

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the 231st meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 11th September 2019 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall

Present: Cllr Anne Macro
Cllr Richard Mallett
Cllr Ian Thornton

Cllr Matthew Smy
Cllr Frances Barnwell
Cllr Margaret Green

In Attendance, Marie Backhouse (Clerk) and 0 members of the public.

Opening remarks

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

Andrew Reid summarised his written report.

- GCSE results show an increase in the attainment level
- The new County Archives are set to be completed by Easter next year.
- The vaccine rate for MMR has declined overall but has increased in Suffolk.
- Trading Standards have been doing a successful job in preventing unsafe goods entering Felixstowe docks.
- A few months ago, SCC Highways sent out an email regarding self-help scheme to assist communities to undertake work for themselves without payment from other sources. Cllr Mallett replied that we already cut our own verges as well as keep the road signs cleared.

Cllr Smy commented that this is the second week of the school term and some families are still chasing the school transport department for passes and information as to how their child should be getting to school.

Andrew Reid replied that Orford is not the only area, the school transport team are accountable, I will add Orford's concerns to the list of questions.

Cllr Smy reported that parents who are taking children to school are following a bus that has spaces, this is causing a lot of anxiety for parents. The cost is £250 per pupil per term. The SCC are chasing the money for the transport.

Andrew Reid said that important for parents to reclaim money if their child is not using the transport. It would be beneficial to me if parents could email me directly.

Cllr Smy said that we are in the catchment area for Farlingaye but there is free transport to Saxmundham High, and the bus to there is empty.

Andrew Reid said that the intention is to save money, but they have not realised the consequences.

Andrew Reid left the meeting at 19.15.

2. District Councillor Ray Herring

Absent and no report received.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr P Smith, Cllr J Howard, Cllr M Iliff, & Cllr S Backhouse

3. Declarations of interest:

None

4. Applications for dispensation:

None

- 5. It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Planning Sub-Committee held on the 3 July 2019, the 230th Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2019 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 31st July 2019 be accepted as a true record.** Cllr Thornton said that there is one amendment to make on the minutes of the 31/07/19 – it should read under applications for dispensation, ‘required’ not ‘given’.

- 6. Matters arising from the Planning Sub-Committee held on the 3 July 2019, the 230th Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2019 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 31st July 2019.**

Cllr Thornton asked if the minutes could be published as draft as these minutes of the PC meeting as from 10th July.

Clerk to research the possibility of publishing draft minutes with a watermark on in August & December due to the time between meetings.

- 7. Contributions by members of the public.**

None

8. Finance

7.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st July – 31st August 2019.

9. Planning

DC/19/1539/LBC – Great House, Church Street, Orford

This was an appeal that has been made to the Secretary of State, against the decision of East Suffolk Council to refuse planning permission for installation of gate in boundary wall.

Cllr Barnwell said that a response is being sorted now, which is due by 25/9/19, and she will liaise with Cllr Iliff.

Cllr Macro thanked them for the time they have taken with this application.

Other notifications:

10. Parish Council Business: -

(1) Adoption of the Temporary Signs Policy.

Cllr Macro said that there have been no alterations to the policy.

It was agreed by all to re-adopt the Temporary Signs Policy.

(2) Co-option of a Councillor

Cllr A Macro read out an application from a candidate wishing to join the Council. This application was fully considered by the Council; it was proposed that Craig Ambury was appointed, and this was passed unanimously.

Clerk to write to Craig Ambury

(3) Village Feast

Cllr Macro reported that the evening was a success and enjoyed by everyone. There had been some discussion about moving the event to the recreation ground, but it was agreed by all that it should remain on the Market Square. At the end of the evening the people who ran the outside bar gave the PC a donation of £82, towards the next village event.

(4) Recreation Ground

Cllr Macro said that a couple of quotes had been received concerning replacing the wooden fence around the play area with a metal one. The Clerk had contacted the AONB team to ask if it would be allowed to swap the wooden fence for a metal one. They see no problem with it, but we may need to contact the Planning department just in case we need to have planning permission.

It was agreed by all to wait for more quotes regarding the metal fencing.

(5) Annual Play Equipment Inspection

The Clerk reported that there were three areas of concern on the inspection; the wet pour, the gates and the bollards (dragons' teeth). All three items are being dealt with now.

10. Correspondence

- **A resident** – an email had been received from a younger member of the public requesting a skateboard park/ramp on the recreation ground.

Cllr Mallett said that this had been suggested in the past.

Cllr Green said that you can rent these.

Cllr Thornton asked if the PC could rent a skateboard ramp for the summer?

Cllr Macro said it would need a large area.

Cllr Smy said that you can have a half-pipe which is not very large.

It was agreed by all that the Clerk research the cost of a half-pipe and respond to the member of the public stating that the PC would be researching this further.

- **A resident** – an email had been received from a resident of Pump Street concerning the village pump area. They are proposing to look after the pump area and keep it tidy from weeds, to water it etc. They would like to remove the gravel from the area and clean the existing bricks up, plant geraniums and pansies in the tubs.

Cllr Thornton said that he had visited the residents of Pump Street, they would like the PC to remove all the gravel from the pump area and place it on the footpath that leads to the shop. The residents will look after the planters and they have been informed that we have no permission to place a fence around this area.

Cllr Mallett said that underneath the gravel is a mixture of concrete, bricks and soil. If the gravel is removed what will replace it or will it be left as just soil.

Clerk to write to member of the public stating that no fence, or chains are allowed, and to ask what is to replace the gravel.

- **Suffolk County Highways** – an email has been received concerning a piece of hedge on Castle Lane named 'Mrs Cluck'. A complaint has been received at the SCC Highways office concerning 'Mrs Cluck' and stating that it protrudes into the footpath. The PC has not received any complaints about this. It was agreed to return an email stating that we have had many problems with hedges in the village and are encouraging them to be cut back and therefore 'Mrs Cluck' should be cut back as well.

Clerk to email PC's response to SCC Highways.

11. Items for next meeting:

- **AOEP - update**

12. Date of next meeting: 09/10/2019

Meeting closed at 20.06.

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