

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
The Town Hall, Market Hill, Orford, Woodbridge, Suffolk. IP12 2NZ
Tel: 01394 459172

E-mail: orfordtownhall@outlook.com

Minutes of the 278th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 8th May 2024 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall.

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

In Attendance 0 members of the public.

Opening remarks

MINUTES

- 1. Election of Chairman for 2024/25 and Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office**
Cllr A Macro asked for nominations for Chairman. Cllr Howard proposed that Cllr A Macro remained as Chairman; this was seconded by Cllr Ambury and agreed by all.
Cllr A Macro was duly **elected** as Chairman and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed and witnessed by the Clerk.
- 2. Election of Vice Chairman for 2024/25 and Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office**
Cllr A Macro asked for nominations for Vice-Chair.
Cllr Wingrove proposed that Cllr K King be the Vice-Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Thornton and agreed by all. Cllr King was duly **elected** as Vice Chairman and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed and witnessed by the Clerk.
- 3. Reports from Representatives**
 1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.
Andrew Reid submitted his apologies for the meeting.
 2. District Councillor Tim Wilson
Tim Wilson gave a brief outline of his report, there is money from the General Fund to use for the strategic direction of the Council. Sustainable housing is a great need. The budget this year has taken 9 months to sort.
Cllr King asked if sustainable is long term.
Tim Wilson explained that the need for sustainable housing has quadrupled over the last 4 years, so yes this is long term.
- 4. Apologies for absence:**
Cllr Dunlop and Andrew Reid.
- 5. Acceptance of Apologies**
The Councillors all agreed to accept the apologies.
- 6. Declarations of interest:**
None

7. **Applications for dispensation:**
None
8. **It was agreed by those that attended, that the minutes of the 277th Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 10th April 2024 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Cllr Howard proposed to accept the minutes, this was seconded by Cllr King and agreed by all.**
9. **Matters arising from the 277th Parish Council meeting held on the 10th April 2024.**
- 9.1 8 Town Farm Estate** – Cllr Iliff commented that discussions are continuing, there has been no decision made about the sale of the garden as an additional area.
ACTION: To place on the next agenda.
- 9.2 Friends Garage Update** – Cllr Wingrove reported that a summary from the open consultation had been received, this stated that of those who commented, 60% are in favour of the proposal for housing on the site. A small percentage were against it and felt a commercial area is needed for the village to generate employment. There is to be more discussions with the planning officer ahead of a planning application being presented in early June.
ACTION: To continue to place on the agenda.
- 9.3 Alde & Ore** – No current update.
ACTION: To place on the next agenda.
- 9.4 20's plenty** – Cllr Macro said that there is another zoom meeting taking place, that she would attend. After some discussion with the full Council it was agreed not to pursue the 20mph zones, and to remove this item from the agenda.
- 9.5 Road Signs** – Cllr King reported that the road sign at the end of Broad Street and Quay Street has not been re-erected yet, but she has been reassured that this has been paid for and is on the list to be completed shortly.
ACTION: Cllr King to monitor the work on the road sign and report back to the Council.
- 9.6 Recreation Ground** – The Clerk reported that she and the NOTT Clerk would be conducting a survey of the benches when both are available.
ACTION: Clerk place on the next agenda.
- 9.7 Footpath** – Cllr King reported that she, Cllr Wingrove, and the Clerk had met with the Highways Engineer. It was suggested that the area of footpath that runs from the junction to where the house track is, should be widened just to include the worn-down area of grass, this would be approximately 30-50cm. Beyond the driveway down towards the car park, this involves more work as the kerbing would need to be reduced, the manhole covers made lower. The cost would be in the region of £45,000. One question was do you remove the existing path, this may be more work, but in the long term less maintenance. Who owns the path and the land? The footpath was originally erected by the PC. Cllr Ambury said that the road was made narrower to accommodate the footpath. Cllr Iliff commented that the PC had a loan to pay for the footpath, from the PWLB. Cllr Addy said that the adopted plan from the Highways shows the grass verge alongside the road as Highways property. There is a great difference in the level from the kerb to the edge of the footpath. Cllr King said that the Highways engineer stated that should someone hurt themselves on the grass verge next to the kerb, this would be the responsibility of SCC. Tim Wilson said that he would get the contact details for the firm in Rendlesham that are doing some footpath work. Cllr King said that Milestone would be offered the job first as they are the SCC preferred contractor. A proper quote could be obtained from Tim Wilsons contractor contact to see how much it would potentially be to widen the path on the village green side.
ACTION: Cllr King to obtain a quote for the work to widen the footpath. Tim Wilson to send Cllr King the details of the company in Rendlesham.
- 9.8 D-Day Commemoration** – Cllr Macro said that some volunteers would be required to help arrange tables in the Town Hall, and to pack away at the end of the evening. The

bunting is to be placed around the square the weekend before the event and the tables will need to be in place by around 5pm. Cllr Greenwell, Cllr Howard, Cllr King, and Cllr Green volunteered to assist with the setting up and packing away.

9.9 Signs for Quay Street Car Park – Cllr King commented that a quote from Leiston Press had been received for the signs which would be attached to posts. A3 size sign on a pole is £156, A2 size sign on a pole was £174. One sign is to be placed on the triangle near the pond, and the second opposite side of the road to the Kings Head.

Cllr King proposed that 2 A3 signs are purchased, this was seconded by Cllr Greenwell and agreed by all the Council.

ACTION: Cllr King to contact Leiston Press and give them the go ahead.

9.10 School Transport – Cllr King reported that she had been informed that there are spare seats on the school bus that goes to Farlingaye. Andrew Reid said that there is no capping on the number of spare seats, but the buses must be disabled friendly.

ACTION: Cllr King to continue to monitor the situation regarding the school transport. The Clerk to ask a relative to count the number of spare seats on the school bus from Orford.

9.11 Mundays Lane – Cllr King said that having spoken with the Highways Engineer regarding the double yellow passing place in Mundays Lane, the cost for a Traffic Regulation Order would be in the region of £7,000 - £8,000. If the PC felt there were other areas where lining may be an advantage, then it would be more beneficial cost wise to place them all together in one application. Short term solution may be to place cones, or to place 'no parking' signs on the recreation ground fence.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate the cost of 'no parking' signs to place on the fence.

10. Contributions by members of the public.

None

11. Finance

11.1 Authorisation for payment sheet – There are six payments to authorise: Genesis Garden Furniture (D-Day Bench (funded by donations)) - £1117.80, A Macro (Posts and ties for trees) - £12.90, Tree Climber (Work to the Lime Tree in Quay Street) - £250.00, Parkwood Garden Services (mole catching) - £120.00, Network Assurance East (Road closure for the Village Feast) - £150.00, M Backhouse (Reimbursement for bench fixings) £33.07 Total £1683.77.

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

Income – East Suffolk Council (CIL payment) £19753.49, HMRC (VAT refund) £1189.53, East Suffolk Council (1st precept payment) - £14709.50 Total £35652.52.

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

11.2 Insurance renewal

The Clerk reported that the insurance renewal had been received, this was £798.24, which is an increase of £108.36 from last year. The budget for the cover this year was set at £950. After some discussion it was agreed by the full Council to accept the insurance quote set for this year.

12. Planning

DC/24/1154/FUL – Quay Lodge, Quay Street, Orford, IP12 2NU

Single storey extension to northwest elevation.

The Council had no objections to this proposal.

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

DC/24/1320/TCA – 66 Quay Street, Orford, IP12 2NU

1no. Yew (T1 on plan) – Reduce height by 3.5m and width by 2.5m.

1no. Eucalyptus (T2 on plan) – Fell.

1no. Sycamore (T3 on plan) – Reduce whole crown by 3m.

The council had no objections to this proposal.

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

Other notifications:

13. Parish Council Business: -

1. Parish Council Representatives on Outside Bodies – Recreation Ground Management Committee, SALC, Alde & Ore, Community Partnership, Woodbridge & District ASB.

It was agreed to postpone this item until the meeting in July when the PC would have the full 12 Councillors.

ACTION: To place on the agenda for July.

2. Renewal of preferred contractors – Handyman and Tree Work

It was agreed by all the Council to use John Backhouse as the Handyman and Tim Will as the preferred Tree Company.

3. Moles on the Village Greens

Cllr Macro reported that there appears to be a lot of moles on the Quay Street village Green, the Castle Knoll and the triangle opposite the school. The person who sorts the moles on the recreation ground would be willing to clear these areas as well.

Cllr Ambury proposed that we ask the Mole Man to sort the other village green areas, this was seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed by all.

ACTION: The Clerk to inform the existing mole catcher via email of the change, and explain that this has been outsourced to another mole catcher.

14. Correspondence

None

15. Items for next meeting:

Items included at the next meeting as in the minutes.

16. Date of next meeting: 12th June 2024.

Meeting closed at 8.02pm.