

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

E-mail: orfordtownhall@btconnect.com

Minutes of the 207th meeting of Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
held on Wednesday 12th April 2017 at 7.00pm in the New Room of the Town Hall

Present: Cllr Anne Macro (Chairman)	Cllr Derick Brenchley
Cllr Richard Mallett	Cllr Michael Finney
Cllr Peter Smith	Cllr Margaret Green
Cllr Ian Thornton	Cllr Michelle Golder
Cllr James Robinson	Cllr Jonnie Howard
Cllr Mary Iliff	

In Attendance, Marie Backhouse (Clerk).

Opening remarks

Public Forum

There was a group of people from the AOEP to give a presentation re enabling development sites and one other member of the public.

Sir Edward Greenwell informed the Councillors that the flood defences are important and the need to keep them in good condition is crucial as it affects many people and businesses. Around 25 miles of defences need to be upgraded or repaired. The stretch along Orford, Gedgrave and Sudbourne are the largest, 16 km. £12million needs to be found to fund this; £2million of this has been found. Farmers and land owners would be the hardest hit, also tourism. AOEP has formed a charity and £5million has been found by the landowners. 15 people in this area have already offered sites for the enabling development but not all of these have been suitable. The area ranges from Friston to Boyton. It is hoped that £5-6million will be raised by the enabling development. Support is needed from the Parish Council, it is hoped that they agree with the sites. The defences were very important years ago with many men working to keep them up to a high standard. The AOEP are looking for high value sites, which will raise a lot of money for the defences.

Charles Curry-Hyde explained that currently they are appraising the sites in the village. It is important to have the comments from the councillors on what they think to the sites. Bawdsey built low value houses which were of little help to the defences. Orford has offered 1 acre sites. The sites are in Raydon Lane, Mill Broadway (opposite the telephone exchange), Newton Broadway and Ipswich Road (which is currently being discounted). All the sites are 5 metres above the flood plain. Raydon Lane site is alongside the existing houses; it is a single house site; it would involve the diversion of the footpath. All these developments cannot be used as a springboard for others in the area. The trust is selling land with development approval – not actually doing the building. They also propose a low scale building.

Newton Broadway site is alongside the existing bungalow on the Gedgrave side; the track would be upgraded to a single track with passing places. They would suggest a similar build to the existing bungalows. The view from the Castle should not be affected.

Cllr M Finney suggested that a lot of heavy vehicles use this track and these should not be diverted through the village.

Mill Broadway site is also a 1 acre site; keeping the building near the existing properties.

Cllr M Finney commented that none of the sites are isolated they are all near to the village boundary.

Charles Curry-Hyde said that this is better for planning.

Cllr P Smith asked if the new developments will generate the upgrade needed for the sewage works.

Charles Curry-Hyde replied that these properties could run stand alone with septic tanks. There are also sites in Butley, Chillesford and Iken. The process will be quickly done. It will go on the open market both local and nationally. The charity will be the vendor. The sites may be bought by a developer, who would then offer a package with the house.

Sir Edward Greenwell commented that they are hoping to see the planning department in early May; wide community support is needed; an open afternoon could be held to reach the wider community although the PC could pass this around and comment that it is a benefit to the village. Cllr P Smith asked if this is a long term solution.

Sir Edward Greenwell replied that the defences should withstand the expected water rises, although the water may flow over them the walls will still remain in place.

Cllr J Howard commented that we are concerned with the need for affordable houses and your knowledge of this process could help us.

Cllr A Macro thanked everyone for attending.

MINUTES

1. Reports from Representatives

1. County Councillor Andrew Reid.

A report was circulated to all Councillors, and was summarised by Andrew Reid.

2. District Councillor Ray Herring

Absent and no report sent.

2. Apologies for absence:

Cllr M Smy

3. Declarations of interest:

Cllr J Howard – neighbour to Bell House, (planning).

4. Applications for dispensation:

None

5. It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the 206th Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th March 2017 be accepted as a true record.

6. Matters arising from the 206th Parish Council Meeting held on 8th March 2017.

Cllr P Smith reported that Jack O Sullivan was surprised that the village boundary has been changed. Greg Dodds and Jack O Sullivan are keen to support the area of land near Mill Close for affordable housing but it will be held back until 2020 due to the enabling development taking priority. One important consideration is the need to establish demand for the affordable housing.

7. Finance

7.1 The Council received, noted and approved the cheques and balances from 1st March – 31st March 2017.

Cllr I Thornton asked if the bank statement could have the item written on it that the cheque was issued for.

7.2 The Councillors approved the internal audit questionnaire for Heelis & Lodge.

8. Planning

DC/17/1018/FUL – Barn Cottage, Front Street, Orford

This was a request to convert the existing garden outbuilding into additional living accommodation.

Cllr J Howard commented that this is just a conversion of an existing outbuilding.

The Councillors had no objection to this proposal.

DC/17/1250/FUL & 1251/LBC – Bell House, Quay Street, Orford

This was a request for alterations to modern parts of existing grade 2 listed house; enclose link under existing glass roof and add projecting bay window to study, add glazed doors and pantiles to form a summer house and garden room in existing store.

Cllr M Iliff commented that all of the work is at the back of the property.

The Councillors had no objection to this proposal.

9. Parish Council Business:-

(1) Recreation Ground Track

Cllr A Macro read out a quote from D Worne to level the recreation ground track and cover with road planings, this includes car park and the site outside the gate.

The total cost for this was £1850.

Cllr A Macro suggested that we ask the Sports & Social Club for a donation towards the cost.

Cllr I Thornton commented that a second like for like quote should be gained from Kerway.

Clerk to contact Kerway and the Sports and Social Club.

(2) Quote to repair the gates around the play area.

Cllr A Macro read out a quote from Kiwi to repair the gates on the children's play area; and to replace a post on the kissing gate as you enter the recreation ground. The cost was £80.

The quote from MJT was for £400, but this included new posts etc.

The Councillors agreed to accept the quote from Kiwi.

Clerk to contact Kiwi.

(3) Re-adopt the Standing Orders

Cllr A Macro asked if everyone had seen the Standing Orders email and that there was no change from last year.

Cllr M Finney proposed that we adopt the Standing Orders and this was seconded by Cllr P Smith, and agreed by all.

(4) Update of meeting with J Cheney and A Golder

The Clerk reported that she had met with both Jon and Ancy.

Jon said that everything was going well, but could he possibly have some workwear. Also, he currently deals with weeds outside the town hall but he was wondering how far he should weed down Bakers Lane. This was discussed by the Councillors and they agreed that we should provide Jon and Ancy with a pair of overalls; also Jon should weed to the end of the town hall garden wall.

Ancy said that everything was fine and he did not have any problems.

Cllr A Macro reported that the handle had broken on the strimmer that is used by the grounds man and this had been taken away to be repaired. The cost to repair was £40-60, and the cost for a new one of the same standard was £400-£450.

It was agreed by all to repair the existing strimmer.

(5) Parking in the village and Quay Street Car Park

Cllr A Macro reported that Jeremy Rugge-Price had been into the office to report the amount of inconsiderate parking in the village at the weekend. He was concerned that if an emergency vehicle needed to go around the Market Square it would not be able to negotiate the parked cars. He suggested that we use some kind of mobile barrier that could be placed on the side of the road which would prevent people from parking there.

The Councillors discussed his concerns, but felt that the Police should be notified.

The Clerk had emailed the Police concerning a report that they had sent regarding the speeding cars on the car park. In this email the Clerk also mentioned the parking, Sgt Scott Callum agreed to notify his officers and arrange for them to place this on their rota for the area so that it could be monitored.

10. **Correspondence**

- **Louise Quirke**

Cllr A Macro read out a letter from Louise Quirke supporting the affordable housing in the village. Louise explained her own personal circumstances and wished to support the need for basic one bedroom affordable properties within the village.

Clerk to write a response stating the current housing lists in the village, Bakers Lane and Peacocks Pyghtle.

- **Audrey Boyle**

Cllr A Macro read out an email from Audrey Boyle as she has requested that we consider another defibrillator to be held in the town hall. This was discussed by all the Councillors and they felt that the amount of defibrillators we have in the village is sufficient; as there is one outside the Fire Station, one on the Fire Engine, one at the Surgery and two with the First Responders.

Clerk to contact Audrey Boyle.

- **Shaun Green**

Cllr A Macro read out an email from Shaun Green regarding the payment of the site near the Castle for the mobile Fish 'n' Chip. The tender/rent for this site has been an historic payment for many years. The fish and chip van is a good amenity for the village, and it is important that we support this in preserving it for the village.

Cllr M Iliff said that the track was not mentioned in the 1922 Sudbourne Estate Sale which therefore suggests that it should belong to the Parish Council. The track is used for a right of access for the farmer to his fields.

It was agreed by all the Councillors that a couple of the Councillors should visit Shaun Green and discuss this.

11. **Items for next meeting:**

12. **Date of next meeting: 10/05/17 at 7.00pm**

26/05/17 Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) Date _____