

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the 265th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 8th February 2023 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall.

Present: Cllr Anne Macro
Cllr Richard Mallett
Cllr Gary Wingrove
Cllr Karen King
Cllr Ian Thornton

Cllr Peter Smith
Cllr Craig Ambury
Cllr Mary Iliff
Cllr Jonnie Howard

In Attendance 0 members of the public.

Opening remarks

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

Andrew Reid reported that he had submitted a full report to the PC. On the 9th February SCC will set the carbon budget for the next year to work towards being net zero by 2030. This will have a large environmental impact on the Council. In 2019 there was a Climate Emergency issued, this is being worked on, but has a long way to go. The Council has already cut back the usage of gas, de-carbonised some of the buildings, making them energy efficient. Some of the streetlights have been replaced, with LED more energy efficient lights. There will be more reports on this subject to follow. Cost of living, the Council have placed an increase in the funding to support the Citizens Advice Bureau. There is a Local Welfare assistance scheme. The results of the HM Inspectorate report on the local Fire Service have been published. It has been rated good, and there are some positive comments made. The Devolution Deal from the government could be worth half a billion pounds to SCC, is being proposed. This will mean that the SCC has a directly elected leader. The consultation will take place in the early summer, ahead of being taken to full Council. There are free talks taking place in the Archive building, this is to commemorate the 1953 floods. There is information about this on the SCC website.

Andrew Reid left at 7.07pm.

2. District Councillor Ray Herring

Ray Herring reported that the Council Tax increase will be discussed in two weeks at the budget meeting. An increase of 2.81% has been proposed. The ESC resources are strong. The Norse contract is coming to an end shortly, this will be replaced by a new company which is Council owned but independently run. The cleaning of the Quay Street car park toilets have been mentioned as a possible cut to the budget.

Cllr Thornton commented that this is a NOTT matter, and notification has been received, this is on the agenda for discussion at the meeting next week.

Ray Herring commented about the forthcoming elections, which are affecting District and Parish Councils. Many Councils are short of Councillors at the moment, so it will be interesting to see if all the vacancies are filled. Voters will need to bring a form of photo ID, this may be a passport or a driving licence. The ID may be out of date so long as the photo is similar. It is thought there will be an increase in postal votes.

Cllr Iliff arrives at 7.16pm.

Ray Herring commented that the Alde & Ore Community Partnership has been able to obtain £11m funding. Approximately the total required is £30 - £35m, so there is a way to go yet. The Internal Drainage Board met today and they are confident that the project would get some funding, also the business plan has been approved and this should mean that funding from the Environment Agency would be in place.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr Green and Cllr Addy.

3. Acceptance of Apologies

The Councillors all agreed to accept the apologies.

4. Declarations of interest:

None

5. Applications for dispensation:

None

6. It was agreed that the minutes of the 264th Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 11th January 2023 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

7. Matters arising from the 264th Parish Council meeting held on the 11th January 2023.

7.1 15 Ferry Road – Cllr Macro reported that she, Cllr Iliff, Cllr King and the Clerk had attended a meeting with the Managing Director of Newtide Housing. He has taken away a lot of questions, the Council will be kept updated when a response to the questions is received.

7.2 Figg's Shelter – Cllr Smith said that this work is not done yet, and he will chase the builder to get the work completed.

ACTION: Cllr Smith to chase the builder for a date of when the work will be completed.

7.3 CIL – The Clerk reported that an answer has been received from the CIL team, which states that the funding may be used for the registering of the village green but not the de-registering. The cost of this is around £4,900.

Cllr Thornton said that this could mean that the NOTT agrees to de-register the village green outside the Barts Hall and then the PC would register the green opposite the Jolly Sailor.

ACTION: To place item on the next agenda for discussion and way forward.

7.4 Draft Budget – The Clerk confirmed that a meeting had taken place with the previous Treasurer, who agreed with the comments that the Clerk had made regarding the donations and grants. Sometimes a pot of money for a project will be received in the previous year to that item being purchased. As all the previous years have been audited, the information on them must correct, as no comments were raised.

7.5 Ice Cream Tender – The Clerk reported that a letter had been sent recorded delivery to the Ice Cream provider with a closing date for a response by the 7th February. No response has been received. It was agreed that a final letter would be sent to the provider and ask that he needs to contact us by the 7th March, failure to do so would mean that the contract would be null and void.

ACTION: Clerk to write a second letter.

7.6 Friends Garage Update – Cllr Macro has spoken to the CIL team about the use of a large pot of money that may be available to the PC. It was suggested that the PC writes to the CIL team with a list of questions, the responses will be forwarded when they arrive. It has also been requested that a member of the CIL team attends a PC meeting to provide some information regarding the permitted use of the money.

ACTION: To forward response from CIL team to all Councillors.

8. Contributions by members of the public.

None

9. Finance

9.1 Authorisation for payment sheet – There are six payments to authorise NOTT (Town Hall office rent) - £1600.00, NOTT (50% share of the website hosting) - £21.00, NOTT (50% share of the village voice) total £456.00, NOTT (Clerks laptop case) - £22.79, Clerk (postage reimbursement) – £2.35, and Norse (Grounds maintenance) - £2940.00 total £5042.14.

Also, the staff wages of £897.52.

The payments were agreed by all.

10. Planning

DC/22/4984/FUL & DC/22/4964/LBC – 50 Church Street, Orford, IP12 2NT

Erection of close board timber fence and gate.

It was agreed by the full Council not to object to this application.

DC/23/0229/VOC – High Broom Cottage, Gedgrave Road, Gedgrave, IP12 2BX

Variation of Condition No.2 of DC/22/1087/FUL – Demolition of existing 97sqm 3 bed bungalow and construction of 327sqm 4 bedroom bungalow –

1. Garage footprint has been enlarged from 65.95sqm (approved width) to 93.05sqm to house workshop area and larger vehicles.

2. Garage location has been moved and rotated from the approved location further north of the main house and rotated to provide larger turning circles for vehicles.

3. Main corridor internal width has been increased from 1000mm (approved width) to new proposed width of 1500mm.

4. Client requirement for Bedroom 2 dressing room has increased external length of bedroom 2 (South elevation) from 7285mm to 9350mm.

5. Utility/plant room footprint has been increased to house MVHR, Air source heat pump etc from 6.86sqm (approved area) to 15.08sqm.

6. Installation of 12 No solar panels on the garage roof.

It was agreed by the full Council not to object to this application.

DC/23/0374/FUL & 0375/LBC – 43 Daphne Road, Orford, IP12 2NH

New garden room with glazed link to existing outbuilding.

It was agreed by the full Council not to object to this application.

Other notifications:

11. Parish Council Business: -

1. Friends Garage Update

Cllr Smith reported that a planning application was due in January/February, but due to the owner being unwell this has slowed the progress.

It was agreed that the owner should be given time to recover before any further discussions are had.

2. Use of possible CIL money from North of Mill Close.

Cllr Smith reported that this expenditure depends on the advice given by the CIL Team, and what planning application is received from the developer for the Garage site. Affordable housing may not be an option. If the PC receives the money from the ESC then it needs to be considered carefully what is the best option. The CIL money is from a larger District level pot.

Cllr Macro commented that if the PC is unable to state who lives in the affordable housing, and ESC uses their list of people in need, then that does not assist the residents/families of the village.

Cllr King said that a visit from the CIL team, with advice about what is acceptable expenditure of the money would be a good idea.

3. Alde & Ore update

Cllr Wingrove reported that the Ray Herring had kindly mentioned some of the key points from the last meeting, There is a briefing paper which can be circulated to all.

ACTION: Cllr Wingrove to pass the briefing paper to the Clerk for circulation.

4. Re-adoption of the Village Greens Policy, Gritting Policy, and the Electronic Communication & Social Media Policy.

The policies above were re-adopted by all the Council.

5. Moles

Cllr Macro reported that there are several mole hills on the recreation ground, what should we do to remove them? We have a local mole catcher assisting with the removal, but it does not appear to be working. There are also several moles on the Castle Knoll. It was agreed to ask the Castle if they have anyone sorting the moles on the Castle Green, and also to speak with an alternative mole catcher to see if they are able to sort the moles on the Knoll.

6. King's Coronation

Cllr Macro reported that Cllr Ambury, Cllr Macro, The Clerk and the landlord of the Kings Head had met to discuss the forthcoming celebration of the Coronation. Funding is being sort to provide the village children with a coin, to mark the occasion. Suggestions so far include a balloon modeller, music, BBQ, tea, coffee and cake, face painting, and an art table. Donations will be sort to assist with the cost. There is a follow up meeting in March. The date for the street party is the 7th May 2-6pm on the Market Square.

7. Speeding Tractors

Cllr Thornton commented that it had been brought to his attention by a few of the residents that the tractors speed through the village past the school and the shop. They are very large vehicles often with a large implement on the back.

Cllr Macro reported that when the Speedwatch team are doing a session, they have never caught a tractor doing more than the speed limit, even though it sounds as if they may be. Cllr Thornton suggested that a polite email be sent to all the landowners asking if the tractor drivers could drive responsibly through the village, especially where there is no footpath, past the school and the shop.

It was agreed by all that the Clerk should email all the local farmers.

ACTION: Clerk to email local farmers/landowners regarding the request for tractor drivers to drive responsibly.

12. Correspondence

Thomas Marshall Fund – An email has been received regarding the possible use of the recreation ground for a car boot sale in July.

It was agreed by all to allow the use of the recreation ground by a local charity for a fundraising event.

Village Voice – An email has been received from a resident enquiring why the Village Voice is not delivered to Sudbourne.

The Clerk explained that the Village Voice is paid for by the PC and the NOTT. The PC would not be able to fund something that was not for the benefit of the residents. There are spare copies of the Village Voice available in the newspaper kiosk, and it is also on the website.

It was agreed by all that if Sudbourne required copies of the Village Voice then the Sudbourne Parish Council would need to pay for them.

Hedges – Cllr Mallett reported that the hedge along Ferry Road has been cut by the local farmer, but the section leading into the village from the 30mph sign needs to be cut back. Cllr Mallett has spoken with the Highways department and has arranged for a site visit to look at the hedgerow and the other hedges within the village.

ACTION: Cllr Mallett to discuss the hedge with Cllr Smith.

Coronation Celebration – Cllr Howard asked if it would be possible for the residents of Daphne Road to hold a street party on the village green in that road, on the 7th May.

It was agreed by all to allow the street party on the village green in Daphne Road.

13. Items for next meeting:

Items included in the minutes,

Cllr Smith reported that someone has asked for the possibility of double yellow lines to be placed by the corner of the bridleway in Ferry Road. This would prevent vehicles parking in the way of emergency vehicles wishing to access that area. If the PC thought that this was a good idea then an application would need to be submitted early in the year.

ACTION: Place the traffic management on the next agenda.

14. Date of next meeting: 8th March 2023

Meeting closed at 8.09pm.

Signed_____ **(Chairman)** **Date**_____