

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the 226th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 13th March 2019 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall

Present: Cllr Michelle Golder
Cllr Richard Mallett
Cllr Matthew Smy
Cllr Peter Smith

Cllr Anne Macro
Cllr Mary Iliff
Cllr Derick Brenchley
Cllr Jonnie Howard

In Attendance, Marie Backhouse (Clerk)

Opening remarks

Public Forum

There was 1 member of the public.

The parishioner commented that she had observed a near accident on Church Street. The new signs on that area are not relevant for this problem. People are crossing on the corners of the roads and not on the straight piece of road. The signs should be positioned 3 Church Street, stating that pedestrians cross here.

Cllr Golder said that SCC Highways are appointing a new contact person, when this person is in post the PC will contact them regarding this issue.

The parishioner said that this needs to be sorted urgently.

Cllr Howard reported that the PC had asked that a 20mph speed limit through the village, but there has been no luck with this at the moment. We will liaise with SCC Highways.

Cllr Brenchley suggested the possibility of a white line painted on the side of the road to show where a footpath would be.

PC to contact SCC Highways.

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

A report was circulated to the Councillors and apologies sent.

2. District Councillor Ray Herring

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr I Thornton, Cllr J Robinson, Cllr T Loveridge and Cllr M Green.

3. Declarations of interest:

Cllr Howard – member of the Sailing Club, acquaintances of the owners of the Great House

Cllr Golder – supplier to Orford General Store

4. Applications for dispensation:

None

5. It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the 225th Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th February 2019

Cllr Smy asked that the section stating, ‘asked if the second home owners are required to pay council tax’ could be amended to say, ‘asked if there was a loop hole in the business tax which meant they did not have to pay.’ This was agreed by all, Clerk to amend the minutes.

Ray Herring arrived 7.10pm.

Cllr Golder asked if Ray Herring would like to give his report.

Ray Herring said that The Rec Hut Committee had received £1500 for the floodlights on the tennis courts. The Enabling Community Budget is supporting Period Poverty by donating £18,000. The Election forms are being handed out, Orford does well for candidates. These are taking place on the 2nd May 2019. A cycling tour will be coming to the area again this year, this may not come that close to Orford. The Local Plan was approved last month, this will now go for examination over the next nine months. The new Council starts on the 1st April. There will be new logos on all the vans and paperwork, everything is going according to plan.

Cllr Golder thanked Ray Herring for attending, he left at 7.22pm.

6. Matters arising from the 225th Parish Council Meeting held on 13th February 2019.

None

7. Finance

7.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st February – 28th February 2019.

8. Planning

DC/19/0723/TCA – Great House, Church Street, Orford

This is a request to T1 – Catalpa bignonioides – crown lift to 5.2m to clear the highway and improve light to understory planting and fruit trees. Remove large diameter deadwood over 10mm in diameter. Prune crown spread over the road and orchard by approx. 1.5m – 2m and blend to shape.

G1 – Laurus nobilis – reduce the height by approx. 4m back to previous points and trim lateral spread by approx 0.5m to improve light penetration to the orchard and improve boundary aesthetics.

T2 – Juglans regia – remove the two lowest lateral limbs and prune the remaining crown spread by approx. 1.5-2m to improve balance, shape and reduce shading over the orchard trees.

T3 – Quercus palustris – remove one low lateral limb and 2-3 secondary sub laterals to reduce the heavy shading over the orchard and improve crown balance from historic phototropism from the adjacent tree.

T4 – Fraxinus excelsior – pollard to a height of approx. 4m due to extensive decay in the main stem and lever arm stress at this point from the heavily over extended crown.

The Parish Council had no objections to this proposal.

DC/19/0646/LBC – 87 Market Hill, Orford, Suffolk

This is a request for the replacement of dilapidated shop front to match existing.

The Parish Council had no objection to this proposal.

Other notifications:

The Great House

Two Parish Council representatives attended the SCDC Planning Committee Meeting regarding two applications relating to The Great House (DC/18/4844/FUL and

DC/18/4845/LBC) both of which the PC opposes. The SCDC Planning Officer said at the meeting that the boundary wall surrounding TGH was not listed but this was subsequently found to be incorrect.

The Committee did not come to a decision regarding the two applications as Committee Members requested further information on various points raised in the OGPC report. The applications will therefore be discussed again at the next Planning Meeting. Cllr Howard asked if they gave any indication about whether the applications might be supported, but Cllr Iliff said they did not. The Parish Council is only allotted a three-minute slot for each application in which to put forward their views. There is much consternation in the village about both applications as well as concerns about the Broad Street village green.

All the Councillors agreed that the two PC representatives should attend the meeting on the 21/03/19, and that if necessary, it would be alright for them to make last minute changes to their report.

Cllr Golder thanked them both for attending the meeting.

9. Parish Council Business: -

(1) New mower quotes

Cllr Golder reported that A Golder had been to source a new mower. He had looked at 2 mowers, one costing £800 including VAT, and the other (which was a bit smaller), to cost £500 including VAT. The £800 mower was very similar to the existing one he has.

Cllr Howard proposed that we purchase the £800 mower, this was seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed by all.

Cllr Golder informed the Councillors that we had also collected some quotes for the painting of the recreation ground swings and roundabout.

Cllr Golder asked the Clerk to leave at this point, but the majority of the Councillors agreed it was not necessary.

It was agreed some time last year to have these items repainted, quotes from last year included one for £1200 and one for £505. Two new quotes had been received and these were £575 and £469. All these quotes were for labour and paints. The four quotes were discussed. The budget has enough money for this work to take place.

Cllr Smy said that it was important to prime the metal work before painting it as it will help to prevent the rust.

After some discussion it was agreed to vote on two of the quotes. There was an equal vote for £575 and £469 (3 Councillors for each one, with two Councillors abstaining), it was agreed to defer the decision until the next PC meeting.

(2) Village Greens

Cllr Iliff said that the situation of registering the knoll and the track was becoming difficult. The statements of truth forms could be used to register the knoll but not the track. The track is a right of way and could be more complicated to prove it is used for recreational purposes. The track, however, is more important and we could consider registering ownership of it.

Cllr Howard commented that it is worth trying to register the knoll.

Clerk to email the 'Statement of Truth forms' to all the Councillors.

(3) Friends Garage

Cllr Smith reported that the garage venture is going well, with the original plans being withdrawn and new ones being drawn up; this would include a larger shop with parking and some fuel pumps.

Cllr Howard proposed that the Parish Council supports the new garage venture, this was seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed by all.

(4) Community Asset Register

Cllr Smith reported that it had been suggested that we register the shop as a Community Asset; do we wish to consider this if there is a possibility of the shop moving to a larger premise.

It was agreed by all the Councillors to revisit this later in the year.

10. Correspondence

• **Orford & Sudbourne WI**

Cllr Golder read out a letter from the WI asking if they may plant a cherry tree on the green in front of the shop to commemorate the centenary of the WI.

Cllr Mallett commented that the cherry tree in front of the shop would not last for many more years, so there would be enough space for another tree.

It was agreed by all to allow the WI to plant a tree.

• **The King's Head**

Cllr Golder read out an email from the King's Head requesting the use of the village green outside the shop for the Suffolk Day on the 21st June 2019.

It was agreed by all to allow the use of the village green for the Suffolk Day.

• **Parishioner**

Cllr Golder read out an email from a parishioner regarding the parking in Munday's Lane and the need for large vehicles to negotiate this area.

Cllr Howard suggested that we respond to the email stating that we are waiting for a new person to be in post for our contact in SCC Highways. This was agreed by all.

• **Parishioner**

The Clerk commented that she had a visit from a parishioner regarding the new road signs in Church Street, this was a follow on from a letter that was discussed at the last PC meeting. The parishioner wanted to thank the PC for responding quickly to her comments and contacting her neighbour. The PC suggested that we change the sign from blue to red. This idea was not considered to be a better solution to the problem. It was agreed by all to keep the sign the same at the moment.

• **Parishioner**

Cllr Golder read out an email from a parishioner requesting a permission to place a gazebo on the gravel next to the recreation ground hut on the 6th April 2019.

It was agreed by all to allow the gazebo to be placed on the gravel.

11. Items for next meeting:

Quotes for the repainting of the swings and roundabout.

12. Date of next meeting: 10/04/19 at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 20.20.

Signed _____ (Chairman) Date _____