



ST OSYTH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, St Osyth on Wednesday 21st September 2022 at 4.30 pm

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

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Gary Coe (Work Commitments)
Cllr. Karen Sinclair (Work Commitments)

MINUTES: Neil Williams (Parish Clerk)

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

EXO-22-001 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. White declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in respect of Planning Application 22/01327/FUL.

EXO-22-002 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

	APPLICATION & ADDRESS	PROPOSAL
a.	22/01253/FUL Mr J Currell Tudors Wenlock Road St Osyth	Proposed replacement dwelling. Whilst the Parish Council has no objections to the development itself, Councillors would refer this application to the TDC Tree & Landscape Officer for all arboricultural matters.
b.	22/01327/FUL & 22/01328/LBC Mr O'Dell Kings Arms Public House Colchester Road, St Osyth	Proposed alterations to outbuilding to use as four bed and breakfast units. No objections.
c.	22/01430/NMA Messrs R.A T.R D.R & A.I Sargeant St Osyth Priory The Bury St Osyth	Non-material amendment sought for application 21/00798/LBC to amend description of condition 4 to "No development or conversion of any kind shall take place within each phase until the implementation of a programme of historic building recording has been secured in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been previously approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. A phased discharge is acceptable in accordance with Darcy House HBR Phasing Plan - FF - Aug22 and Darcy House HBR Phasing Plan - GF - Aug22.

		Following completion of the historic building record, a report shall be submitted to the local planning authority." No objections.
d.	22/01460/FULHH S Coleman Stella, Nassau Road St Osyth	Proposed single storey side extension. No objections.

EXO-22-003 PARKING:

- a. The Chairman reminded the Council that off-road parking in St Osyth was currently by courtesy of two families, namely the Sargeant Family and the Bonds, both of whom would be withdrawing their permission for parking on The Bury and The Warren respectively, in 2023. This, the Chairman stated, would leave the village with only limited parking consisting of 17 spaces on The Bury and 12 beside the Vicarage.
 - i. The Chairman subsequently gave an overview of the meeting with Graham Nourse, Tendring District Council (TDC) Head of Planning and Tim Murphy, Essex County Council (ECC) Place Services Historic Environment Manager, during which time the suggestion of using small ‘pockets’ of land for parking in the centre of the village had been discussed
 - ii. The Chairman informed the Council that the Highways Working Party had discussed the possibility of pockets within the centre of the village but had been unable to find a solution.
 - iii. The Chairman continued that Graham Nourse and Tim Murphy had since spoken with Tim Sargeant as to the possibility of parking within the grounds of The Priory, and that the latter had subsequently submitted a paper to the Chairman, in which numerous possibilities to address the problem of parking had been suggested. The Chairman stated that these suggestions had been discussed by the Highways Working Party, the recommendations of which were to be discussed during the meeting.
- b. The Chairman stated that it was important that the Council consider the suggestions put forward by Mr Sargeant, in addition to the views of the Highways Working Party. The Council subsequently reviewed the notes of the Highways Working Party meeting of 1st September 2022, during which the following was noted:
 - i. Car Parking Needs Survey:

The Council agreed with the findings of the Highways Working Party, in that whilst a survey would demonstrate community engagement, it would not resolve the issue of off-road parking.
 - ii. Electric Vehicles:

The Council agreed with the findings of the Highways Working Party, in that there was no difference in size between petrol/ diesel and electric vehicles.

iii. Relocating of the Church Fence:

The Council agreed with the findings of the Highways Working Party, in that this suggestion would not only encroach on consecrated land but would also require the felling of two trees within the Conservation Area.

iv. One Way System in Church Square:

The Council agreed with the findings of the Highways Working Party, in that Church Square is already a one-way street from the east, but with access as far as the residential properties from the west. The concerns of the Highways Working Party that were Church Square to become completely one-way, this would contribute even further to the issue of traffic in the centre of the village, were noted.

v. Prohibiting Vans from parking in Church Square:

The Council agreed with the findings of the Highways Working Party, in that that this suggestion would be both difficult to enforce and would actually lead to further problems, given that the Bond Family are to stop parking behind the Vicarage.

vi. Paving in front of Cottages on The Bury:

The Council agreed with the findings of the Highways Working Party, in that whilst this would look good, it had no bearing on the issue of parking.

vii. Priority Junction/ Island in Spring Road:

The Council agreed with the findings of the Highways Working Party that given the limited width of Spring Road, and the highways specific constraints identified as a result of the Feasibility Study in respect of the Crossroads, this idea should be dismissed.

viii. Outcome of Improvements to the Crossroads:

The comments of Mr Sargeant were noted, however, there is no scope for additional parking.

ix. Restrictions for Caravan Transporters/ Delivery Vehicles:

The comments of Mr Sargeant were noted, however, restrictions, for the movement of caravan transporters are already in place.

c. The Council reviewed the options for parking as suggested by Mr Sargeant, scrutinised by the Highways Working Party, during which the following was noted:

i. Option A - Parking on The Mowing Ground:

The Council agreed with the findings of the Highways Working Party, in that whilst acknowledged as a good idea, the use of this land was outside of the remit of the Parish Council.

- ii. Option B - The Bury Corner:
The creation of 17 parking spaces was acknowledged.
- iii. Option C - The Warren (Land behind the Church):
No longer possible due to the decision of the Planning Inspectorate.
- iv. Option F - Western End of Cowley Park:
 - a) The Council agreed that this would result in the loss of Elmnden Rovers Youth Football Club.
 - b) The Council agreed that this would require extensive and expensive works due to the nature of the ground.
- v. Option G - The Warren (Land behind The Bury):
No longer possible due to the decision of the Planning Inspectorate.
- vi. Option H - Cowley Park (Play Area):
 - a) The Council agreed that this would require relocation of all play equipment at enormous cost, likely to be in the region of £100,000.00.
 - b) The Council agreed with the findings of the Highways Working Party, in that the suggested access would not receive the support of Essex Highways, and that access via the existing entrance would result in the loss of the existing football pitch.
- d. The Council acknowledged the suggestion of Mr Sargeant that the land adjacent to The Warren and behind Kings Close could be used for parking. The Chairman informed the Council that the land, which was owned by the Bond Family was, following the decision of the Planning Inspectorate, to be returned to arable land. The Chairman continued that the Bond Family were considering the use of the area adjacent to the Vicarage and the permissive footpath, and that further discussions were necessary.
- e. The Chairman stated that it was commendable that Mr Sargeant had given consideration to the issue of parking within the village, however, given local knowledge, the suggestions were not practicable.

EXO-22-004 COWLEY PARK:

- a. At the request of the Chairman, by way of a PowerPoint presentation, the Clerk gave an overview of the current and proposed parking on Cowley Park. The Chairman informed the Council that following the cessation of parking on The Bury, it was felt that Mr Sargeant would be unwilling to accommodate parking for those using Cowley Park, therefore, the Council had no choice but to facilitate parking on Cowley Park.
- b. Having viewed the parking option which would retain the existing pitches (1 adult and 3 junior), the Chairman informed the Council that the Council should trial parking on Cowley Park.

- i. If parking on Cowley Park was successful during the 2022/2023 season, the Council could then look towards the installation of a grass mat style parking area. If the trial was unsuccessful, it would at least give the Council time to investigate alternatives for parking.
- ii. The Clerk informed the Council that despite initial agreement, the proposed rotation of the adult pitch had been rejected by St Osyth FC, therefore, the only way to retain all four pitches, an area for the Jubilee Copse and parking, was a compromise by Elmden Rovers, which would see one of their three pitches unplayable when the other two pitches were in use. This, the Clerk continued, was not ideal, but it would at least ensure the retention of Elmden Rovers Youth Football Club, bringing in much needed revenue.
- iii. Cllr. French enquired as to how many parking spaces would be created within the grounds of the Priory, if parking for football was to be accommodated on Cowley Park. The Chairman stated that she did not know and that this was a matter for Tim Murphy and Mr Sargeant.
- iv. A conversation ensued during which time Councillors were asked for their views. The general consensus was that the Council did not want to lose the income generated by the two football clubs, but that in order to resolve the issue of parking within the village, the Council would have to demonstrate that it was looking at ways to accommodate football parking, which in turn would enable Tim Murphy to enter into dialogue with Mr Sargeant about the use of the Priory grounds for general parking, such as for those using the Church.
- v. **RESOLVED:** That St Osyth Parish Council trial parking for football clubs on Cowley Park Recreation Ground for the 2022/2023 season. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Thomas and seconded by Cllr. Cooper. Following a vote, the motion was passed by a margin of 9 to 1 in favour, with one abstention.
- vi. Following a further discussion as to details of parking on Cowley Park, the Chairman informed the Council that the decision of the Council to trial parking on Cowley Park would demonstrate to Mr Sargeant that the Council was looking at ways in which the issue of off-road parking within St Osyth could be resolved.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.20 pm.

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