that Cllr J Robinson should be asked to assist him. It was agreed that the Clerk completes the Staff Appraisals for the Groundsman and the Street Cleaner.

The Clerk to email the necessary paperwork to Cllr D Brenchley.

Cllr M Golder to consult and arrange times for the appraisals.

(8) Car parking

This item has been covered in section 9.2.

10. Correspondence

- **Audrey Boyle**

Cllr M Golder read out an email from Audrey Boyle concerning the use of the recreation ground by a Personal Trainer. It was agreed by all the Councillors that if the Personal Trainer was charging for this then the Parish Council should ask for a contribution to the Recreation Ground.

Clerk to email Audrey Boyle.

- **Anna Toppin**

Cllr M Golder read out a letter from Anna Toppin regarding her hedge between her property and her neighbours.

Cllr P Smith suggested that her boundaries will be on the deeds to her house. The Clerk had a visit in the office from Anna Toppin, and she had suggested that she contacts the Tree Officer, Nick Newton, who may be able to advise her.

- **Sue McAdam**

Cllr M Golder read out a letter from Sue McAdam concerning the Enabling Development and her disapproval of it. She wishes to be reassured that the Parish Council will be the voice of the parishioners.

Cllr M Finney commented that any planning applications that are related to the Enabling Development will go through all the necessary channels as any other application would.

Clerk to write to Sue McAdam and assure her that any planning applications would go through all the usual channels.

Ray Herring arrived; Cllr M Golder asked if he would like to give a report.

Ray Herring referred to the Local Plan and commented that there is a housing need, and the increased pressure has come from Ipswich as there is insufficient housing. Orford is very positive about affordable housing, with input from the Parish Council where development should take place. Some sites have been put forward, not all will be accepted. The call out for sites means that they are available plots that may be used at some time.

It is good to have a comprehensive plan which would include education, roads, and health.

Cllr M Finney asked about Bloor Homes at Melton, and commented that SCDC did not support this building but the planning Committee passed it.

Ray Herring replied that SCC is responsible for the road closure, also the developers.

Cllr P Smith commented that in the planning document written by the PC in 2014/15 a provision for three affordable houses had been included in the 10-15 house development proposed for land north of Mill Close on the Sudbourne Road but the Planning Inspectorate of Central Government had

removed the need for affordable housing. Why was the provision of this affordable housing removed in the report of the Central Planning Inspectorate published early in 2017?

Ray Herring replied that he would need to read through the document to establish why this would have been removed; the reason would have been written in the report somewhere. There is an increasing unpredictability in planning approval.

Cllr M Golder thanked Ray Herring for attending.

11. Items for next meeting:

Housing

Cllr I Thornton gave his apology for the next PC meeting.

12. Date of next meeting: 8/11/17

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed _____ **(Chairman)** **Date** _____