

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the 219th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 13th June 2018 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall

Present: Cllr Michelle Golder
Cllr Richard Mallett
Cllr James Robinson
Cllr Mary Iliff
Cllr Anne Macro

Cllr Derick Brenchley
Cllr Matthew Smy
Cllr Jonnie Howard
Cllr Peter Smith

In Attendance, Marie Backhouse (Clerk).

Opening remarks

Public Forum

There was 1 member of the public.

S Bridges was disappointed that the AOEP was not willing to answer more questions at the APM. Cllr M Golder confirmed that the AOEP would be holding a questions and answer session later in the year, probably around September.

S Bridges asked what will happen if all the money raised so far is to be used for the upper end of the river.

Cllr M Golder replied that she is aware that the AOEP are currently undertaking some auditing of their main aims and the way the finances are raised and spent.

S Bridges commented that the AOEP are not very forthcoming with information.

Cllr M Golder thanked S Bridges for her comments.

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

Apologies sent and report circulated.

2. District Councillor Ray Herring

Absent and no report sent.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr M Green.

3. Declarations of interest:

None

4. Applications for dispensation:

None

5. Draft minutes.

Cllr M Smy requested a couple of amendments to the minutes;

Item 12.3 'Cllr M Smy commented that everyone needs to give a share of the cost' he wished this to be removed.

Also 'Cllr M Smy said it was important for each Parish Council to fully support the precept increase', should read 'it was important for each Parish Councillor to fully support the precept increase'.

Cllr M Iliff requested that the sentence regarding the 'AOEP minutes being incorrect' was added.

Minutes of the 218th Meeting to be approved at the next Parish Council meeting.

6. Matters arising from the 218th Parish Council Meeting held on 13th June 2018.

None

7. Finance

7.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st May – 31st May 2018.

Cllr M Iliff asked what the Land Registry payments were connected to.

The Clerk replied that this was to check the Castle Track and Malletts Cottage boundaries.

Cllr M Golder commented that the Treasurer had requested permission to send a letter to the Fish & Chip van owner regarding payments. This was agreed by all.

8. Planning

DC/18/2184/FUL – 27 Potkins Lane, Orford

This was a request for the removal of the existing conservatory and enlargement of the ground floor fenestration, enlargement of existing Velux roof windows and installation of Velux terrace window system.

Cllr J Howard commented that this application was to remove a conservatory and to put in larger windows.

The Parish Council had no objection to this proposal.

DC/18/2125/FUL – Quay View, Quay Street, Orford

This was a request for a dormer window to the South East elevation.

Cllr J Howard said that this application was just to add a dormer window beside the existing one.

The Council had no objection to this proposal.

DC/18/1677/FUL – Havergate Island, Orford

This was a request to create an additional spillway into the northern lagoons by lowering 700m of very poorly designed sea wall from 2.5m AOD to 2m AOD.

The Clerk commented that this is the same application that we had received in February 2018.

Cllr J Howard said that this application is to reform a lagoon.

The Council had no objection to this proposal.

DC/18/1789/FUL – Barn cottage, Front Street, Orford

This was a request to demolish and rebuild front porch (revised design to that approved under DC/17/3664/FUL). Face existing brickwork with soft red brick slips to match existing outbuilding in rear garden.

Cllr J Howard commented that this will be a nice looking porch when it is completed, and will match the rest of the house.

The Council had no objection to this proposal.

Other notifications

Jolly Sailor – the application to replace their signage on the front of the building has been refused.

9. Parish Council Business:-

(1) Adoption of the Complaints Policy.

Cllr M Golder commented that this is the re-adoption of the Complaints Policy.

Cllr J Robinson proposed that we adopt the Complaints Policy, this was seconded by Cllr D Brenchley and agreed by all.

(2) Castle Track and Knoll update

Cllr M Golder commented that the Clerk had sent an email to C Mcgrath regarding the registering of the knoll as a village green. This piece of land is not registered at the moment. Cllr J Howard said that the Parish Council would wish to register the land as a village green. He said that he would arrange a meeting with another Councillor and the English Heritage. This would inform them of the Councils intentions to register the area as a village green. Apparently the English Heritage, in the past, has objected to this application.

Cllr M Iliff said that it was important for the 2 areas to be registered independently. The knoll is labelled as village waste, and the track has a functional value as a right of way.

Cllr D Brenchley commented that even though the Parish Council does not own the knoll we have been mowing it for some time.

Cllr P Smith said that if in the future there was to be a park and ride site in the top half of the village, the track would be used as access for the Castle.

Cllr J Howard and the Clerk to continue to complete the registration form for the village greens.

(3) Co-option of a Councillor

Cllr M Golder reported that we had received 2 applications for the Councillor vacancy. A private vote was taken and each applicant received 4 votes with one Councillor abstaining.

It was agreed to refer the decision to the next PC meeting in July when more Councillors may be present. It was also suggested that the vacancy be advertised again in the Village Voice and the noticeboard.

(4) Village Feast

Cllr M Golder said that it would be wonderful to organise a Village Feast for the 25th August 2018, does anyone have any ideas?

Cllr a Macro reported that the Village Feast was started several years ago by one of the previous Vicars.

Cllr M Golder said that it would be good to have live music.

Cllr M Smy asked if the Flower show had organised anything.

Cllr J Howard asked if we may put something in the Village Voice asking for assistance in organising the event.

Cllr J Robinson suggested that we have a BBQ.

Cllr M Golder said that she thought of involving the local businesses; the ice-cream, butcher, and the bakery.

Cllr M Smy suggested the use of a flatbed trailer for the band to be situated on.

Cllr M Smy agreed to make a few phone calls to see if a live band could be found for the event.

(5) Village Green – Barts Hall

Cllr R Mallett asked if it would be possible to de-register the piece of land in front of the Barts Hall, or swap the registration of it for the knoll.

Cllr J Howard said that it is not necessary to de-register this are we could use grass crete and cover with soil and grass seed. This would tidy up the area and enable cars to park on it.

Cllr R Mallett said that parking spaces are needed as it becomes quite congested outside the Barts Hall.

Cllr M Iliff said that the people down Broad Street do not like parking under the tree.

Cllr J Howard commented that there could be 8 parking spaces, to be kept mowed and tidy.

Cllr M Iliff said that these parking spaces could be reserved for Bakers Lane residents.

Cllr J Howard said that these spaces should not be reserved for residents only.

Cllr M Iliff replied that the cars do not park in the spot outside Bart's Hall that has been marked out.

Cllr J Robinson said that the Village Green is a community asset and we should protect them; they are of benefit to the whole of the village for recreation.

Cllr J Howard said that we should dig it up, level it off and make it look tidy.

Cllr R Mallett asked if we could swap the village green outside the Hall for the Knoll.

Cllr J Howard said that it is a long process to register a village green and we should protect them once they are registered.

Cllr M Golder reported that LTC had said that they would be willing to donate some money to the PC for the village in return for the use of the Village Green and any inconvenience caused during the work. Maybe he would level the area in front of Barts Hall, this would tidy it up.

Clerk to contact LTC, swapping of registered Village Greens, and placing designated parking spaces.

(6) Dog fouling

Cllr M Golder reported that some letters had been sent to the residents of Town Farm Estate regarding dog fouling in that area. Does the PC feel there is a need to place a dog fouling Fido bin in that area? The cost of the bins is 25l - £175 + VAT, and the 50l - £215 + VAT.

We would need to find a suitable spot for the bin in that area.

Cllr J Howard proposed that we place a 25l Fido bin in the area of Town Farm Estate, this was seconded by Cllr P Smith and agreed by all.

(7) Polite parking notices

Cllr J Howard suggested that the Councillors have some small slips of paper that they could place on the cars that are parking inconsiderately.

Cllr P Smith said that the parking outside the shop first thing in the morning is dreadful.

Cllr R Mallett said that the Market Hill on a Saturday morning has cars parked everywhere.

Cllr M Iliff said that they had problems with parking in the Quay Street Car Park, a local solicitor wrote a few words to be placed on a slip of paper that could be handed out. The NOTT Clerk should have some in the office.

Cllr P Smith said that this will address the parking issues now, but we do need to consider the future.

Cllr M Golder said that she had a meeting with a Highways Engineer on Friday to discuss the parking issues in the village. A letter had been received from David Stiff which details the move from the Police controlling parking offences to the Local Authority.

Clerk to talk to the NOTT Clerk regarding the parking slips.

(8) Data Protection

Cllr J Robinson proposed that the Privacy Policy is adopted; this was seconded by Cllr D Brenchley and agreed by all.

Cllr M Golder said that the renewal of the ICO was due, this was at a cost of £40, but if we agreed to transfer the money by direct debit it would be £35 per year. It was agreed by all to complete the direct debit.

10. Correspondence

- **Hollesley PC**

Cllr M Golder reported that an email had been received from Hollesley PC regarding the AOEP minutes from a meeting. It referred to all the inaccuracies that were in the minutes.

Cllr P Smith said that the same concerns regarding the minutes had been shared by Cllr I Thornton and himself.

Clerk to contact AOEP to check that the minutes had been amended.

- **Sir E Greenwell – AOEP**

Cllr M Golder reported that a letter had been received from Sir E Greenwell concerning the proposed precept increase.

Cllr P Smith commented that he had sent a report to A Bettinson concerning the precept increase and stated that the Parish Council had voted against an increase in the precept. It is important for the Council to be reassured that we are represented correctly in the minutes. It should be confirmed if there is a request to amend the minutes and a copy of the corrected minutes should be circulated.

Cllr M Iliff said that A Bettinson had written in the minutes, where no votes had been taken but that all attending had agreed with the precept increase.

Cllr P Smith said that it was important that the Parish Council receive a proper response when requesting the changes to minutes.

- **S Tristem – Lime Tree**

Cllr M Golder reported that Cllr J Howard and she had been to visit Mrs Tristem to discuss the issues with the village green and the lime tree.

Cllr J Howard said that they had discussed the new oak trees, there has been a lot of correspondence concerning these trees but they would be staying where they are; the Parish council in the past has discussed the possibility of a new drive up and over the bank and footpath, the Council are not willing to allow this; the grass cutting is to be done using a mower that will collect the grass in front of her property; and the Lime Tree does have the odd root pushing up in her drive, and it is not a very pleasant sight.

Cllr J Robinson said that there is a possibility that the roots could be cut by the homeowner, if they went on her land, and removed; as long as it didn't damage the tree.

Cllr M Golder said that we are trying to arrange a meeting with someone impartial to look at the lime tree.

Cllr J Howard said that the footpath by the road had been mentioned. Did the Parish Council pay for this?

Cllr A Macro said that the Parish Council had taken out a loan to enable them to pay for this footpath in Quay Street.

Cllr M Golder said that the road was narrowed slightly and the footpath and new kerb was placed there.

Cllr J Howard said that the footpath does need tidying up, it should go right to the kerb and remove the grass verge.

Cllr J Howard to collect some quotes to tidy the footpath.

- **D Stiff – Traffic Regulation Order**

Cllr M Golder said that an email had been received from D Stiff requesting our comments by the 2/7/18 to ensure that the road markings on a map were correct and what was needed for the village. There would be an update following on from the meeting on Friday with the Highways Engineer.

Cllr P Smith to liaise with Cllr M Golder and write a response for D Stiff.

Cllr J Howard reported that he and Cllr P Smith had attended a Neighbourhood Planning Training morning in Ipswich. It is planned that the government will need to build 300,000 houses a year. The Parish council will need to support the District Council in identifying suitable sites for building. The District Council will receive a test in November 2019 to see if it is meeting the target of building houses. If this target is not met the Community Infrastructure Levy will be stopped. If a proposed site meets the agreed regulation document it will be given permission in principal.

Does the Parish Council wish to write a Neighbourhood Plan? We already agree with the proposal for building on the site at the top end of the village. We could join with other parishes to write a Neighbourhood Plan. We could receive a Government grant of up to £9,000, which the company would take if they supported us to write a plan. If we decided to write a Neighbourhood Plan this discussion should be taken outside a normal Parish council meeting.

Cllr P Smith said that in 2015 we were contacted regarding the future planning, and a document was written. In 2016 it was agreed that the village needed 10-15 houses built, of which 3-5 would be affordable; in 2021 10 houses should be built this would be sufficient up to 2027. E Hill in Central Government has stated that the affordable housing is not needed. 2027-2036 we will need to have extra housing.

It is suggested that at the moment we do not need a Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr J Howard said that our village is not very easy to extend due to the boundaries.

Cllr M Smy said that our village is also not very affordable at the moment.

Cllr J Howard said that the national average for the cost of a house is £223,000 in Orford it is £500,000.

Cllr P smith said that we need to encourage people to join the waiting list for houses in the village.

Cllr M Smy said that affordable housing is no longer affordable.

Cllr P smith said that the wider picture needs to be looked at – the roads, transport, schools, hospitals etc.

Cllr M Smy said that if the school shuts, there would be more second homes and no young people in the village. In 30 years this village will be totally changed.

Cllr J Howard said that he is aware that the NOTT is unable to do this, but a solution would be to build more cottages the same as the Baker's Lane ones and then it could be determined who lives in them.

Cllr D Brenchley said that if the NOTT were able to build these, the rent prices must be equivalent to the houses at the moment.

Cllr P Smith said that we will complete another housing document in September.

11. Items for next meeting:

12. Date of next meeting: 11/07/18 at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.41pm.

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