

OAKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Oake Parish Council meeting held at the Oake and District Hall,
on Thursday 9th January 2014 at 7.00pm

1. PRESENT

Councillors: Mrs F Dunn (Vice Chairman), C Bishop , I McMath & D Roots. In attendance: Jill Loader (Clerk), 1 member of the public & PC Adrian Hooper (part-time)

2. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

The member of the public wanted to know why the planning decisions were not published in the Village magazine. The clerk explained she had been told by the previous clerk they did not report these, but they could be found on the actual Minutes on the website. There appeared to be two websites for Oake which had different information on. Cllr Dunn agreed to look into this.

3. APOLOGIES

Cllrs A Dyke, J Sharland & SC Cllr J Hunt

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS

Cllr C Bishop declared an interest in all planning issues stating that if he says anything in respect of planning issues he reserves the right to alter that opinion when the application is put to the planning committee and the full facts are available. Cllr Bishop also declared an interest regarding the Village Hall payments to be approved.

5. CO-OPTION OF A NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

The clerk had received three applicants for the position of Parish Councillor. She read out the details of who they were and why they wanted to join the council. The Councillors then voted by a secret vote, and Sally Woodbury was the successful candidate. The clerk would get the necessary paperwork for her to sign, and contact the others with the decision.

6. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 14th November 2013 were circulated and signed by the Chairman as being a correct record.

7. MATTERS ARISING – None

8. MATTERS OF REPORT

PC Adrian Hooper read out the Police report for 1st December to 31st December 2013 – previously circulated by PCSO Sharon Cridlin.

Crimes Reported

1 x Burglary in a Building (other than a dwelling) – 100lts of red diesel stolen – Nynehead

1 x theft of Motor Vehicle – Nynehead – Has since been recovered

1 x Section 5 Public Order Offence (Causing Harassment/Alarm/Distress) – Langford Budville

1 x Domestic Incident – Bradford on Tone

Other calls/incidents

8 x Traffic Offences – mainly caused by flooding / storms

2 x Animal related –

Oake – Concerns of Hunting in the area. Enquiries made, Hunt spoken to. Reports made.

Dog Bite – Langford Budville – On-going enquiries/investigation

Other Work

High Visibility patrol regarding rural thefts

Concern over vehicle parked on footpath in Langford Budville. Owner spoken to and discussed.

Speeding concerns in the village raised.

Christmas Community Events, including School plays etc.
Concern over the flooding and dangerous driving conditions.

As always please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity/persons through the 101 number.
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111.

The Police were also introducing a County Resolution system which was a new way to resolve issues within the community similar to issuing an apology by the offender.

Shop management committee update

The committee were applying for funding from the Health & Well-being Grant available from SC Cllr James Hunt for new table and chairs for the Shop, to be used as a meeting area if possible.

Village Hall Committee

Cllr C Bishop had nothing to report.

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

a) Noticeboard by Shop – the Clerk had looked into getting quotes for replacing the noticeboard, as the cost to repair it was £235.00. After discussion and following the kind offer made at the meeting by Tracey Daly for the services of her carpenter free of charge to make a new noticeboard. It was agreed to defer this decision until the next meeting in order to allow time to see what proposal would be put forward.

b) Planning Training – there were no other councillors interested in attending the TDBC Planning Training on Wednesday, 22nd January 2014. Three Councillors had already been booked a place.

c) Freedom of Information Publication Scheme – The clerk had issued an updated FOI publication scheme which was approved and adopted and would be placed on the website.

d) Risk Assessment – updated – the clerk had previously circulated a Risk Assessment document outlining levels of risk regarding finance and other liabilities. This was discussed and approved in line with Audit Regulations.

e) Asset Register – the clerk had issued a list of assets which had been assessed on their condition. The bus shelter was suffering from a flooded floor due to the recent rain and a hole in the hedge allowing water to congregate on the road and pathway. Clerk to contact Dennis Quick at SCC Highways on the recent works and hedge damage to find out whether this would be repaired. Noticeboard – as per a) above. Seating – Hillcommon seat was okay. Seat by school was okay. Seat at Hillfarrance was not reported on condition to date. All seats would require treatment in the Summer. Speed Gun – clerk to find out who was holding this. Telephone Box by school was okay. Hillfarrance Green – clerk to find out who actually owns this land, as it was felt the PC did not.

f) Flooding at Heathfield – the clerk read out the email received concerning the flooding at Heathfield on the main road. It was agreed to contact Highways to find out if any gullies and drains were blocked causing this issue.

g) TDBC – letter re devolution of services – The clerk had previously circulated the letter from TDBC regarding parish councils taking over certain services. After discussion it was felt Oake PC could not or did not have the need to take any services on.

h) Revised Standing Orders – The PC approved and adopted the revised Standing Orders the clerk had previously circulated issued by NALC covering the new interests and dispensations regulations.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED – none to date.

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – DECISIONS

The clerk notified the council of planning decisions reached:

- a) Application 27/13/0019/T – felling of one horse chestnut tree at Old Rectory, Hillfarrance – approved 6 January 2014.
- b) Application 27/13/0018/T – management of work on lime tree at Hillfarrance House – approved 11 November 2013.
- c) Application 27/13/0017 – change of use of agricultural land and erection of building to form boarding kennels etc – at Fiveoak Boarding, Hillfarrance – refused 16 December 2013.

- d) Application 27/13/0016 – change of use of part house for B&B at Knapp Farm, Hillfarrance – conditional approval 22 November 2013.
- e) Application 27/13/0015 – erection of storage building at Knapp Farm, Hillfarrance – approved 8 November 2013.

12. FINANCE

Payments

Clerks Salary/Expenses (Nov/Dec)	£321.50
HMRC Tax for Clerk	£ 80.20
Clerks expenses (Nov/Dec)	£ 60.00
Somerset Community Justice Panel	£ 20.00
Oake Play Area	£500.00
Oake Village Hall – room hire	£ 36.60
Maintenance Grants from TDBC	
Oake PCC	£500.00
Hillfarrance PCC	£500.00
Heathfield PCC	£450.00
Oake Recreation Area	£1,050.00
P Coles – Hillfarrance Green	£ 70.00

Income Received – TDBC Maintenance Grants £2,720.00

The above payments were approved by the Parish Council and the cheques signed at the end of the meeting.

13. CORRESPONDENCE FOR CIRCULATION & OTHER MATTERS

- a) Road closures** – Allerford, Oake and Norton Fitzwarren – notice given to Cllr Roots for the noticeboard for information. Works taking place during end of January & February.
- b) Kingsmead School** – new admissions consultation. It was agreed to respond to the consultation by stating the PC's concerns that this new admissions policy should not affect children in the future within the catchment area obtaining a place at the school, as over-subscription may be an issue in the future.
- c) Oake School Noticeboard** – it was agreed to write to the school to find out if they were going to take over the responsibility of this noticeboard as previously agreed. If they had changed their mind, the PC would remove it as it was unsightly.
- d) Gate** in middle of field along Knapp Farm footpath – it was agreed to contact Tim Leach to find out if there had been any further progress on this issue.
- e) New Rendy Farm** – solar panels. Income from this would not be forthcoming until it had been in action to generate electricity for a year.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.14pm.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday 13th February 2014.

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____