



ST OSYTH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall, St Osyth on Thursday 16th March 2017 at 7.15 pm

PRESENT: Chairman: Cllr. Sonia Grantham, Vice-Chairman: Cllr. John Kemp
Cllr's Alma Blockley, David Cooper, Ray French, Mandy Kelly,
Jean Smith, Tony Smith, Michael Talbot, Michele Thomas,
Julie Ward & John White

Cllr. Alan Goggin, Essex County Councillor (Arrived at 8.45 pm)

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Colleen Peverell

MINUTES: Neil Williams

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

G-16-220 ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIRMAN:

The Chairman began the meeting by welcoming back Cllr. Talbot from his convalescence and by offering condolences to Cllr. White following a death in the family.

G-16-221 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

The Chairman advised Councillors, that under Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, they had a responsibility to declare any Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests in any matter to be discussed.

G-16-222 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

	APPLICATION & ADDRESS	PROPOSAL
a)	17/00164/FUL Mr Steve Clarke (Agent) Byrher, St Cleres Hall Lane St Osyth	Extension to porch to include a toilet. No objections.
b)	17/00195/FUL 17/00196/LBC Miss N Ramanuj Spar Shop 1 Spring Road St Osyth	Proposed single storey extension (following demolition of existing timber framed outbuilding together with removal of existing garage doors and span of external wall). No objections.
c)	17/00308/FUL Mr & Mrs J Lynn 55 Mill Street St Osyth	Single storey rear extension, new dormers to rear alternative to planning approval 16/01599/FUL. No objections.
d)	17/00148/LUEX Mr J Hull 3 – 4 Seaview Parade Seaview Road, St Osyth	Siting of mobile homes. No objections.

G-16-223 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLVED: That having been previously circulated, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council of 16th February 2017 be verified for accuracy by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Thomas and seconded by Cllr. Cooper. All agreed.

G-16-224 UPDATE ON SUMMARY OF ACTION:

- a. G-16-204 i. The Clerk informed the Council that Cllr. Peverell had provided details of the local landowners, over whose land the footpaths crossed. He continued that letters would be sent to those landowners inviting comment on the proposal for a cycle path.
- b. G-16-206 a ii. The Clerk informed the Council that correspondence from Essex Police in respect of the Strategy for Proactive Policing was contained within their agenda packs.
- c. G-16-207 e. Cllr. Kemp informed the Council that the request for a reflector at the entrance to the Village Hall would be raised again at the meeting scheduled for 3rd April 2017.
- d. G-16-210. The Clerk confirmed that Cllr. Cooper's details had been forwarded to the Almshouse Charity.
- e. G-16-211. The Clerk informed the Council that he had written to Ian Davidson, Tendring District Council (TDC) CEO in respect of Street Trading and that he [the Clerk] was awaiting a response.
- f. G-16-219 a. The Clerk informed the Council that he had produced signs for dog fouling as requested. Cllr. French informed the Council that he had not yet displayed any of the signs as the problem of dogs being allowed to foul the pavements had for the time being ceased.

G-16-225 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

G-16-226 CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Tendring District Council (TDC) Notification of Decisions (Determinations) 10th February 2017 to 3rd March 2017.
- b. Correspondence from Mrs J Myers regarding appreciation of the Parish Council.
- c. Correspondence from Essex County Council regarding Roadworks.
- d. Correspondence between St Osyth Parish Council and Essex Police regarding Policing Strategy.
- e. Correspondence between St Osyth Parish Council and Tendring District Council regarding Street Trading.

- f. Correspondence between Mr D Keeble and Tendring District Council regarding winter occupation of Holiday Parks.

G-16-227 REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS:

- a. **Blooms in St Osyth:** The Chairman informed the Council that tenders had been sent to a number of contractors, for the maintenance of the blooms, flowerbeds and troughs. The Chairman continued that having assessed the quotations, a local gardener had been selected, subject to the receipt of suitable references.
- b. **Highways Working Party:** The notes of the meeting of 27th February 2017 with Ben Cook, Essex County Highways Asset Strategy & Policy Manager, having been previously circulated, the Chairman invited questions from those present. None were forthcoming.
- c. **Martins Farm Country Park:** The notes of the meeting of 16th February 2017 having been previously circulated, the Chairman invited questions from those present. None were forthcoming.
- d. **Playground, Youth & Open Spaces Working Party:** The Clerk informed the Council that the installation of the new activity tower was ongoing. He continued that someone had climbed over the security fencing and having climbed on the tower, had caused the unit to become misaligned whilst the concrete was setting. The Clerk added that he had requested that the fault be rectified; however, it had yet to be ascertained who would be responsible for any costs incurred. The Clerk concluded by informing the Council that he had registered a provisional claim with the Councils insurance company, pending a decision.

G-16-228 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **Essex Police:** Having been previously circulated, the Council reviewed the Crime statistics for January 2017.
 - i) Cllr. Kelly informed the Council of offences within Point Clear by location and where practicable the status of the investigation.
 - ii) Cllr. Cooper informed the Council of offences within St Osyth by location and where practicable the status of the investigation.

Owing to the number of offences listed as being 'not in the public interest' or 'unable to prosecute', the Clerk was requested to write to Chief Inspector Cole, to ascertain the reason for such wording.

- b. **Footpaths:** No report given.
- c. **Planters & Litter Bins:** Cllr. Ward informed the Council that the bins in the Conservation Area were to be cleaned and polished in the near future.

- d. **Tree Warden:** Cllr. French informed the Council that three trees had been planted at the Clacton Road entrance to the village, and that he intended to plant more wild flowers at the entrances to the village. The Chairman informed the Council that a letter and photographs had been forwarded to Essex County Council, requesting that the dead trees and overgrown vegetation along Colchester Road be cut back. The Chairman added that a number of trees were frequently being hit by high sided vehicles.
- e. **TDALC:** Cllr. Talbot reported that the next meeting of the Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC) was scheduled for Wednesday 22nd March 2017, with the next meeting of the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) scheduled for Thursday 23rd March 2017. Cllr. Talbot continued that he would report on both meetings at the April meeting of the Council.
- f. **District Council Report:** Cllr. Talbot reported that the majority of recent Council business had focused on the Budget for 2017/18, a report on which would feature in the April edition of the Parish Magazine. Cllr. Talbot informed those present of the Council Tax requirements for the following year:
- i) Band A property would pay £1,066.21;
 - ii) Band B property would pay £1,243.91;
 - iii) Band C property would pay £1,421.61;
 - iv) Band D property would pay £1,599.31;
 - v) Band E property would pay £1,954.71;
 - vi) Band F property would pay £2,310.11;
 - vii) Band G property would pay £2,665.52;
 - viii) Band H property would pay £3,198.62.

One internal issue which was focusing the Councils attention was the way in which Members were appointed to Committees. The next Council would receive a report, which was confidential at this time.

- g. **Parish Website:** Cllr. Talbot reported that he could not provide statistics as the link to the previous host had been terminated. He added that future statistics would have to be provided by the new host.
- h. **Community Speed Watch:** Cllr. Kemp gave an overview of the recent meeting held on 9th March 2017, at Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters.

At the request of the Chairman, Cllr. Cooper gave a breakdown of the statistics:

Between 13th February 2017 and 13th March 2017, there were 30 occurrences of drivers speeding in the village, with an average speed of 39.3 mph.

1. Clacton Road:
11 recordings with an average speed of 40.2 mph
2. Mill Street:
19 recordings with an average speed of 38.5 mph

Total for St Osyth: 30 recordings (average speed of 39.3 mph)

G-16-229 REPORTS FROM NOMINATED TRUSTEESHIPS REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **St Osyth Almshouse Charity:** Cllr. White reminded the Council of an incident which had occurred before Christmas 2016, during which a tenant had been assaulted and a window of an Almshouse had been smashed. He continued that no action had been taken against the person responsible as the Police had reported that restitution would be made for the damage. Cllr. White concluded by informing the Council that he would be writing to the Police as to date no payment had been received.
- b. **Bradwell Power Station:** Cllr. White reported that the next meeting of the Bradwell Nuclear Power Station Local Community Liaison Council was scheduled for 7th June 2017.
- c. **Colne Estuary Partnership:** Nothing to report.
- d. **St Osyth Playing Field Charity:** Cllr. Thomas reported the following:
 - i) That Barry Comer, a member of the Village Hall Management Committee had recently repaired the toilet cistern and shower in the officials' changing room.
 - ii) That the installation of the new shutters had been completed.
 - iii) That the doors were in need of adjustment as although secure, they allowed water into the building when the wind and rain were in a certain direction.
 - iv) That repairs to the guttering and installation of spikes to prevent access to the roof was pending.
 - v) That there was a need for the installation of a light overlooking the path leading from the Pavilion to the War Memorial.
 - vi) That the decking would be treated to prevent the surface becoming increasingly slippery.
 - vii) That on 21st March 2017 the Chairman would be meeting with representatives of the Orchards Holiday Park to discuss tasks with which they would be willing to assist the Council. This would primarily be the clearance of the substation and cutting back of vegetation along the southern boundary, particularly nettles.

viii) Following reports of a car accessing the park via the permissive footpath at the rear of the houses on The Bury, a removable bollard had been ordered which Peter Bond had kindly offered to install.

e. **Point Clear Community Association:** Nothing to report.

f. **Village Hall Management Committee:** Cllr. Kemp informed the Council that the next meeting of the Management Committee was scheduled for Monday 3rd April 2017.

G-16-230 FINANCE:

a. Approval of payments as per the circulated lists were agreed by the Council.

b. The following balances were noted and agreed:

Current a/c	£ 70,570.70
Deposit	£ 49,780.82
Special Project	£ 3,016.15

G-16-231 POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

Details of the Public Consultation (Local Case for Change) having been previously circulated, the Clerk requested that any comments be forwarded to him, so that he could prepare a response on behalf of the Council. The Clerk reminded Councillors that the closing date for the consultation was 10th May 2017.

G-16-232 BUS TIMETABLES:

The Chairman reminded the Council that a number of the recently replaced bus stop poles, whilst having the necessary brackets, did not have a timetable displayed. The Chairman continued that with the exception of one bus stop near the NISA Local in Clacton Road, only the bus shelters had timetables displayed. Following a discussion as to how residents were supposed to establish the bus times, it was agreed that Cllr. Kelly write to the bus companies to ascertain the responsibility for the displaying of timetables.

G-16-233 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES (ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL):

Having arrived at 8.45 pm due to attending the Ordinary meeting of Brightlingsea Town Council, Cllr. Goggin gave an overview of the County Councils budget, and discussed the forthcoming meeting of the Local Highways Panel, to be held on 23rd March 2017.

G-16-234 ST OSYTH BROOK – WILLOW PLANTATION:

The Council discussed recent correspondence from a resident of Spring Road in respect of the clearance of silt from St Osyth Brook, in the area of the Cricket Bat Plantation.

The Council agreed to endorse the recommendation of Essex Wildlife Trust that no desilting take place for the time being. The Clerk was requested to notify the resident of the recommendation.

G-16-235 FOOTPATHS:

The Chairman reminded the Council that letters would be sent to those landowners inviting comment on the proposal for a cycle path.

G-16-236 ANNUAL PARISH REPORT:

The Clerk thanked Councillors for their contributions and produced a copy of the report to be included in the Parish Magazine.

G-16-237 VILLAGE CAR PARK:

The Chairman gave an overview of a recent meeting with representatives of the North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group, during which the policy for the provision of Health Centres was discussed.

G-16-238 EMERGENCY PLAN AND FLOOD PLAN:

The draft Emergency Plan and Flood Plan having been previously circulated, the Chairman thanked the Clerk for his work in preparing both documents, the latter of which the Chairman stated was very useful and informative. The Clerk added that extracts of the Flood Plan could be displayed on the Councils website and social media accounts. He continued that during the summer he would draft an entry for inclusion in the Parish Magazine, which would provide useful information as well as suggesting that residents in areas such as Point Clear Bay and Seawick sign up for the Environment Agency Flood Warning Scheme, if they had not already done so.

Cllr. Goggin informed the Council that during the recent tidal surge, Brightlingsea Town Council had made a request to Essex Highways that the street lights remain on throughout the night. The Chairman requested that this be incorporated into the St Osyth Flood Plan.

Cllr. Kelly stated that there were a number of typographical errors. The Clerk requested that these be highlighted, after which he would produce corrected copies for all Councillors.

G-16-239 PRIORY COSTS CLAIM:

Having received a breakdown of the costs being claimed by the Sargeant family, the Chairman gave an overview of recent events, adding that the cost lawyers for both the Parish Council and Save Our St Osyth (S.O.S) would be meeting with the appellants cost lawyer on Friday 17th March 2017. The unanimous consensus of the Council was that only the costs relating to the Council's claim of deliberate neglect should be recoverable by the Sargeant family.

G-16-240 ST OSYTH PRIORY:

The Chairman informed the Council of the recent meeting with Cath Bicknell, Head of TDC planning, which she had attended with the Clerk, at which the proposed Section 106 Agreement was discussed. The Chairman continued that a number of points had been raised, which Cath Bicknell had stated she would clarify.

The Chairman informed the Council that she wanted to see the aims and objectives of the trust formed by the Sargeant family. A number of Councillors raised concern as to the name of the trust: St Osyth Priory and Parish Trust, which could be taken to include the Council.

G-16-241 FURTHER MATTERS:

- a. The Chairman informed the Council of recent incidents whereby residents of Clacton Road and hirers of the Village Hall had been subjected to abuse and harassment by local youths. The Chairman added that the matter had been reported to the Police.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.20 pm.

Summary of 'Action Required' from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 16th March 2017		
G-16-228 a	Recorded Offences	Clk to write to Essex Police
G-16-229 a	Almshouse Charity	Cllr. White to write to Essex Police
G-16-232	Bus Timetables	Cllr. Kelly to contact Bus Companies
G-16-235	Footpaths	Clk to write to Landowners
G-16-238	Inclusion of Street Lights to be included in Flood Plan	Clk to Action
G-16-238	Typographical Errors	Cllr. Kelly to identify

Signature: Signed on Original
SW Grantham
Chairman