



ST OSYTH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held in the Village Hall, St Osyth on Thursday 15th November 2018 at 7.15 pm

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

Cllr. Alan Goggin, Essex County Councillor (Arrived at 8.30 pm)

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Colleen Peverell (Illness)
Cllr. Jean Smith (Illness)

MINUTES: Neil Williams

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

G-18-143 ADDITIONAL ITEM:

The Chairman requested that time permitting, the Council discuss the meeting of 20th September 2018, with Inspector Darren Deex, Tendring Community Policing Team Inspector. All agreed.

G-18-144 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. Kelly declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in respect of Planning Application 18/01787/LUEX.

G-18-145 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

	APPLICATION & ADDRESS	PROPOSAL
a)	18/00914/FUL Mr R Gibbs Land at Heath Road St Osyth	Erection of a storage shed, and polytunnel/greenhouse for use in conjunction with a market garden. The Parish Council would reaffirm its comments of 20 th August 2018, and add that: There are objections on the basis that despite assurance from the landowner, there is still no evidence of a market garden on this site, either current or historical. Additionally the tracks affording access to and from the site from Clay Lane and Heath Road are deemed to be much narrower than the suggested width of 6 metres.

b)	18/01655/LBC Mr and Mrs P Knight The Old House 27 Spring Road St Osyth	Install an external staircase to first floor on the west side of the existing cart lodge to provide a fire escape. Invalid Application – Application Withdrawn
c)	18/01669/FUL Mr and Mrs E Greig Land at Heath Road St Osyth	Two detached houses, garages, landscaping and access. The Parish Council object to this application on the basis that two previous applications associated with this site, which is outside of the Settlement Development Boundary, one for an aspirational dwelling, the other for up to four dwellings (14/00122/OUT and 17/00112/OUT refer), have been refused as the applicant has been unable to provide evidence of the need for such dwellings, or prove that the proposed dwellings would constitute a sustainable development. Furthermore, the Parish Council would reaffirm its comments of 26 th February 2014, in that this application is little more than an attempt to build a new dwelling in the country, on former agricultural land. There is no need or justification for this property.
d)	18/01787/LUEX Ms Carol Patterson 102 Colne Way Point Clear Bay	The use of the site for permanent residential occupation in breach of condition for a continuous period in excess of 10 years. The Parish Council would possibly support this application, however, notwithstanding the approval of similar applications in recent years, together with the many variations of planning permissions imposed on similar properties, the Parish Council would request that any decision be deferred until such time as the District Council, or Planning Inspectorate, gives an overall decision in respect of the ongoing occupancy issues.
e)	18/01811/AGRIC Mr M Low St Osyth Lodge Farm Clacton Road, St Osyth	Proposed agricultural steel portal framed building. <i>For information only – no comment required.</i>

G-18-146 PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Tendring District Council (TDC) Notification of Decisions (Determinations) 12th October 2018 to 2nd November 2018.

- b. Correspondence from TDC in respect of Planning Appeal APP/P1560/W/18/3196659 (TDC 17/01079/OUT).

G-18-147 PLANNING APPLICATION 18/01476/DETAIL (WELLWICK):

The Chairman reminded the Council that at the meeting on 18th October 2018, the Council had viewed and commented on Planning Application 18/01476/DETAIL.

- a. The Chairman continued that since the Clerk had submitted comments outlining the concerns of the Parish Council with regard to highways related issues associated with the site, she had met with Tim Sargeant, who had informed her that the application was for 'reserved matters' only, the road scheme having already been approved by Essex Highways.
- b. The Chairman added that Mr Sargeant had requested that the Parish Council write to Tendring District Council in order to clarify that there were no objections to the design and layout of the development.
- c. At the request of the Chairman, the Clerk gave an overview of his recent conversation with the Planning Officer overseeing the application, who had confirmed that the concerns of the Parish Council in respect of highways had no bearing on the application itself.
- d. Following a discussion as to the concerns of the Parish Council with regards to road safety, it was agreed that the Clerk write to the Planning Officer, confirming that the Parish Council had no objections to the houses, and that concerns over the proposed road layout would be discussed with the developer.

G-18-148 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLVED: That having been previously circulated, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council of 18th October 2018 be verified for accuracy by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Blockley and seconded by Cllr. Kemp. All agreed.

G-18-149 SUMMARY OF ACTION:

- a. G-18-123 b. The Clerk informed the Council that he had written to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of Planning Appeal APP/P1560/W/18/3202169 (TDC 18/00271/OUT).
- b. G-18-127 d. The Clerk informed the Council that he had amended the notes of the Opens Spaces meeting of 10th October 2018, to read Big Society Fund as opposed to Community Reach Fund.
- c. G-18-128 a i. The Clerk informed the Council that together with Cllr. Cooper, he had prepared a comparison of crime statistics for 2017 and 2018, which would be viewed during the course of the meeting.
- d. G-18-128 b. The Clerk reminded the Council that Cllr. Peverell had agreed to produce a draft map of the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) by 30th November 2018.

- e. G-18-128 h ii. The Clerk informed the Council that he had forwarded information regarding speeding fines to the Chairman, for inclusion in her Report in the Parish Magazine.
- f. G-18-133. The Clerk informed the Council that he had been unable to locate the Forecast of Flooding, as raised by Cllr. White at the previous meeting. Cllr. White confirmed that the information was contained in a document entitled 'Managing the Coast in a Changing Climate'. The Clerk stated that he would obtain a copy and forward to Councillors.
- g. G-18-133. The Clerk informed the Council that the request for additional office space had been presented to the Village Hall Management Committee, and that the matter would be discussed during the course of the meeting.
- h. G-18-137. The Clerk informed the Council that he was in liaison with Essex Police as to how to progress the training for the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme.
- i. G-18-138. The Clerk informed the Council that the Chairman had completed the draft Management Plan, which would be discussed during the course of the meeting.
- j. G-18-139. The Clerk informed the Council that he had actioned the amendments to Standing Orders, as approved by the Council on 18th October 2018.
- k. G-18-140. The Clerk informed the Council that having liaised with the North Essex Parking Partnership, he could confirm that the statistics viewed by the Council at the meeting of 18th October 2018, were accurate. The Clerk continued that the matter of the purchase of additional enforcement time would be discussed during the course of the meeting.
- l. G-18-141. The Clerk reminded the Council that time permitting, the visit of Inspector Deex, would be discussed at the end of the meeting, as had been requested by the Chairman. The Clerk apologised for omitting the need to discuss the meeting with Inspector Deex from the agenda.
- m. G-18-142. The Clerk informed the Council that he had reported the defective street light.

G-18-150 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

G-18-151 CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Correspondence from Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners thanking the Parish Council for a grant payment.

- b. Correspondence from the Dumont Luncheon Club thanking the Parish Council for a grant payment.
- c. Correspondence from the Point Clear & St Osyth Disabled Persons Club thanking the Parish Council for a grant payment.
- d. Correspondence from the St Osyth Carpet Bowls Club thanking the Parish Council for a grant payment.
- e. Correspondence from the St Osyth News thanking the Parish Council for a grant payment.
- f. Correspondence from a resident thanking the Parish Council for the removal of overhanging branches.
- g. Correspondence from the Village Hall Management Committee thanking the Parish Council for a grant payment.
- h. Correspondence from St Osyth Parochial Church Council thanking the Parish Council for a grant payment.

G-18-152 REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS:

- a. **Blooms in St Osyth:** The Chairman reminded the Council that all of the winter plants had been planted. The Chairman continued that during the planting of the plants in the new boat at Mill Street, someone had stolen the bags containing the old compost, which it had been intended to use as a base layer in the boat.
- b. **Highways Working Party:** The Chairman informed the Council that together with Cllr. Alan Goggin, the Working Party would be meeting with Sonia Church and Tom Eng, both Essex Highways, on Wednesday 21st November 2018.
- c. **Martin's Farm Country Park:** The Chairman informed the Council that a meeting was scheduled for the beginning of December 2018.
- d. **Playground, Youth & Open Spaces Working Party:** Nothing to report.

G-18-153 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **Essex Police:** Having been previously circulated, the Council reviewed the Crime statistics for September 2018.
 - 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) The Clerk gave an overview of reported crimes for the months of July to September 2018.
- iv) The Clerk then gave an overview of crimes reported at St Osyth Beach and Point Clear Bay for 2017 and 2018 (to date).
- b. **Footpaths:** In the absence of Cllr. Peverell, the Chairman reported that it was anticipated that a map of the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) would be ready by the beginning of December 2018.
- c. **Planters & Litter Bins:** Nothing to report.
- d. **Tree Warden:** Nothing to report.
- e. **Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC):**
Cllr. Talbot reported that on 14th November 2018, he had received an email from the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC), requesting that a representative from Councils within TDALC's area be nominated to sit on the Local Highways Panel. Cllr. Talbot continued that despite very, very short notice, the TDALC Secretary had emailed all local councils within Tendring. He added that the request had come from the Leader of Essex County Council, who wanted a minimum of one voting Parish Councillor per panel.

Cllr. Talbot concluded by reporting that the next meeting of TDALC was scheduled for Wednesday 21st November, with the next meeting of the EALC Executive Committee scheduled for Thursday 22nd November 2018.

- f. **District Councillor's Report:** Cllr. Talbot reported that during a recent site visit to 55 Colne Way, by members of the District Councils Planning Committee, the Planning Officer had been unable to answer a number of questions from Committee members. Cllr. Talbot continued that Cllr. Kelly, who had been present in her capacity as a Parish Councillor had been able to answer all questions. The Chairman thanked both Cllr's Talbot and Kelly for attending the site visit.

Cllr. White gave the following report:

- i) That the 'Winter Wonderland' at St John's Plant Centre would continue to operate, the tenant of the site having made a direct approach to the Planning Inspectorate. Cllr. White continued that the owner had submitted an application for 210 properties to be built on the site, which had been deemed as a viable application by the District Council.
- g. **Website:** Cllr. Lockwood informed the Council that he was awaiting a reply from Naglotech with regards to changes to the website.

h. **Community Speed Watch:** Cllr. Kemp reported that the activity of the group would, as in previous years, reduce throughout the winter, due to the shorter days and worsening weather.

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

Between 15th October 2018 and 12th November 2018, there were 8 occurrences of drivers speeding in the village, with an average speed of 38.75 mph.

1. Clacton Road:
8 recordings with an average speed of 38.75 mph

Total for St Osyth: 8 recordings (average speed of 38.75 mph)

The highest recorded speed was 46 mph.

2 Vehicles were observed travelling in excess of 40 mph.

ii) The Chairman informed the Council that due to the need for reevaluation, several sites could not be used for the time being.

G-18-154 REPORTS FROM NOMINATED TRUSTEESHIPS REPRESENTATIVES:

a. **St Osyth Almshouse Charity:** Cllr. White reported that a plant had been stolen from the recently planted 'flower benches'. The Chairman enquired as to whether the almshouses were to be painted. Cllr. White responded that approximately £12,000.00 was to be spent on renewing four doors, which due their age would have to be custom made.

b. **St Osyth Playing Field Charity:** Nothing to report.

c. **Point Clear Community Association:** Cllr. Blockley informed the Council that as a result of Dumont Hall being hired and used for a party at which approximately ninety teenagers had been present, a considerable amount of damage had been caused.

d. **Village Hall Management Committee:** Cllr. Kemp reminded the Council that there would be a discussion concerning the Village Hall later during the course of the meeting.

e. **St Osyth Priory & Parish Trust:** The Chairman informed the Council that together with Tim Sargeant, she had shown a number of people around the Priory. Those present included Chris Thornton and Brenda Watkins. The Chairman continued that the Trust was awaiting the outcome of the funding application submitted to the Heritage Enterprise Lottery Fund.

The Chairman concluded by informing the Council that the repairs to the Darcy House would be completed in January 2019, however, the scaffolding would remain in place for some time after, in case of cracks to the lime mortar.

G-18-155 FINANCE:

- a. Approval of payments for October 2018, as per the circulated lists were agreed by the Council.
- b. The following balances were noted and agreed:

Current a/c	£ 138,098.26
Deposit	£ 52,823.47
- c. Cllr. Kelly informed the Clerk that a cheque issued to Cllr. Ward in March 2018, had yet to be cashed. The Clerk stated that he would confirm with the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), but that he [the Clerk] was of the belief that the six month rule for the cashing of cheques no longer applied.

G-18-156 REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT PLAN:

The draft Management Plan having been previously circulated, the Chairman reminded Councillors that they would have to formally approve the plan, so as to allow the Finance Committee to review costs in preparation for the setting of the budget for 2019/2020 and beyond.

- a. **Allotments:**

The Chairman informed the Council that Cllr. Blockley had, in her capacity as Chair of the Allotments Association, submitted a grant application for funding towards a 'raised bed' for use by those with disabilities.
- b. **Bus Shelters:**

The Management Plan for bus shelters was noted.
- c. **Cemetery:**

The Management Plan for the Cemetery was noted.
- d. **Highways:**

The Management Plan for highways was noted. It was agreed that once finalised a copy of the Management Plan be forwarded to Joy Darby, EALC.
- e. **Litter Bins & Planters:**

The Management Plan for litter bins and planters was noted.
- f. **Martin's Farm Park:**

The Management Plan for Martin's Farm Country Park was noted.
- g. **Open Spaces:**

The Management Plan for open spaces was noted.

- h. **Tree Planting:**
The Management Plan for trees was noted.
- i. **Vegetation:**
The Management Plan for vegetation was noted.
- j. **Village Seats:**
The Management Plan for seats was noted. The Chairman added that the grassed area at Brookvale had been cleared by the District Council.
- k. **War Memorial:**
The Management Plan for the War Memorial was noted. The Chairman remarked that the appearance of the War Memorial had done both the Council and Parish proud.
- l. **Willow Plantation:**
The Management Plan for the Willow Plantation was noted. The Chairman informed the Council that some small self-seeded oak trees along the slope were to be cut down, and that some 95% of the vegetation in the area of the culvert would be removed so as to prevent it from becoming blocked.
- m. **Cowley Park:**
The Management Plan for Cowley Park was noted.
- n. **Business Objectives:**
The Business Objectives for 2019/2020 were noted.
- o. **Additional Items:**
The Additional Items for inclusion in the budget for 2018-2020 were noted.

Cllr. Talbot suggested that with the planned closure of the District Councils offices at Weeley, it might be worth the Clerk liaising with the Estates Manager, in case any of the office furniture was being disposed of and that he [Cllr. Talbot] would obtain contact details for the Clerk.

The Chairman thanked all Councillors who had contributed towards the Management Plan.

RESOLVED: That having been discussed, the Council approve the Management Plan for 2019/2020 and beyond. This was proposed by Cllr. Thomas and seconded by Cllr. French. All agreed.

G-18-157 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **Essex County Council:** Having arrived at 8.30 pm, Cllr. Goggin informed the Council of the following:
 - i) That the meeting with representatives of Essex Highways was scheduled for Wednesday 21st November 2018.

- ii) That following the recent meeting of the Local Highways Panel, the request for a new Speed & Density survey at Westwood Park had been approved.
- iii) That he had attended a Parish/Town transport meeting on 30th October 2018 and that whilst Heddingham Buses had been represented, First Essex had not.
- iv) That the County Council were in the process of preparing the budget for 2019/2020. Although there was currently a projected deficit of £3m, he [Cllr. Goggin] was confident that the County Council could bring forward the budget without major cuts to services.
- v) That he had attended a meeting about foster children, which had been a very sobering experience.

G-18-158 PARKING ENFORCEMENT MEASURES:

The Clerk informed the Council that the statistics in respect of the trial of the 'Purchase of Additional Enforcement Hours' received at the October meeting were extant, having been confirmed by the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP).

Following a discussion as to the benefits of the trial, it was agreed to defer any decision until such time as the Finance Committee had been able to review the budget for 2019/2020.

G-18-159 REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITIONAL PREMISES:

- a. At the request of the Chairman, Cllr. Thomas gave an overview of the Village Hall Management Committee meeting of 29th October 2018, at which the subject of the need of the Parish Council for additional office space had been discussed. Cllr. Thomas continued that following her suggestion that the obvious area for the Council to use was the snooker room, there had been a lot of objections, together with suggestions that the Parish Council change its working practices. Cllr. Thomas added that during the meeting, the Treasurer of the Management Committee had informed all present that given its current financial position, without the rent of the Parish Council, there was a very real likelihood that the Village Hall would have to close. Cllr. Thomas concluded by informing the Council that the Management Committee had agreed to discuss the matter again at its Quarterly Meeting in January 2019.
- b. The Chairman informed the Council of the subsequent meeting between members of the Village Hall Management Committee and Parish Council, on Wednesday 7th November 2018, at which a number of options had been discussed. One possibility involved the alterations to the lobby of the Annex, for which quotations were being obtained, prior to a further meeting at the end of November 2018. The Clerk subsequently gave an overview of the options discussed.

- c. The Chairman informed the Council that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee would be needed before January, and that she would update the Council at the December meeting.

G-18-160 VISIT OF INSPECTOR DEEX, ESSEX POLICE:

The Chairman reminded the Council of the meeting of 20th September 2018, during which a number of concerns had been addressed by Inspector Deex. Following a discussion as to the matters discussed at the September meeting, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Inspector Deex and reiterate the concerns of the Parish Council in respect of:

- a. The need for Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR).
- b. The lack of adequate security at the holiday parks and volume of crime reported at said locations, together with the number of incidents attended by the Police

The Chairman informed the Council of a scheme whereby Brightlingsea Town Council would fund extra Police patrols in the town throughout December. Cllr. Goggin confirmed that the scheme known as 'Operation Quasar' was a jointly funded venture between Brightlingsea Town Council and Tendring District Council.

At the request of the Chairman, the Clerk informed the Council that whilst the scheme would benefit Brightlingsea, it would more than likely result in a reduction of officers available throughout the District.

G-18-161 FURTHER MATTERS:

- a. Cllr. Kelly informed the Council that the recent decision of the District Council to grant a Certificate of Lawful Use for a caravan in Seaview Road would be used as evidence by residents of Point Clear Bay at the Planning Appeal in respect of Breach of Occupancy, to demonstrate the lack of consistency on behalf of the District Council.
- b. Cllr. Kelly reported that since the meeting with Rob Turner, General Manager of the Orchards Holiday Village and subsequent invite of 9th October 2018 to join the 'Steering Group' she had not had any further communication from Mr Turner. Cllr. Talbot stated that having spoken to Mr Turner, he [Cllr. Talbot] had suggested the inaugural meeting of the Steering Group be held on either a Saturday or Sunday.
- c. Cllr. French addressed the Council, stating how proud he was of the village following the parade by pupils and staff of the Primary School children, members of the Royal British Legion and residents on Friday 9th November, followed by the attendance at the Remembrance Day service.

The Chairman added that the effort put in by members of the Royal British Legion to ensure that the commemoration of the end of the First World War was commendable. The Chairman continued that the Clerk had also made a significant contribution by attending the school and acting as Parade Marshall.

The Chairman continued that the Clerk had written a personal letter to the Deputy Headteacher, and that she [the Chairman] had written on behalf of the Parish Council. The Chairman stated that appreciation of the Council for the efforts of the Clerk be recorded.

- d. The Chairman informed the Council that some 411 residents had attended the Remembrance Day service, and the collection had resulted in £916.00 being raised for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.55 pm.

Summary of 'Action Required' from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 15th November 2018		
G-18-155 c	Cashing of Cheques	Clk to confirm
G-18-156 o	Closure of Weeley Offices	Cllr. Talbot to liaise with TDC
G-18-159 c	Need for Additional Office Space	Chairman to brief Council
G-18-160	Policing Concerns	Clk to write to Insp Deex

Signature: *[Signed on Original]*
SW Grantham
Chairman