

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the 235th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 11th March 2020 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall

Present: Cllr Anne Macro
Cllr Richard Mallett
Cllr Gary Wingrove
Cllr Jonnie Howard
Cllr Ian Thornton
Cllr Craig Ambury
Cllr Margaret Green
Cllr Peter Smith

In Attendance, Marie Backhouse (Clerk), and 1 member of the public.

Opening remarks

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.
Written report received and apologies sent.
2. District Councillor Ray Herring
Absent and no report received.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr M Smy, Cllr S Backhouse, Cllr F Barnwell, Cllr M Iliff & Andrew Reid.

3. Acceptance of Apologies

The Councillors all agreed to accept the apologies.

4. Declarations of interest:

None

5. Applications for dispensation:

None

10. Planning Report

- **DC/20/0833/FUL – Raydon Hall, Raydon Lane, Orford**
This was a request for a change of use of an agricultural building to catering kitchen with fenestration alterations.
Cllr Howard commented that this is a barn conversion to a commercial kitchen.
The Councillors had no objection to this application.

Member of the public left at 19.10.

6. It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the 235th Parish Council meeting held on the 12th February 2020 be accepted as a true record.

7. Matters arising from the 235th Parish Council meeting held on the 12th February 2020.
Cllr P Smith said that the defibrillator placed at the Fire Station, still has 3 years left on its life expectancy. It is 5 years old currently. The defib has been used twice in the past 5 years, and it is checked regularly.

Cllr Smith reported that a parishioner had visited a conference on grass verges and had written a report for the PC. Some grass verges are being left to grow, and not being cut on a regular basis. One of the nearest verges to be left is at Snape. The PC needs to identify areas where it would like to have the longer verges. There would be a group of volunteers required to help maintain this area. This project would be supported by SCC. Do the PC wish to move forward with this?

Cllr Howard asked if we could leave an area in Quay Street?

Cllr Thornton suggested that we arrange a visit from a SCC representative, who may identify some suitable areas for growing longer grasses in the village. This may then be brought back to the PC for discussion.

Cllr Smith to arrange visit from SCC representative.

Cllr Macro reported that there is a SALC forum meeting on the 12th March at 7pm at the Riverside Centre in Stratford St Andrew, would anyone be able to attend this meeting?

Cllr Wingrove offered to attend the SALC meeting.

8. Contributions by members of the public.

None

9. Finance

8.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st February – 29th February 2019.

10. Planning

Please see above.

Other notifications:

Glebe Cottage, Rectory Road, Orford.

A notification was received stating that they are planning to convert an existing garage to become a bedroom with en-suit facilities. In the explanation it stated that ESC had decided it did not require planning permission.

11. Parish Council Business: -

(1) Updates.

Cllr A Macro reported that herself and the Clerk had attended a few meetings; CIL Forum at ESC, this explained what CIL money is and how we as a PC should spend this money, also how it will be reclaimed if it is not spent correctly and in a designated time; the Police meeting which we covered the parking near the school and the dogs. Speedwatch – a representative from Snape Parish Council sent some information regarding speedwatch in Snape and how successful it is. A group of 6 volunteers is required who should be willing to undertake training from the Police. There may also be some equipment available to borrow from the Police.

It was agreed by all to place an article in the Village Voice asking for volunteers.

(2) VE Day

Cllr Macro reported that the plans for VE Day were coming along, a resident is going to play some music on the organ for us, we may have the School choir, the History teacher may be organising a display, the Museum are organising some photographs for a display. The commemorative coins have been sorted for each child in the village. There may also be face painting for the children.

(3) Suffolk Day/Village Feast

Cllr Macro reported that the village shop is unable to run the Suffolk Day.

Cllr Thornton asked if we could use the area of green near the car park in Quay Street, opposite the Jolly Sailor.

Cllr Macro said that area seems quite small.

Cllr Ambury explained that he had a meeting with representatives from the Orford Business Association and he would ask them if they may be interested in organising something.

After some discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would organise a road closure for the area of Front Street outside the shop.

Cllr Ambury to report back to PC re OBA decision.

(4) Pump Area

Cllr Macro reported that an email had been received from a resident of Pump Street offering to tidy the Pump Area and sow ornamental grasses on the area. Three quotes have been sourced to clear the area and block pave it. At the moment, one quote has been received.

After some discussion it was agreed to use Suffolk red bricks, not block paving in the area of the pump. This item is to carry over to next meeting.

Cllr Macro to notify contractors to quote for Suffolk Red Bricks.

(5) Insurance for Emergency Group

The Clerk reported that it had been suggested the PC adopt the Emergency Group as a working party, then it will be covered by the PC insurance.

Cllr Smith asked what the role of the Emergency Group is, this would need to be clarified before adopting the group.

Cllr Macro said that there are two parts to the Emergency Group, the ATLAS group and the COMFORT group.

It was agreed by all for the Clerk to contact the ESC Emergency Planning Officer for advice.

Clerk to contact Emergency Planning Officer.

(6) Recreation Ground Trees

Cllr Mallett reported that he had been contacted by the Groundsman re the large pine trees at the back of the recreation ground. The farmer is having problems moving his vehicles along the track as the tree branches catch on the equipment.

The Clerk contacted Elite Tree Services who came, looked and quoted for the work.

The quote for the work is £1,074 including VAT.

Cllr Howard proposed that the PC ask Elite to complete the necessary tree work, this was seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed by all.

Clerk to contact Elite Tree Services.

(7) Community Action Suffolk

The Clerk reported that the PC membership to the CAS was needing to be renewed. There is no cost for this.

It was agreed by all the renew the membership to CAS.

Clerk to organise renewal of membership to CAS.

(8) Moles

Cllr Macro said that a quote had been received from Norse to visit Orford once a month for 8 months to check on the moles on the village green areas. The cost of this would be £980 plus VAT. It was agreed by all to contact a local Pest Controller to ask for a quote to complete the task of mole control.

Cllr Howard to contact the local pest control.

12. Correspondence

- **Friends Garage**

Cllr Smith commented that he had received an email from the Friends Garage group, who are still receiving lots of support. It has been brought to their attention that there is a Building Act 1984 Section 79 that refers to the untidiness of the site. This could mean that the current owner could be asked to tidy the site up, as this is on the entrance to the village and at the moment looks very untidy.

Cllr Ambury said that some green meshing attached to the fencing would improve the look.

Cllr Mallett suggested that boards would tidy it up and it would mean that the buildings are not visible.

It was agreed by all that Cllr Smith should write a letter to the ESC Planning Department and Andrew Reid. It was also suggested that letters should be accompanied by photographs and a copy of the Buildings Act.

13. Items for next meeting:

- **VE Celebrations**
- **Suffolk Day**
- **Village Feast**
- **Grass Verges**
- **Pump Area**
- **Garage Update**

14. Date of next meeting: 08/04/20

Meeting closed at 20.16.

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