

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the 286th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall.

Present: Cllr Anne Macro (Chair)	Cllr Gary Wingrove (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Margaret Green	Cllr Ian Thornton
Cllr Mary Iliff	Cllr Valerie Dunlop
Cllr Stuart Moss	Cllr Sheila Stoker
Cllr Craig Ambury	

In Attendance 0 members of the public and the Clerk, Marie Backhouse.

Opening remarks

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

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

2. Apologies for absence:

Andrew Reid, Cllr Greenwell, Cllr Addy and Cllr Howard.

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 285th Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 12th February 2025 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

A couple of small amendments were agreed and the appropriate changes made before signing.

7. Matters arising from the 285th Parish Council meeting held on the 12th February 2025.

7.1 Friends Garage Update – Cllr Wingrove commented that there are no updates as planning permission has yet to be signed off.

7.2 Alde & Ore – Cllr Wingrove commented that there are no updates.

7.3 Footpath in Quay Street – The Clerk confirmed that an email had been sent to Birketts agreeing to pay SCC directly for the information regarding Quay Street. A further chasing email has been sent, but no response received.

ACTION: Clerk to continue to monitor the emails from Birketts.

Cllr Green arrived at 7.07pm.

7.4 Village Project – Cllr Macro reported that an email from the Highways Engineer has been received, this states that there are only two gullies on the south side of the pond and a possible one on the north side of the pond. This is the only information that SCC has on the pond drainage.

Cllr Ambury said that he could ask the approved Highways contractor to take a look at the pond, but since the gullies have been cleared, the flooding problem seems to be improved. It was agreed by all to monitor the village pond area and if a problem with flooding should occur, then further investigation from the approved contractors would be sought.

7.5 Affordable Housing – Cllr Wingrove reported that he is trying to organise a meeting with CAS but the representative is on annual leave at the moment.

ACTION: Cllr Wingrove to arrange a meeting with CAS.

7.6 Community Partnership – Cllr Dunlop commented that there is no meeting until April. A survey from the Community Partnership requested information about what the parish would want from the group, this has been completed.

Cllr Iliff commented that the survey answers should be liaised with the office.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain a copy of the survey response from the Community Partnership.

7.7 Road sweeping and drain clearing – Cllr Macro commented that the road sweeping appears to be done and the clearing of the drains.

Cllr Ambury said that the road sweeper only appears to have cleared one side of Munday's Lane.

7.8 VE Day – Cllr Macro reported that the Fish & chip company had confirmed that they are happy to sell on the market square that evening. Funding is being sourced for the food so that this may be free for residents. Pudding will be supplied by The Mixing Bowl and some background music from that era will be played. The evening will be rounded off with the lighting of the beacon.

8. Contributions by members of the public.

None

9. Finance

9.1 Authorisation for payment sheet – There are two payments to authorise: Parkwood Garden Services (Mole catching) - £200, Unity Trust Bank (monthly charge) – £6.00, Total £206.00.

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

Income – none

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

9.2 Increase in rent of office space – The Councillors agreed the additional cost of the office rent. The increase is from £1600 to £1800, this is the first increase since 2011.

9.3 Asset Register – Cllr Thornton commented that the asset register does not show depreciation. After some discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should gain clarification from SALC regarding the asset register before approval at the next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to contact SALC regarding the depreciation on the asset register and report back at the next meeting.

9.4 Internal Control Statement – The Clerk reported that the questions at the back of the policy had been completed. The Councillors all agreed the statement. Cllr Stoker agreed to meet with the Clerk to discuss the internal control statement and report back to the full Council should there be a need.

10. Planning

DC/25/0719/FUL – East Quay Cottage, Quay Street, Orford, IP12 2NU

Installation of 2 No. roof lights within the rear roof slope, including 1 No. conservation roof light and 1 No. Velux cabrio balcony roof light.

It was agreed by all to have no objections to this proposal.

ACTION: Clerk to submit the response to ESC.

Other notifications:

11. Parish Council Business: -

1. **Village Feast** – The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with the band and they have disbanded for the foreseeable future. Suggestions have been made of an alternative band and a message has been sent to them requesting their availability. The Clerk will also speak with the Chair of the Sports and Social Club to see if they have any suggestions of a suitable band. Confirmation of the bar and the food will be made.

12. Correspondence

Orford Open Gardens – Cllr Macro said that an email had been received requesting the approval of some temporary signage around the village from the 17th April to the 26th May. It was agreed by all to allow the temporary signage as this was a fund raising event for the Church.

13. Items for next meeting:

As minutes state, end of year accounts, AGAR

14. Date of next meeting: 9th April 2025.

Meeting closed at 7.27pm.