



ST OSYTH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall, St Osyth on Thursday 20th April 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,
Colleen Peverell, Jean Smith, Michael Talbot, Michele Thomas &
Julie Ward

Cllr. Alan Goggin, Essex County Councillor (Arrived at 8.25 pm)

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Tony Smith (Work Commitment)
Cllr. John White (Tendring District Council (TDC) meeting)

MINUTES: Neil Williams

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

G-17-001 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.

Cllr. Peverell declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in respect of Planning Applications 17/00357/OUT and 17/00376/FUL.

Cllr. Peverell declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in respect of St Osyth Priory.

G-17-002 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

	APPLICATION & ADDRESS	PROPOSAL
a)	17/00357/OUT R Gibson and Sons Land to South of Heath Road St Osyth	Outline planning application for three detached dwellings. Councillors raised a number of objections, which included concerns as to the size of the plot, which was considered to be too small in relation to the number of proposed properties. Following a vote, the Council voted 7 to 3 against, with 1 Councillor abstaining.
b)	17/00376/FUL Mr & Mrs S Copsey Longcroft Cottage Bentley Road, Weeley	Single storey pitched roof side extension. No objections.
c)	17/00404/TCA Mr R Vigus 6 The Bury St Osyth	6 No. Leylandii - Reduce in height to 3m approx. Approved by delegated decision on 11 th April 2017

d)	17/00442/OUT Mr C Beaumont Land off Castle Way St Osyth	Proposed five detached dwellings and garages. Objections on the basis that, if approved, this application would be deemed as significant over development of site which has very limited access from Colchester Road.
e)	17/00377/FUL Mr Alan Green Greenspeed Autostylists Unit 1, Norwood Lodge Bentley Road, Weeley	Change of use of B8 storage unit to vehicle body repairs and paint spraying. No objections.
f)	17/00471/FUL Messrs Sargeant St Osyth Priory The Bury, St Osyth	Proposed new stores. No objections.
g)	17/00472/FUL Mr R.A, T.R, D.R & A.I Sargeant St Osyth Priory The Bury St Osyth	New brick substation, generator and subterranean gas tank. Whilst in principle the Parish Council would have no objection to this application, there are a number of questions which the Council would like answered before an informed decision could be made. These include: Will the development contain a subterranean gas governor valve or a subterranean gas tank? If the latter, what will be the size of the subterranean gas tank? What provisions will be made to limit noise from the site? The Parish Council note that the site will be screened from the west and north, but would be visible from Mill Street. The Council would therefore request that if granted, a condition of approval be that the site should be screened from view from Mill Street.
h)	17/00547/OUT Mr R Smith Land to North of Martins Gate Cottage Colchester Road, St Osyth	Erection of one detached dwelling. No objections.

G-17-003 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLVED: That having been previously circulated, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council of 16th March 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. Peverell and seconded by Cllr. Thomas. All agreed.

G-17-004 UPDATE ON SUMMARY OF ACTION:

- a. G-16-228 a. The Clerk informed the Council that he had received confirmation from Essex Police as to certain phrases used in respect of reported crimes.
The Clerk continued that this would be discussed during the course of the meeting.
- b. G-16-229 a. The Clerk informed the Council that although Cllr. White had written to Essex Police in respect of the incident in December 2016, whereby a window had been smashed and the occupant assaulted, he [the Clerk] did not know whether a response had been received.
- c. G-16-232. The Clerk informed the Council that Cllr. Kelly had written to First Buses, who in turn had confirmed that the responsibility for the supply of bus timetables was that of Essex County Council (ECC). The Chairman added that the County Council had been requested to clarify its policy for the provision of timetables, but that to date no response had been received.
- d. G-16-235. The Clerk informed the Council that he would be writing to the landowners, over whose land public footpaths crossed, by the end of April 2017.
- e. G-16-238. The Clerk informed the Council that having received the list of typographical errors contained within the Emergency Plan and Flood Plan from Cllr. Kelly, he would make the necessary amendments, which would include the requirement for street lights to remain lit during emergency resilience situations.

G-17-005 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

G-17-006 CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Tendring District Council (TDC) Notification of Decisions (Determinations) 10th March 2017 to 7th April 2017.
- b. Correspondence from the National Association of Local Council (NALC) regarding Parish Precepts.
- c. Correspondence between St Osyth Parish Council, local Holiday Parks and Mobile Home Movements regarding the transportation of mobile homes.
- d. Correspondence between St Osyth Parish Council and Essex County Council regarding provision of superfast broadband.
- e. Report by Mr AH Kenny on the meeting of Brightlingsea Harbour Community Group.
- f. Report by Mr John Gili-Ross, Chairman of the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC).

G-17-007 REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS:

- a. **Blooms in St Osyth:** The Chairman informed the Council that a contract had been offered and that the watering had begun. The Chairman continued that the daffodils had been spectacular and that along with Cllr's Thomas and Ward, she had 'deadheaded' the daffodils at the Colchester Road entrance to the village.

Cllr. French confirmed that together with his wife, he would 'deadhead' the daffodils at the Clacton Road entrance.

- b. **Highways Working Party:** Nothing to report.
- c. **Martins Farm Country Park:** The Chairman informed the Council that the next meeting was scheduled for 27th April 2017.
- d. **Playground, Youth & Open Spaces Working Party:** At the request of the Chairman the Clerk gave a PowerPoint presentation showing the recently installed play equipment at Cowley Park. Cllr. Ward informed the Council that quotations had been received for the repainting of the existing equipment at Cowley Park, which would be discussed by the Finance Committee.

G-17-008 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **Essex Police:** Having been previously circulated, the Council reviewed the Crime statistics for February 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.
- iii) Having requested confirmation from Essex Police as to certain phrases used in respect of reported crimes, the Clerk provided the following information:
- a) Formal Action is not in the Public Interest
- Doubt as to validity of evidence
 - Difficulty in proving offence
 - Offender not known (prior conviction)
 - Offender of no interest
 - Cost of prosecution would be more than value of item stolen or damaged
- b) Unable to Prosecute Suspect
- Lack of evidence
 - Evidence does not fulfil Points to Prove
 - Victim refuses / declines to give evidence
 - Complaint withdrawn (not in public interest)
 - Offender under age of criminal responsibility

- b. **Footpaths:** Cllr. Peverell reported that she would be liaising with Jim Bartley, ECC Public Right of Way (PRoW) Engineer, concerning the need for improvement at the beginning of Footpath 5, adjacent to Mill Street, and the need for repairs to Footpath 25.
- 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:** The Chairman informed the Council that having written and provided photographs to ECC concerning the dead trees and overgrown vegetation along Colchester Road, she had together with the Clerk inspected the work. The Chairman continued owing to the fact that all of the wood cuttings had been left on the verge she had requested the Clerk to write again requesting they dispose of the cuttings.
- e. **TDALC:** Cllr. Talbot reported that the meeting of the Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC) had taken place on Wednesday 22nd March 2017, during which time the guest speakers had been Roger Hirst, Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex and his Deputy, Jane Gardner. Cllr Talbot continued that a motion had been put forward that trespass on private land be made a criminal offence as opposed to a civil offence. This motion had subsequently been put to the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) at its meeting held on Thursday 23rd March 2017, and having been agreed, would now be considered for a policy recommendation by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).
- f. **District Council Report:** Cllr. Talbot reported that he would be attending a meeting on Wednesday 26th April, at which the subject of fly-tipping and ways in which to combat it would be discussed.

Cllr. Talbot reminded the Council of the internal issue of how Members were appointed to Committees. This would be resolved at the District Councils Annual General Meeting, scheduled for Tuesday 25th April 2017.

- g. **Parish Website:** Cllr. Talbot reported that he could not provide statistics as the link to the previous host had been terminated.
- h. **Community Speed Watch:**
 - i) At the request of the Chairman, Cllr. Cooper gave a breakdown of the statistics:

Between 13th March 2017 and 17th April 2017, there were 49 occurrences of drivers speeding in the village, with an average speed of 40.1 mph.

- 1. Clacton Road:
38 recordings with an average speed of 41.3 mph
- 2. Colchester Road:
5 recordings with an average speed of 41.4 mph
- 3. Mill Street:
6 recordings with an average speed of 37.8 mph

Total for St Osyth: 49 recordings (average speed of 40.1 mph)

ii) Cllr. Kemp gave an overview of the meeting held on 9th March 2017, at Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters.

iii) Cllr. French informed all present that during the session on Wednesday 19th April, the frequency of speeding vehicles had been almost one per minute.

iv) The Clerk informed the Council of the new speeding fines which would come into effect on Monday 24th April 2017. The Clerk then provided the following information in respect of speeding in a 30 mph limit:

- a) 31 - 40 mph
 - Level A fine (equivalent to 50% of weekly income)
 - 3 Points
- b) 41 - 50 mph
 - Level B fine (equivalent to 100% of weekly income)
 - 4 - 6 Points
 - 7 - 28 Days Disqualification
- c) 51 mph and over
 - Level C fine (equivalent to 150% of weekly income)
 - 6 Points
 - 7 - 56 Days Disqualification

The Chairman suggested that the information be included in the next edition of the Parish Magazine. All agreed.

G-17-009 REPORTS FROM NOMINATED TRUSTEESHIPS REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **St Osyth Almshouse Charity:** No report given.
- b. **Bradwell Power Station:** No report given.
- c. **Colne Estuary Partnership:** No report given.
- d. **St Osyth Playing Field Charity:** Cllr. Thomas reported the following:
 - i) That a small fire had been lit near the large tree adjacent to the cricket nets. She continued that whilst there had been no damage, she would keep an eye on the area.
 - ii) That following the meeting between the Chairman and representatives of the Orchards Holiday Park to discuss the clearance of the substation and cutting back of vegetation along the southern boundary, Mr Peter Bond had offered to dispose of the cuttings, which would avoid the need to hire a skip.

- e. **Point Clear Community Association:** Nothing to report.
- f. **Village Hall Management Committee:** Cllr. Kemp informed the Council that the quarterly meeting of the Management Committee had taken place on Monday 3rd April 2017. He continued that the Chairman of the Committee was researching suitable bollards / signs for the front of the Hall. The Chairman added that together with the Clerk, she would be meeting with Mr Steve Cole, Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee, on Monday 24th April 2017, to discuss options.

G-17-010 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	£ 38,248.72
Deposit	£ 49,780.82
Special Project	£ 3,016.15

The Chairman informed the Council that although the Current Account balance was considerably less than in March 2017, the grants for the play equipment, totalling some £32,000.00 had yet to be received.

- c. The Minutes of the Finance meeting of 22nd March 2017, having been previously circulated, the Chairman invited comments from the Council. None were forthcoming.

G-17-011 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES (ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL):

Having arrived at 8.25 pm due to attending the Ordinary meeting of Brightlingsea Town Council, Cllr. Goggin informed the Council of the following:

- a. That he had been informed of the recent speech given at a District Council meeting by Cllr. Talbot in respect of Committee membership, which had been judged by many to be the best speech delivered to the Council for a number of years.
- b. Concerns raised with the Environment Agency over the use of Oliver's Wharf, Brightlingsea.
- c. That due to the forthcoming elections for County Councillors, this could be his final meeting with St Osyth Parish Council. He continued that it had been a pleasure to work with the Parish Council, which he felt was an example of how a Parish Council should be run. Cllr. Goggin informed all present of the Hustings which would be held at Brightlingsea Town Hall on Thursday 27th April 2017.

On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman thanked Cllr. Goggin for all he had done to assist the Parish Council and residents of St Osyth, before wishing him luck in the forthcoming elections.

G-17-012 POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

The 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-17-013 ELECTORAL REVIEW OF TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL - WARDING ARRANGEMENTS PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

The Chairman gave an overview of the draft recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission, which could, for election purposes only, see the merger of St Osyth and Point Clear with Little Clacton, giving a total of three Councillors for the enlarged ward.

Having informed the Council of the requirement to respond by Monday 8th May 2017, the Chairman explained that a number of questions had been posed to Karen Neath, TDC Management and Members' Support Manager, however, further questions had arisen, which had yet to be answered.

At the request of the Chairman the Clerk gave a PowerPoint presentation showing the proposed ward, the questions asked of Karen Neath, and a possible solution discussed by Cllr. White and Karen Neath, which would potentially see the inclusion of part of Jaywick Lane and St Johns Road, which would negate the requirement to join with Little Clacton.

Cllr. Talbot subsequently explained that together with Cllr. White, he had, on Friday 31st March 2017, met with Karen Neath, in his capacity as a District Councillor. He continued that the explanation given by the Clerk was not wholly accurate, in that the recommendation being considered would include St Johns Road only, as this would avoid the inclusion of the proposed development at Rouses Lane, which would drastically effect the variance permitted by the Boundary Commission.

G-17-014 ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS:

The record of attendance for Council meetings for 2016/2017 having been previously circulated, the Chairman thanked Councillors for their attendance.

Cllr French informed the Clerk of an error, adding that he had attended last year's Annual Parish Appraisal. The Clerk stated that he would amend the spreadsheet to reflect this.

G-17-015 VILLAGE CAR PARK:

The Chairman informed the Council that following the recent meeting with representatives of the North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group, concerning the provision of a Health Centre, one of the surgeries in the village intended to submit an Expression of Interest to the Clinical Commissioning Group

G-17-016 PRIORY COSTS CLAIM:

The Chairman informed the Council that a further offer had been made to the Sargeant family. The new offer which amounted to £22,699.45, included the previous payment of £15,500.00, but did not include VAT, an issue which was being researched by the Councils costs lawyer.

G-17-017 ST OSYTH PRIORY:

The Chairman informed the Council that the Section 106 Agreement had yet to be signed. The Chairman continued that Cath Bicknell, Head of TDC Planning would shortly be meeting with Shoosmiths to discuss a number of points which the Sargeant family was objecting too.

The Chairman added that despite several requests to the District Council, she had yet to see a copy of the aims and objectives of the St Osyth Priory and Parish Trust.

G-17-018 FURTHER MATTERS:

- a. Cllr. Peverell informed the Council that she had received a number of complaints about the positioning of vehicles advertised for sale, at Pump Hill garage. The Clerk stated that the District Council had already opened an Enforcement Case.

- b. Cllr. Talbot informed the Council of the recent issue of further Notices of Breach of Conditions to residents of Point Clear Bay and the Bel Air Chalet estate. A discussion ensued as to the legalities associated with some of the properties, which had been built prior to the Public Health Act, which was applicable to housing, coming into force in 1936.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.40 pm.

Summary of 'Action Required' from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 20th April 2017		
G-17-004 e	Emergency / Flood Plan	Clk to make amendments
G-17-008 a iii	Essex Police explanation of Crime Related Phrases	Clk to include on Crime Statistics on Quarterly Basis
G-17-008 b	Footpaths 5 & 25	Cllr. Peverell to liaise with ECC
G-17-008 d	Trees along Colchester Road	Clk to write to ECC
G-17-008 h iv	Speeding Fines Information	To be included in Parish Magazine
G-17-012	P&CC Public Consultation	Clk to respond by 10 th May 2017

Signature: Signed on Original
SW Grantham
Chairman