

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
The Town Hall, Market Hill, Orford, Woodbridge, Suffolk. IP12 2NZ
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Minutes of the 258th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 13th April 2022 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall.

Present: Cllr Anne Macro
Cllr Richard Mallett
Cllr Peter Smith
Cllr Margaret Green
Cllr Ian Thornton

Cllr Jonnie Howard
Cllr Karen King
Cllr Mary Iliff
Cllr Nigel Addy

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

Opening remarks

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

Andrew Reid circulated a written report and summarised this. The Gull Wing bridge in Lowestoft is proceeding, even though the price of building materials has increased, this will make a huge difference to Lowestoft. Andrew Reid is now the Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Public Health. There is a campaign to assist householders to make it easier for energy efficiency in the home. 100,000 trees were planted in Suffolk last year and it is hoped that at least that amount will be planted this year. There is a campaign to encourage people to recycle glass correctly. Ukraine – there was a whole party motion to condemn what’s happening there. There is a government lead scheme to assist the refugees. There is to be about 700 refugees in Suffolk. They will be given an initial visa for three years. Suffolk has sent two fully equipped Fire Engines to the Ukraine to assist with the fires and rescues.

Cllr Howard asked if the health service is a new role.

Andrew Reid said that this is to enable SCC and the NHS to work jointly, getting more value for money.

Andrew Reid left at 7.07pm.

2. District Councillor Ray Herring
Absent and no report received.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr Backhouse, Cllr Wingrove and Cllr Ambury.

3. Acceptance of Apologies

The Councillors all agreed to accept the apology.

4. Declarations of interest:

Cllr Macro – neighbour of 4 Nightingale Piece (planning application).

5. Applications for dispensation:

None

6. **It was agreed that the minutes of the 257th Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 16th March 2022 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.**
7. **Matters arising from the 257th Parish Council meeting held on the 16th March 2022.**
- 7.1 Queens Platinum Jubilee – The Clerk reported that Cllr Backhouse has spoken with Orford Fire Station and they have agreed to erect the bunting ahead of the celebrations. Cllr Macro commented that it would be nice to purchase a commemorative coin for each of the children living in Orford, the cost of this would be about £94.50.
Cllr Howard suggested that a commemorative mug may be preferred.
ACTION: Cllr Macro to investigate the cost of a commemorative mug and bring the details to the next PC meeting.
To place on future agendas.
- 7.2 Ice Cream – The Clerk confirmed that the contract had been signed and agreed by the new ice cream retailer. It is hoped that they will run both sites and commence this weekend. The Treasurer commented that the previous ice cream provider has an outstanding amount of £1,068 still to pay. It was agreed that Cllr Macro should try to contact her to discuss the payment.
Action: Cllr Macro to contact the previous ice cream trader.
- 7.3 Queens Green Canopy – Cllr Macro reported that the commemorative oak tree and plack had been planted on the Castle knoll. Thanks to Cllr Mallett for completing this.
- 7.4 15 Ferry Road – Cllr Macro reported that many emails and questions had been sent to ESC and Flagship Group. Many of the questions remain unanswered. Is the way forward to request a face-to-face meeting?
Cllr Iliff commented that another local Council had held a face-to-face meeting with Flagship, and it was not very successful. Could the way forward to hold a joint Parish Council meeting with others experiencing the same difficulties and Flagship?
Cllr Smith asked if the Flagship constitution states that they must make as much money as possible on these properties?
Cllr Iliff said that there may be as many as 15 bids on the property last time, but Flagship has informed us that the house is £230,000.
Cllr Howard asked if the PC could be offered the house? Do we know what needs doing to the house, it is obviously below housing association standards?
Cllr Thornton said that there must be a formular that Flagship go by.
Cllr Iliff said we should give Flagship a week to respond to our latest email before considering a face-to-face meeting.
Cllr Thornton stated that it would be useful to obtain a copy of the Flagship constitution.
ACTION: Wait for a week to see if there is a response from Flagship/ESC.
- 7.5 Grounds Maintenance – Cllr Macro had confirmed with Norse that they have been awarded the contract to cut the grass in the village that the Parish Council are responsible for. Cllr Macro said that the Clerk had been to the Groundsman's container and listed all the equipment inside.
It was agreed by all for the PC to keep this equipment for a year, just in case we should need to employ another groundsman in the future, if Norse are not doing a satisfactory job. It was also agreed to allow NOTT to use the tools if and when required.
- 7.6 Resident – Cllr Macro read out an email from the resident of Broad Street, who has said that there is a type of mesh that could be placed on the grass which would allow the grass to grow through, so the slabs would be removed, and the soil filled in level, with the mesh and grass seed placed on top. This would allow them to park a couple of cars on it.
After some discussion it was agreed by all the Councillors that they should not change the village green.
ACTION: Clerk to notify the owners of the Councils decision.
- 7.7 Request – Cllr Macro and the Clerk met with the music event organiser on the recreation ground, currently he has no events booked, but would be in contact should one arise.
- 7.8 Torch Bearer Relay – Cllr Macro commented that she had spoken to one resident about the torch relay but not the second, she aims to do this soon.
- 7.9 Asset Register – The Treasurer commented that she had placed on the asset register a comment stating that the PC has a beacon, but we have no idea of the cost.

Cllr Macro said that she had spoken with a local engineer who could source a new metal pole for the beacon at a cost of £1,905.

ACTION: PC to apply to the village fund for the money for the beacon pole.

8. Contributions by members of the public.

None

9. Finance

9.1 Authorisation for payment sheet – There is one payment to authorise – SALC (Annual subscription) - £340.33, total £340.33. Also, the staff wages of £971.21.

The payments were agreed by all.

9.2 Year-end accounts – The Treasurer explained that the end of year accounts show a deficit of £3,000 but this is because some funding for the climbing dome was paid in the previous financial year. The PC has over-spent by £500 as there was a repair done on the wet pour surface of the play area.

9.3 AGAR form section 1&2 – The Treasurer reported the figures on section 2 of the AGAR were correct and agreed with the end of year bank statements. The Clerk read out all the questions on section 1 of the AGAR.

Both section 1 & 2 were agreed by all the Councillors.

10. Planning

DC/22/0983/OUT – 4 Nightingale Piece, Orford, IP12 2NP

Outline application (All matters reserved) – Proposed new self-contained, 2-bedroom eco dwelling on side garden 4 Nightingale Piece.

Cllr Addy said that he read the notes from the PC's previous objection to an application for this site. That application was refused, with comments made about the over development of the site. The current application is applying for a single storey with bedrooms in the loft space.

Cllr King said that this is an over-development and noticed that Highways had commented on this application with concerns about the parking.

Cllr Howard stated that the PC should object over the over development, highways issues and the congestion this will cause whilst under construction.

ACTION: Cllr Addy and the Clerk to draft a response to the ESC, using the comments mentioned above. Clerk to notify ESC of Council's decision.

DC/22/0885/FUL – West Quay Cottage, Quay Street, Orford, IP12 2NU

Erection of a shed/workshop in rear garden

The PC had no objection to this proposal.

ACTION: Clerk to notify ESC of the Council's decision.

DC/22/1087/FUL – High Broom Cottage, Gedgrave Road, Gedgrave, IP12 2BX

Demolition of existing 97sqm 3 bed bungalow and construction of a 327sqm 4 bed bungalow.

It was agreed by all to state that the PC has some concerns over this development, the views from the river and the river wall footpath will be affected, also this is an unspoilt area of the AONB.

ACTION: Clerk to notify ESC of the Council's decision.

DC/22/0564/FUL – Quay Lodge, Quay Street, Orford, IP12 2NU

Enlarging first floor patio doors, replacement front door and new glass canopy.

The PC had no objection to this proposal.

ACTION: Clerk to notify ESC of the Council's decision.

Other notifications:

11. Parish Council Business: -

(1) Friends Garage Update

Cllr Smith reported that the CIC had received documents from the developer, some of the CIC members have been poorly, but it is hoped that a meeting will take place on the 20th April, with another meeting taking place on the 29th April with the members of the PC, the

owner etc. District Councillor Ray Herring is pushing to have a completed planning application submitted, so that the PC may claim the CIL money from the development North of Mill Close to enable the possible purchase of an affordable property on the Friends Garage site.

12. Correspondence

Request – Cllr Macro read out an email from a previous resident of the village, who would like to plant a memorial tree for her mother, Doreen Longhurst, who was the tree warden for the village over many years.

The PC agreed to offer the position for a tree outside the shop, where a previous cherry tree was positioned, this could also have a plack put beside stating who it is in memory of.

ACTION: Clerk to notify the family member of the Councils decision.

Resident – Cllr Macro read out an email from a resident regarding the Telephone Box on the Market Hill, they wish to change this to a book exchange, as has happened in other parishes. As this Telephone Box is still in use, it was agreed by all that a book exchange would complicate access to the phone in an emergency.

ACTION: Clerk to respond to the resident explaining the Councils decision not to allow a book exchange in the Telephone Box.

13. Items for next meeting:

Queens Platinum Jubilee, Village Feast

14. Date of next meeting: 11 May 2022 7pm.

Annual Parish Meeting: 18 May 2022 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm.

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