

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the 277th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 10th April 2024 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall.

Present: Cllr Karen King (Vice-Chair)	Cllr Anne Macro (Chair)
Cllr Margaret Green	Cllr Nigel Addy
Cllr Mary Iliff	Cllr Gary Wingrove
Cllr Ian Thornton	Cllr Jonnie Howard
Cllr Craig Ambury	

In Attendance 0 members of the public.

Opening remarks

Cllr Macro opened the meeting with a minute's silence for Cllr Richard Mallett who sadly passed away at the end of March. Thanks goes to him for all his contribution to the Council, he will be missed by all his fellow Councillors. There is to be a flowering cherry tree with a plack planted in his memory.

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.
Andrew Reid submitted a written report and his apologies for the meeting.
2. District Councillor Tim Wilson
Tim Wilson submitted a written report and his apologies for the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr Greenwell, Tim Wilson and Andrew Reid.

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 by those that attended, that the minutes of the 276th Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 13th March 2024 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

7. Matters arising from the 276th Parish Council meeting held on the 13th March 2024.

7.1 8 Town Farm Estate – Cllr Iliff commented that feedback from the open sale to local people is awaited.

ACTION: To place on the next agenda.

7.2 Friends Garage Update – Cllr Addy reported that there is some progress, a pre-planning meeting has taken place with the Planning Officer. The site is to be fully residential with a couple of affordable for a local housing association. The planning department did not object to either the PC or the NOTT purchasing these properties, but ESC would like control of the letting of the properties. The planning application is to be the next step. There is to be a leaflet drop to all the houses, which will show an online link to view the plans. Both Cllr Wingrove and Cllr Addy have viewed the pre-application plans. There looks like a row of terrace houses at the front and this is where the two affordable properties will be situated. The PC will be a consultee on the planning application as they are on all applications in the village. Is the PC in a position to acquire the houses, a two bedroom house would retail for £400,000 and would be sold to the PC for around £300,000.

Cllr Thornton said that the PC is not in a position to be able to purchase the affordable properties.

Cllr Addy said that one property would be an affordable home let at a discounted affordable rent, and the second property would be a starter home where the tenant would purchase this for 70% of the market value.

Cllr Ambury asked why the PC is still involved in this project as the main reason at the beginning was the building of a new shop, this is now not happening.

Cllr Addy said that it is important to make it clear to the developer that the PC could not afford the properties. Now the PC will wait for the official plans to be presented.

Cllr Thornton suggested that the PC asks if they may be consulted on the sale of the starter home, to ensure that it goes to a local person.

Cllr Addy said that this project has been running for over 5 years now!

ACTION: To continue to place on the agenda.

7.3 Alde & Ore – No current update.

ACTION: To place on the next agenda.

7.4 Trees – Cllr Macro reported that the replacement trees have been planted, two on the Castle Knoll and two in Broad Street.

7.5 20's plenty – Cllr Macro attended a Zoom meeting. If the PC are interested in pursuing this, the County and District Councillors must be onboard. There would then need to be a public meeting to see if the village wants the 20mph.

ACTION: To continue to monitor and place on the agenda.

7.6 Road Signs – Cllr King reported that the road sign at the end of Broad Street and Quay Street has not been re-erected yet.

ACTION: Cllr King to monitor the work on the road sign and report back to the Council.

7.7 Recreation Ground – The Clerk reported that she and the NOTT Clerk would be conducting a survey of the benches when the weather improves.

ACTION: Clerk place on the next agenda.

7.8 Footpath – Cllr King reported that Tim Wilson had sent contacts for a contractor from Rendlesham who undertakes footpath work at a third of the normal cost from the SCC.

The idea is to place the contact details on file until such time as the PC may be able to progress with the work.

Cllr Thornton said that this may be something that the NOTT could assist to fund.

ACTION: Cllr King to contact the Highways Engineer and obtain the details if the company in Rendlesham.

7.9 D-Day Commemoration – The Clerk confirmed that she had notified ESC of the event and details of evening.

7.10 Signs for Quay Street Car Park – Cllr King commented that the CIL team had given permission for the expenditure to provide a directional sign at the beginning of the village showing people where the car park is located.

ACTION: Cllr King to contact Leiston Press for a quote to make a car park sign.

7.11 School Transport – Cllr King confirmed that she had written to Andrew Reid about the school bus situation, and the response related to the budgeting of funds that he has to

provide the transport. He commented that there is a public bus that runs to Woodbridge, but this leaves at 7.00am and returns at 6.00pm. The CATS buses are not running at all.
ACTION: Cllr King to continue to monitor the situation regarding the school transport.

8. Contributions by members of the public.

None

9. Finance

9.1 Authorisation for payment sheet – There are five payments to authorise: SALC (Payroll services) - £82.80, Unity Trust Bank (Service charge taken on the 31/03/24) - £18.00, SALC (Annual Subscription) £307.97, Suffolk County Council ('H' marking) £150.00, M Backhouse (Reimbursement for the TENS licence for the village feast) £21.00 Total £579.77.

Also, the staff wages of £1048.84 per month for April.

Income – Unity Trust Deposit Account (interest) £197.86, Unity Trust Bank CIL Account (interest) £361.51. Total £559.37.

It was agreed by all the Councillors present to approve the payments.

9.2 End of year accounts

It was agreed by the full Council to approve the end of year accounts and the bank reconciliation.

9.3 AGAR form – The Clerk commented that this form contains Section 1 that the Council needs to read through and agree. This document was circulated to the members ahead of the meeting. Having read through the statements the Council agreed each one. Section 2 the Councillors looked through the figures and agreed them. The Chair duly signed the AGAR form.

10. Planning

DC/24/0996/FUL – The Old Police House, Ipswich Road, Orford, IP12 2LT

Demolition of existing attached garage and rear conservatory. Proposed ground floor side extension. Proposed two storey and single storey rear extension. Fitting replacement windows. Rebuilding a chimneystack. Over cladding an existing ground floor extension with painted timber boarding. Reinstating the original central front door opening. Retiling the existing roof. Internal alterations.

Cllr King commented that she had looked through the application and could see no issues with the proposal.

The Council had no objections to this proposal.

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

Other notifications:

11. Parish Council Business: -

1. Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk reported that the date of the APM is the 15th May, this will take place in the New Room of the Town Hall at 7.00pm. Posters will be placed around the village.

2. Co-option of a Councillor

The Clerk commented that two applications had been received. It was agreed to co-opt the person who had applied first and ask the second candidate if the PC could keep his details until the next co-option in June.

ACTION: Clerk to contact both applicants and inform them of the Council's decision. New Councillor to sign the 'Acceptance of Office' form.

3. Village projects

The Clerk reported that the Council should consider some projects for the village, there is some funds available to support these projects.

It was agreed by the Council that the improvement to the footpath and the car parking signs should be considered for some of the funds.

ACTION: Cllr King to obtain some quotes and present to the Council at the next meeting.

12. Correspondence

None

Cllr Green commented that there appears to be a lot of large signs appearing in the village to advertise holiday lets.

It was agreed that as the signage appears to be in the garden of the properties, there would be nothing that could be done about it, as they were not causing any obstructions.

Cllr Green also commented about the parking in Munday's Lane.

Cllr Ambury suggested that there should be an area of double yellow lines to allow for a passing place.

It was agreed by the Council to investigate the possibility of a small section of double yellow lines.

ACTION: Cllr King to enquire about the possibility of double yellow lines with the Highways Engineer.

13. Items for next meeting:

Items included at the next meeting as in the minutes.

**14. Date of next meeting: Annual General Meeting 8th May 2024
Annual Parish Meeting 15th May 2024**

Meeting closed at 7.56pm