

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

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**Minutes of the 214th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 10th January 2018 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall**

Present: Cllr Michelle Golder
Cllr Richard Mallett
Cllr Peter Smith
Cllr Mary Iliff
Cllr Mike Finney
Cllr Ian Thornton

Cllr Derick Brenchley
Cllr Jonnie Howard
Cllr Margaret Green
Cllr Anne Macro
Cllr James Robinson

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 but report received from Andrew Reid.

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

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr M Smy

3. Declarations of interest:

None

4. Applications for dispensation:

None

5. It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the 213th Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th November 2017 be accepted as a true record.

Cllr Mike Finney commented that the 20 mile per hour suggestion for the village will be a long term project.

6. Matters arising from the 213th Parish Council Meeting held on 8th November 2017.

Cllr P Smith informed the Councillors that the road sign in Rectory Road has been replaced and looks much better. It was suggested that the Clerk sends an email of thanks to A Reid for assisting with this.

Cllr P Smith said that the idea was to have a specific sign attached to the current road sign for the Doctors Surgery, although this would be at a cost of £1,000. This was something that we considered asking Andrew Reid for a donation towards. Cllr P Smith had discovered that this may cause a lot of foot patients for the surgery and would need to notify them of the road sign. It was agreed by all to leave the signs as they are at the moment.

7. Finance

7.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st November – 31st December 2017.

7.2 The Council received, noted and approved the quarterly accounts from October – December 2017.

The Clerk was asked to see if the donation to the church had been sent.

Cllr I Thornton asked what the legal expenses on the accounts were for.

The Clerk asked the Treasurer what the legal expenses were for and she has informed her that the costs were for a land registry report and for the valuation fee for Figg's Shelter and the Bus Shelter, both of which are Parish council assets.

Cllr M Golder asked if we had received an invoice from Suffolk Coastal Norse for the mole control.

Clerk to contact Suffolk Coastal Norse re invoice.

8. Planning

- DC/17/5233/FUL – Black Cottage, Quay Street, Orford**

This was a request for a single storey rear extension with balcony.

Cllr J Howard said that the property overlooks the river; it is extending the house; this may be tricky for a builder because of the access. There may be a skip in Quay Street.

The Parish Council had no objections to this proposal. It was agreed to add to the reply that the skip in Quay Street should be kept to a minimum and emptied when full. They should also ensure that the correct permission has been sort to place a skip in the road.

- DC/17/5345/FUL – Walnut Tree cottage, Castle Green, Orford**

This was a request for the demolition of an existing garage, the rebuilding of accommodation ancillary to the main dwelling comprising home office and service corridor extension.

Cllr J Howard said that this is in sight of the Castle. The plans are very informative and some additional pieces of information had been requested from the Planning Officer. Lots of additions have been made to the property over the past few years and the proposed additions will be more visually acceptable.

The Parish Council had no objections to this proposal but would ask that the skip be placed on the drive not on the road.

Other notifications

9. Parish Council Business:-

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

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

(2) Dates of this year's meetings.

Cllr M Golder said that a list for the years dates were included in the packs. Could everyone note that the Annual Parish Meeting is on the 16th May 2018 after the NOTT meeting.

(3) Thank you

Cllr M Golder thanked Cllr M Green for her assistance with the Afternoon Tea. This was a successful afternoon, as was the Carol Service around the tree. Some letters and cards have been received in the office thanking us for those events.

(4) Defibrillator battery cost

Cllr P Smith said that an electrical surge had caused the battery to fail on the defibrillator. Cardiac Science had been notified, who suggested that a new battery was needed. The cost for this was £270. This battery is guaranteed for at least 4/5 years.

The Clerk spoke to the Treasurer who has agreed that the Parish Council has enough money in the Defibrillator Service budget and the Sundries budget to pay for this.

The payment was agreed by all the Councillors.

(5) Fish & Chip Tender & Ice Cream Tender

Cllr M Golder said that it was the time to send out tenders for the Fish & Chip site and the Ice Cream sites. The details for payments have been changed to four equal instalments.

Cllr I Thornton suggested that we also include in the contracts, the amount of signs permitted. It was agreed by all to allow up to 4 signs of the A-board size.

The Clerk was asked to contact Guy Marshall concerning the Church advertising boards.

10. Correspondence

- LT Contractors**

The Clerk reported that she had received a visit from Nick Jones to ask if it would be possible to place a skip on the village green in Broad Street at the bottom of Crown Lane. This would be enclosed by a fence and not used for any other purpose than to hold a skip. Any deliveries will be removed from a lorry and taken directly to the site by a small fork lift.

It was agreed by all to allow the skip on the village green providing any damage incurred would be put right at the end.

Clerk to contact LTC and inform them of the decision also request a written letter confirming the agreement to replace any damage.

- Community Action Suffolk – Good Neighbour Scheme.**

Cllr I Thornton informed the Councillors that there is a similar scheme at the Doctors Surgery and suggested that we pass this information onto them.

Clerk to forward the email to the Doctors surgery.

- Mrs West – Use of recreation ground request**

The Clerk had a visit in the office from Mrs West regarding the recreation ground. Mrs West asked if she could place a bucking bronco and an inflatable on the recreation ground on the 16th June for a birthday party.

The Councillors agreed to this as long as any damage would be put right and also the equipment would not be left unsupervised.

Clerk to contact Mrs West

1.2 Ray Herring

R Herring informed the Councillors that there would be a budgeted increase of 3% in Council Tax for rural areas. The SCDC has received, in the past, a grant for £6 million from the government but this now has been reduced to £1.7 million.

The brown bin will now incur a charge of £43 per year. This will be an opt in scheme, and you will have the option to have a larger bin. This will be a fortnightly collection.

Cllr I Thornton asked if this will add to the issue of fly tipping.

R Herring said that fly tipping may possibly increase. All the green waste from SCDC goes to Parham.

Some of the larger projects in the area are taking place on the Leisure Facilities. This is the Deben Pool, Leiston Leisure Centre and the £20 million leisure complex in Felixstowe. New developments in Felixstowe will contribute to the cost of these. The merger arrangements are still on schedule for May 2019. There are many working groups to sort this and many of the services are already fully integrated. There is a legislative process to be put into place as 2 Councils are becoming 1.

The AOEP has lots of support but have run into a few issues. Some of the locally held meeting have been a bit difficult. Not all the PC's have been as supportive as Orford has.

Cllr M Finney commented that the Estuary Plan was not supported by everyone although they supported the need to undertake the work. Having a break to sort the idea out is a good plan.

Ray Herring replied that the £12million needed to fund this project, will need the Enabling Development funding to play a part. It will not be easy to achieve this without funding.

Cllr P Smith said that the budget he has seen for the plan has no factor of increase for year by year costs.

Cllr P Smith asked if there was any funding available to assist with the new data protection costs that will have to be paid for in the next few months. The NOTT has CCTV which is used by the Police and Border Force, this could cost a considerable amount of money to ensure peoples data is correctly protected.

Ray Herring replied that he was not aware of any schemes for this at the moment.

Cllr M Golder thanked Ray Herring for attending.

11. Items for next meeting:

12. Date of next meeting: 14/02/18

Meeting closed at 8.26pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) Date _____