

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 279th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 12th June 2024 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall.

Present: Cllr Anne Macro (Chair)
Cllr Margaret Green
Cllr Mary Iliff
Cllr Ian Thornton

Cllr Karen King (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Valerie Dunlop
Cllr Gary Wingrove

In Attendance 0 members of the public.

Opening remarks

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

Andrew Reid summarised his written report which had been circulated to all prior to the meeting. Suffolk waste partnership are encouraging households to compost their waste. Around a third of the average bin contains compostable material. There is some equipment available to encourage this which may still be available. In Rendlesham and Anglo Saxon Royal Settlement has been unearthed. This is directly linked to Sutton Hoo. Suffolk County Council has played a huge part in this. NSIP – the pylons from Norwich to Tilbury – relating to the offshore electricity being brought onshore, and the movement of electricity around the area. They are encouraging the developers to think favourably about the economics of what is happening. The Local Authorities are appealing for foster families, this is to foster or adopt. Please let them know if anyone is interested.

Cllr King said that School Transport is still a concern. It is apparent that there are several spare seats on the school bus. There is a regulation about having some of the seat's spare, but it appears to be around 19 on a 53-seater bus. There has been no follow up from SCC regarding this.

Andrew Reid suggested that this information is sent to him and he will chase this up for a response.

ACTION: Cllr King to pass the School transport information onto Andrew Reid.

Andrew Reid left the meeting at 7.12pm.

Cllr Thornton wondered if the spare seats could be due to the bus being bigger than required. A 53 seater instead of a 40 seater.

Cllr King commented that it seems to be the same bus every day. Why is there so many spare seats?

2. District Councillor Tim Wilson

Tim Wilson submitted his apologies and a written report which was circulated to all the Councillors.

- 2. Apologies for absence:**
Cllr Addy, Cllr Howard, Cllr Ambury, Cllr Greenwell and Tim Wilson.
- 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 278th Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 8th May 2024 be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Cllr King proposed to accept the minutes, this was seconded by Cllr Iliff and agreed by all.**
- 7. Matters arising from the 278th Parish Council meeting held on the 8th May 2024.**
 - 7.1 8 Town Farm Estate** – Cllr Iliff commented that there had been a good meeting with Flagship.
Cllr King said that a question about the marketing had been asked and it is going well with 10 viewings and three offers. The marketing should close on Friday this week.
ACTION: To place on the next agenda.
 - 7.2 Friends Garage Update** – Cllr Wingrove reported that the full planning application should be submitted at the end of the month. There have been no further comments regarding the design of the site from the public. Many meetings have taken place with the planning officers. There have been no further emails from the former CIC members. The sale of Seaforth House should be completed at the end of the month.
ACTION: To continue to place on the agenda.
 - 7.3 Alde & Ore** – No current update, but there is a meeting on the 27th June.
ACTION: To place on the next agenda.
 - 7.4 Road Signs** – Cllr King reported that the 30mph road sign on the entrance to the village should be repaired in 5-10 working days. There is no further update on the road sign at the end of Broad Street so there will be a follow up email to see what is happening.
ACTION: Cllr King to chase the Highways department regarding the road sign at the end of Broad Street.
 - 7.5 Recreation Ground** – The Clerk reported that she and the NOTT Clerk would be conducting a survey of the benches when both are available.
Cllr Macro suggested that she and the Clerk do a walk around and assess the condition of the benches.
ACTION: Clerk place on the next agenda.
 - 7.6 Footpath** – Cllr King reported that there was no further update.
Cllr Iliff said that the PC needed to be careful of this work as it is a Village Green issue, therefore advice should be sought from a solicitor before agreeing to any work on a footpath widening.
Cllr Thornton said work on Village Greens can cost a lot of money to sort.
Cllr Dunlop said that the existing path probably does not meet the legal requirement for a disabled person.
Cllr Iliff commented that the law around registered Village Greens is quite complex.
Cllr King added that SCC Highways have noted that this may be a Health & Safety concern due to the trip hazards beside the footpath.
ACTION: Cllr King to monitor any further updates from Highways.
 - 7.7 Signs for Quay Street Car Park** – Cllr King said that no further update about the signs have been received from Leiston Press other than the proof which has been agreed.
ACTION: Cllr King to contact Leiston Press to see if the signs are ready for collection.
 - 7.8 School Transport** – Cllr King reported that this item has been covered under 1.1.

ACTION: Cllr King to continue to monitor the situation regarding the school transport and the response from Andrew Reid.

7.9 Mundays Lane – Cllr macro said that the Clerk had obtained a price of a simple no parking sign, about A4 in size to be placed on the recreation ground fence down Mundays Lane.

Cllr Thornton suggested that the PC obtains written permission from the Highways department before placing the 'No Parking' signs on the fence.

The cost of the signs were £10.99 for two.

ACTION: Cllr King to confirm with Highways permission to place the two signs on the fence in Mundays Lane.

7.10 Moles – Cllr Macro confirmed that the Clerk had notified the previous mole catcher of the Councils decision to change to the Mole Catcher currently sorting the Recreation Ground.

8. Contributions by members of the public.

None

9. Finance

9.1 Authorisation for payment sheet – There are four payments to authorise: Community Action Suffolk (annual insurance premium) - £813.28, SALC (internal audit fee) - £386.40, Unity Trust Bank (Quarterly bank charge) - £18.00, The Moving Plaice (D-Day food paid for by donations) - £499.00, Total £1716.68.

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

Income – Suffolk County Council (Locality Grant for D-Day Bench) £600.00, NOTT (D-Day Event donation) £500, Total £1100.00.

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

9.2 Internal Audit Report

The Clerk reported that the internal audit had been completed and a report had been circulated to all. There were a couple of points to note; evidence of good practice would be to minute the precept amount and the implications for Band D Council Tax. This item has been noted. The Notice of the exercise of public rights is missing from the website, this item has been addressed.

12. Planning

DC/24/1616/FUL – The Old Granary, Quay Street, Orford, IP12 2NU

Single storey rear extension with balcony above (to replace existing decking area/balcony) and minor internal alterations.

The Council had no objections to this proposal.

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

DC/24/1888/TCA – 55 Church Street, Orford, IP12 2NT

1no. Willow (T1 on plan) – Fell

The council had no objections to this proposal.

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

DC/24/1651/FUL – Farriers, Broad Street, Orford, IP12 2NT

Demolition of a shed and erection of a single storey bike and garden store along the side of the property. Erection of a bin store and a log store at the front of the property with the removal of the yew hedge.

Cllr King commented that currently the log and bin store would be hidden by the hedge, but when this is removed it will be visible. The shed is just going to be longer. Where is the Village Green?

Cllr Iliff commented that the Village Green is the other side of the Yew hedge, as that appears to be the boundary.

Cllr Thornton added that as other houses have similar along the front this is not affecting the Village Green, therefore there is not a problem with this proposal.

The Council had no objection to this proposal.

ACTIOB: Clerk to inform East Suffolk Council of the Council's decision.

Other notifications:

11. Parish Council Business: -

1. Re-adoption of Complaints Procedure, Privacy Statement, Data Retention Policy

It was agreed by all to readopt the above policies.

2. Adoption of the New Financial Regulations.

It was agreed by all the Council to adopt the New Financial Regulations as recommended by SALC.

3. Co-option of a Councillor.

Cllr Macro reported that there were two applicants for the Councillor vacancy. After some discussion it was agreed to co-opt Stuart Moss and ask the other candidate if we may continue to hold his details until another vacancy arises.

ACTION: The Clerk to inform Stuart Moss and the other applicant of the Councils decision.

4. Annual Parish Meeting

Cllr Macro asked if anyone has any suggestions as to how to encourage more people to attend the APM.

Cllr King suggested that the Council offers refreshments.

Cllr Dunlop said that the meeting should be publicised more.

Cllr Iliff commented that if there was something controversial in the village then people would attend.

Cllr Dunlop suggested that you may find someone to give a talk of interest to the village.

Cllr Macro said that these suggestions could be considered for the next meeting.

5. Beech Tree, Quay Street

The Clerk reported that it had been brought to her attention that one of the Beech Trees in Quay Street did not look very healthy. Tim Will was contacted, and he inspected the tree. He suggested that the deadwood may be removed, the tree would look very odd for a while, but it may give the tree a few more years. The cost of this would be £180.

Cllr Thorton asked if the PC should ask Tim how long he thought the tree would have, and ask if the tree was in his garden what would he do.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Tim Will and ask his opinion about the safety and the longevity of the tree.

12. Correspondence

Resident – neighbours garden

The Clerk reported that someone had been to the office to discuss the Councils view of their neighbour's garden. The garden was full of artificial flowers and ornaments. The Clerk did explain that the Council would consider the comment but as the flowers etc were contained in the garden, there would not be much that the PC could do.

This was agreed by all the Councillors, as it was not an issue for the Council.

13. Items for next meeting:

Items included at the next meeting as in the minutes, and Parish Council representatives on outside bodies.

14. Date of next meeting: 10th July 2024.

Meeting closed at 8.04pm.