

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 220th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 18th July 2018 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall

Present: Cllr Michelle Golder
Cllr Richard Mallett
Cllr Mary Iliff
Cllr Margaret Green

Cllr Anne Macro
Cllr Matthew Smy
Cllr Ian Thornton

In Attendance, Marie Backhouse (Clerk).

Opening remarks

Public Forum

There were 3 members of the public.

Ms Tristem asked if there were any further developments concerning the Lime Tree down Quay Street.

Cllr M Golder replied that an independent tree surgeon had been to look at the Lime Tree. He said that we have two options. We may choose to pollard the tree, at a cost of £300 or remove the tree at a cost of £400. The roots would of course dry out and die. The independent tree surgeon could only see the roots visible in the drive way.

Ms Tristem commented that the roots may be going a lot further than that.

Cllr M Golder said that a survey could be taken of the tree roots, but this would be completed by the resident not the Parish Council. Elite had also suggested the same as the independent tree surgeon at a similar price.

Cllr R Mallett suggested that we seek advice from Nick Newton, who is the tree officer for East Suffolk. This was agreed by all.

Clerk to contact Nick Newton to arrange a visit.

Ms Boyle wished to discuss crop spraying, she was aware that it was on the agenda for discussion, but she wished to raise the subject now.

Cllr M Golder left the room at this point, Cllr I Thornton chaired this item.

Ms Boyle commented that she was not targeting any particular area of the village but felt concerned for the houses that border agricultural land, the footpaths that run through the fields and the walkers that use them. Toxic chemicals may be sprayed on the land which may be harmful to people. The NFU produced a document called 'The Good Neighbour Guide' - this encourages Farmers to make wise choices when using chemicals on the crops. Occasionally the smell of spray may be in the village. Some health conditions have been linked to spraying. The main intention is to reassure residents that they are safe. The Environment Agency has had to deal with many situations resulting from crop spraying. Could the Parish Council contact the local farmers to see if they may consider erecting signs on the edge of the fields that have been sprayed, stating when they were sprayed and what with. The NFU have signs available.

Ms Lusher said that she has experienced a couple of problems resulting from crop spraying. The first was when she and a friend was on a hack with their horses round the Broom near to where a crop sprayer was, both her and her friend suffered from kidney pains. Secondly her horse was in its paddock and it suffered an asthma attack, the Vet believed that it was a combination of the spray that was being blown across and the pollen.

Ms Boyle said that it is the need to be able to remove people from the situation of crop spraying. Giving them advance notice allows people to make a decision about shutting windows etc.

Cllr I Thornton commented that in 2009 a local farmer set up a group which would notify the residents of any crop spraying. All the sprays used are approved.

Ms Boyle said that an expert committee recommends that if prior notification is given it is more useful to residents.

Cllr I Thornton said that advanced warning may be advisable; he had spoken to a local farmer who has responded by email with a list of considerations; in the past when signs were erected, they had been removed and thrown in a ditch.

Ms Boyle commented that a tractor may spray and leave a site, no one would know.

Cllr R Mallett reported that some of the spraying of the crops is undertaken by contractors.

Cllr I Thornton suggested that the Parish Council contact the local farmers to see if they may set up a website with information about their intention to spray. A link would then be placed in the Village Voice so that people may look.

Cllr M Golder re-enters the room at 18.50.

Clerk to contact local farmers and Norse re website.

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. Therese Coffey MP

Apologies for the meeting and a late report sent for the APM.

2. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

Apologies sent, and no report received.

3. District Councillor Ray Herring

Absent and no report sent.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr J Robinson, Cllr D Brenchley, Cllr J Howard and Cllr P Smith

3. Declarations of interest:

Cllr M Golder – grand-daughter of local farmer.

4. Applications for dispensation:

None

5. It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the 218th Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th May 2018 and the 219th Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 13th June 2018 be accepted as a true record.

6. Matters arising from the 219th Parish Council Meeting held on 13th June 2018.

Cllr A Macro asked if there had been any news regarding the Shepherds Hut.

Cllr M Golder replied that the Clerk had been checking the website regularly and the application had not been decided.

7. Finance

7.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st June – 30th June 2018.

7.2 The Council noted and approved the quarterly accounts up to the end of June.

8. Planning

DC/18/2375/FUL – 45 Daphne Road, Orford

This was a request for new roof lights to the main roof and replacement of pantiles on extension roof with plain tiles.

Cllr M Green commented that the work was in keeping with the existing.

The Parish Council had no objection to this proposal.

DC/18/2354/FUL – Quay House, Quay Street, Orford

This was a request for a proposed dormer windows to the south east elevation, including replacement of existing dormer window, new slate roof covering over existing conservatory, alterations to fenestration and extending existing balcony.

Cllr I Thornton commented that this was a change to the balcony and it was not overlooking anyone.

The Council had no objection to this proposal.

Other notifications:

87 Market Hill, Orford – the Clerk commented that this application had received some new plans, but these have been withdrawn.

9. Parish Council Business:-

(1) Adoption of the Volunteer Policy, Disciplinary Procedure, Grievance Procedure, Memorial Bench Policy and Equal Opportunities Policy.

Cllr M Golder reported that the only change to the policies was the increase of the price of the benches in the Memorial Bench Policy.

Cllr R Mallett proposed that all the policies are adopted, this was seconded by Cllr A Macro and agreed by all.

(2) Castle Track and Knoll update

Cllr M Golder commented the Clerk had been in contact with SALC regarding the registering of the village green, currently waiting for a response.

Cllr M Iliff suggested that we have parking slots outside Barts Hall for the residents of Bakers Lane; this is called an easement.

Cllr M Golder reported that this would be ongoing for some time.

Cllr M Smy arrived at 19.12.

(3) Co-option of a Councillor

Clerk left the room at 19.15

Cllr M Golder read the application from candidates wishing to join the Council. These applications were fully considered by the Council and Terence Loveridge was appointed following a majority vote. Clerk to write appropriate letters.

Clerk re-entered the room at 19.25

(4) Village Feast

Cllr A Macro asked if there was going to be tables, chairs and BBQ on the Market Hill.

Cllr I Thornton said that when the village feast started there was live music and it was a bring and share food event.

Cllr A Macro said that lots of people would bring their own picnics and meat.

Cllr I Thornton said that the tables and chairs could be set up this year.

Cllr M Smy said that we could organise some music ready for next year.

Cllr M Golder said that a band had been provisionally booked for next year, but it is quite expensive, the butcher has agreed to assist with the BBQ, and we would need a music licence as well. The Sports & Social Club may be able to do an outside bar.

Cllr I Thornton suggested that volunteers should help to set the tables up and put away at the end of the evening.

Cllr R Mallett said that he would assist with the tables.

Cllr M Iliff asked if we should get a road closure for the square.

Cllr A Macro said that she would organise the street closure.

Cllr I Thornton said that if we can organise the street closure then we will go ahead with the village feast, if not then we will not have anything.

Clerk to email the Kings Head about the arrangements for next years village feast; Mr Marshall re the use of the BBQ; and all Cllrs re help with setting up this year.

(5) Dog fouling

Cllr M Golder reported that the cost of the dog fouling bin has increased by £15. The Clerk is awaiting a meeting with a representative from SCDC.

All agreed to go ahead with the Fido Bin in Town Farm Estate.

(6) Re-adoption of the Suffolk Code of Conduct.

Cllr I Thornton proposed that the Suffolk Code of Conduct is adopted, this was seconded by Cllr A Macro and agreed by all.

(7) General Power of Competence

The Clerk explained that the General Power of Competence had been recommended by LCPAS, our internal auditors. This would give the PC slightly more powers when spending money and making decisions.

Cllr I Thornton proposed that we pass a resolution to adopt the General Power of Competence, all the other Councillors were in favour.

(8) Lime Tree

This was discussed earlier in the Public Forum.

(9) Parking

Cllr M Golder reported that she had met with a representative from the Highways department to look at the lines and parking in the village. The cost to have the work completed is quite significant. Andrew Reid has an amount in his budget which he may use to pay some of the work, he wishes to know how much the PC is willing to pay. The signage that is required near the church has to be paid for by the PC. The Clerk has written to the owner of Church House requesting permission to place a sign on her wall. The cost of the signs is around £55 each. It has been suggested that a mirror is placed in the area as well to give clearer visibility.

All agreed to purchase 2 signs when permission has been received.

10. Correspondence

- **Parishioner**

Cllr M Golder reported that the crop spraying had already been covered in the Public Forum.

- **Cllr Fryatt**

Cllr M Golder commented that Cllr P Smith had requested to have this placed on the agenda as there is a meeting this evening and he was hoping that another Councillor would have attended it with him, but due to the change in date of the PC meeting this was unable to happen.

Cllr I Thornton asked if a letter may be sent to the owners of the ice-cream cart. It is regarding the number of signs that they have placed around the village. Also, during events at the Sports & Social Club the ice-cream cart will appear on the recreation ground without being asked. They have two trading sites in the village and they should remain at them. Refer to the clause in their contract.

All agreed, Clerk to write a letter to the Ice-cream cart owners.

Cllr A Macro said that the floodlights on the recreation ground need to be fixed. Someone has agreed to pay some of the money, could the Recreation Ground Committee have some money from the Sportspace fund to make up the cost difference.

Cllr M Smy said that one of the courts used to be a multisport court with five-a-side nets.

Cllr A Macro replied that she would look into the possibility of keeping one court as a multisport court and look into the cost of nets for five-a-side goals.

11. Items for next meeting:

12. Date of next meeting: 12/09/18 at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 19.50.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Date _____