

OAKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Oake Parish Council held at Oake Village Hall on Thursday 12th January 2017

In attendance: Cllr Adrian Dyke, Cllr Fern Dunn, Cllr Susan Davies, Cllr David Roots, Cllr John Sharland, Cllr Frances Gully, Cllr Louise Peace, Cllr James Hunt (SCC) Cllr Roger Habgood (TDBC), Mr David Gliddon - Clerk & 3 members of the public.

Village Agent Gary Larsen introduced himself and explained to the meeting what advice and support he could offer residents. More details are available from the clerk or the local shop.

1 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

- A resident raised the need for the Environment Agency to update their records of properties at risk of flooding, as this was causing unnecessary problems for residents re: insurance, conveyancing etc The Clerk agreed to pursue this matter.

2 APOLOGIES

None

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

Cllr F Dunn – Village Shop; Cllr J Sharland – Village Hall

- 4 MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th November 2016 were signed as a true record, with one minor amendment, Cllr David Roots name having been misspelt.

5 MATTERS ARISING requiring action:

- a. Overgrown pavements in Oake – The Clerk reported that the pavements had now been cleared.
- b. New dog bin for Village Hall area of Oake – The Clerk had ordered the new bin, but delays at TDBC meant this had taken longer than anticipated.
- c. Traffic Calming plan for Oake – the planter situation was still unresolved and the clerk agreed to contact SCC to approach the owners once again.
- d. Milverton/Wiveliscombe GP Surgery update – Cllr Sue Davies reported on her attendance at a meeting recently and informed Councillors that a change of working practices would help the situation somewhat, but despite this the future for Milverton Surgery was not looking good.

6. MATTERS OF REPORT:

- a) Police Reports for November/December - these were reviewed; there was little of concern to report.
- b) Village Hall Committee Report - Cllr Sharland updated the council on the works in the hall & playfield. He also informed the council that a new Chairman would be needed.
- c) TDBC Report – Cllr Habgood updated the meeting on matters relating to the new Council consultation; Garden Town status for Taunton; 18 month trial Pedestrianisation project for 3 Taunton Town centre streets; Heritage funding for fingerpost road signs
- d) SCC Report – Cllr Hunt reported on upcoming elections in May; A38 traffic issues being looked at near Chelston; Faster Broadband in rural areas
- e) Oake Shop – Cllr Dunn reported that approximately 50 people attended the open meeting & there were 3 new volunteers. There was, however, a possibility that the current owner will be selling the shop when the lease expires in November.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION.

(a) Parish Plan update – Cllr Frances Gully reported she now had 29 people interested in developing the Parish Plan; the Oake Website now has a dedicated Parish Plan section; next steps involve a public meeting to take the Plan forward - the PC will fund hall & refreshment costs.

(b) Affordable Housing Plan for Oake – no planning permission has yet been approved and no further updates had been received from the agents.

(c) Budget & Precept for 2017/18 – a precept of £5300 was set which was a small increase on last year's amount.

(d) Grant application Sunshine Fund – dates of application were discussed and after a vote it was agreed to revert to May and November submissions. (4 in favour, 2 against & 1 abstention)

(e) The Orchard Inn – Asset of Community Value – Cllr Dunn outlined the process for getting ACV status and it was agreed to pursue this matter further after consultation with interested parties. Councillors felt this status could also apply to other local amenities & should be included in the Parish Plan.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED TO DISCUSS/APPROVE:

1. Case Ref: 27/16/0039/CR

Proposal: Prior approval for Proposed Change of Use from Agricultural Building to Flexible Use (Class R) at Top Barn, Manor Farm, Heathfield. (This is a resubmission after refusal of a previous application.)

No further comment.

2. Case Ref: 27/16/0035

Proposal: Erection of ground floor front and rear extensions at The Nook, Bradford Rd, Oake.

Supported.

3. Case Ref: 27/16/0036

Proposal: Erection of Car Port at Stoke Red Barn, Hillcommon.

Supported

4. Case Ref: 27/16/0029

Proposal: Change of use of land for the siting of a mobile home for use as a key worker's dwelling at Daisy Croft, Allerford Rd, Norton Fitzwarren. (Resubmission of 27/16/0018)

No further comment

5. Case Ref: 27/16/0033

Proposal: Siting of mobile home for key worker accommodation at The Barn at Ayton Fields, Hillfarrance (retention of works already undertaken)

No further comment

9. FINANCE - To discuss/agree the following:

(a) Clerks Salary, Expenses for November & December £415.08

The Clerk reported that he had inadvertently overpaid his expenses by £30 and that he would not make a claim for January. This was unanimously approved by councillors.

(b) N S & I account – a new signatory form was signed and it was agreed that the Clerk should close this account & transfer the funds to the Nat West Reserve Account as soon as possible

(c) Invoice payments – £96 Magic Web (website hosting); Training SALC £30; Village Hall hire charges £73.20; HMRC tax £76.60; Grant Thornton Audit fee £120

These transactions were all approved and cheques signed off.

10. MATTERS OF REPORT.

1. Chairman – Cllr Dyke reported on various meetings he had attended & also felt we should investigate setting up an Emergency Plan for the area as had been suggested in a recent email.
2. Clerk – A grant has been applied for under the Transparency Code which would fund a Laptop/Scanner/website costs & the Clerk's time. Outcome expected end of January.
3. Members of Council – Cllr Davies has maps of the area she will bring to the next meeting; Cllr Gully reported on a footpath issue between Oake & Bradford which the clerk will follow up; all councillors agreed to look at the state of the village noticeboards & report back in February.

11. CORRESPONDENCE FOR CIRCULATION

The Clerk circulated information regarding the new District Council consultations.

12. Suggested topics for inclusion on next meeting Thursday 9th February 2017:

- Emergency Plan
- ACV's
- Noticeboards
- Maps

The meeting closed at 8:42 p.m.