

# **OAKE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Oake Parish Council meeting held at the Oake and District Hall,  
on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.00pm**

## **1. PRESENT**

Councillors: A Dyke (Chairman), C Bishop, C Stokes, Mrs F Dunn, J Sharland. SC Cllr J Hunt and PCSO Sharon Cridlin (part-time) In attendance: Jill Loader (Clerk), Tim Leach & 5 members of the public.

## **2. PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME**

Two members of the public expressed their concerns and objections to the proposed planning application number: 27/13/0017. These covered noise levels, the additional driveway access, and drainage issues. The applicant responded with what action SCC Highways had done to improve drainage and flooding and a noise survey had been carried out which was available to read within the application. No other person spoke.

## **3. APOLOGIES**

I McMath, D Roots and PC Adrian Hooper

## **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.

## **5. PLANNING**

### **Planning Applications received**

**27/13/0017 Change of use of agricultural land with erection of buildings to form boarding kennels and isolation unit, with replacement access and driveway at Fiveoak Boarding, Hillfarrance, Oake.**

After discussion, the Parish Councillors voted by 4 votes with one abstention, due to a member being on the TDBC Planning Committee, to object to the above planning application.

The Councillors thought the building specification was professional, but they did have significant concerns regarding the potential increase in noise from dogs barking at different times of the day, which would be intrusive to neighbours within the village. There would be an increase in traffic through the village due to the dogs being dropped off and collected. Concerns were raised over the new access creating more hard surface which could add to the flooding problems in the area and destroying a length of established hedge.

**Application: 27/13/0016 Change of use of part of house to provide bed and breakfast accommodation at Knapp Farm, Hillfarrance.**

After discussion the Parish Councillors had no objections and supported the above planning application.

**Planning Applications granted - None**

## **6. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2013 were circulated and signed by the Chairman as being a correct record.

## 7. MATTERS ARISING

**Footpaths stiles and gates:** The council were waiting for an invoice from Rights of Way for the works carried out.

Health & Well-being Grant – this had been circulated and both the Community Shop and PC are applying for funding.

**Dog signs** – the previous clerk would be sending details of signs once known from his supplier in Wiveliscombe

The Chairman had been to the Local Choices event held on 29<sup>th</sup> October and reported it had been very interesting and useful to meet other organisations outside of TDBC.

The road works through the village had been completed.

## 8. MATTERS OF REPORT

### **Police report for 1 October to 31 October 2013 for the area**

Crimes Reported Theft – Langford Heath – Battery Box and Energiser stolen

Theft – Hele – Fencing cut and copper cabling stolen from Wessex Water site

Theft – Hele – Two wooden garden barrels

Possession of Cannabis – Heathfield

Violence against the person – domestic related

### Other calls/incidents

5 x Traffic Offences, 1 x Animal related – 2 ponies loose on highway Nynehead/BoT area

3 x suspicious; Tonedale - Tools being sold out of grey transit van

Langford Budville – Farm approached by males selling tarmac

Oake – Young people gathering and drinking alcohol at village hall (contacted hall, private function, words of advice given)

### Other Work

No Cold Calling Zone signs erected in Oake, Hillcommon and Heathfield

Speedwatch in Chipley in conjunction with RPU attendance

Road safety / Halloween Assembly Oake Primary School

Halloween Preparations, door stickers made available, educational visits etc. Mobile patrol on 31/10. No incidents of ASB in the area. Only 1 incident across both Taunton and Wellington sector. Visible patrol in rural areas in response to recent thefts.

Twitter, please feel free to follow Wellington Police Station for up to date alerts and information in your area. @ASPWellington

As always please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity/persons through the 101 number . Crimestoppers 0800 555 111. Sharon Cridlin PCSO 9511 07825125108

### **Shop management committee update**

The committee were applying for funding from the Health & Well-being Grant available from SC Cllr James Hunt.

### **Village Hall Committee**

Cllr C Bishop reported there had not been a meeting recently. The lights were now working.

### **Housing needs survey**

The clerk reported she had been in contact with Somerset Community Council and been informed the new contact at First Homes was Heidi Davis. Cost to produce and carry out survey was £2,035.50. It was stressed the PC were not responsible for funding this survey and to clarify this point with First Homes.. Clerk to ask Cllr McMath if he has had any contact with First Homes recently.

**Footpath Report** – Tim Leach the Footpath Liaison Officer reported the footpaths were in good condition. Rights of Way were replacing the footbridge by the golf course. Other issues previously reported would be addressed in due course. The next footpath meeting is on 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm in the village hall – all welcome.

## 9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

**Milverton & District Twinning Association** – it was agreed to write to the Association to ask them to put a short report in the local magazine about the group to gauge interest.

**Hillfarrance Wildflower Area** - following the letter from Graham Blight regarding the wild flower area and request for funding. It was agreed to delay further spending on this area from PC funds. It was agreed to put in a request for £250 from the Health & Well-being Grant available from SCCllr James Hunt. The PC agreed to accept payment of this grant as a Governing Body to forward to this group to purchase more stock. Cllr Dyke and Hunt were working together to complete the grant form.

**Somerset Community Justice Panel** – it was agreed to donate £20 to this charity.

**Hillfarrance Party** – PSCO Sharon Cridlin had spoken to the owners of this private party and they would take on board the advice given should this charity event take place next year.

**Hedge debris in Hillfarrance** – various pieces of large hedge debris had been left on the lane following the contractor's work. It was agreed to write to the owner of the hedge to find out who the contractor was and ensure works were carried out in daylight and safely, and to pick up any large debris to avoid accidents.

**Noticeboard by Shop** – it was agreed to get the lock repaired as soon as possible.

## 10. FINANCE

### Payments

Clerks Salary/Expenses (Nov/Dec)	£Due Jan
HMRC Tax for Clerk	£Due Jan
Magic Web Ltd – agreed to pay once invoice received	£78.00

**Income Received** – none

The above payments were approved by the Parish Council.

The chairman signed the up to date cash book with bank reconciliation for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

Cllr C Stokes had reviewed the Finances as at the half year stage which balanced.

### Precept for 2014/15

The clerk presented a draft precept proposal for next financial year. After discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed to keep the precept at £5,000 with the addition of the Parish Grant from TDBC of £213. Clerk to complete paperwork and send to TDBC.

**TDBC Maintenance Grants** – the clerk had been informed this payment would be made next week into the parish bank account.

**Grant Thornton – Audit Findings Report** – the clerk reported that the council needed to undertake a risk assessment each year to identify risks and evaluate them and take measures if necessary. It was agreed to produce a list of assets and report on their condition.

**Nat West Bank Mandate** – it was agreed to put Fern Dunn onto the cheque signing mandate and the clerk to receive bank statements and correspondence. Bryan Howe's name was to be removed.

11. **SC COUNCILLOR JAMES HUNT** – reported the school crossing scheme decision would be made shortly. The Bus Consultation event is available for any comments regarding proposed bus routes ceasing. The decision regarding Children Centres will be published soon.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE FOR CIRCULATION & OTHER MATTERS

The Clerk provided an envelope for correspondence to be circulated.

**Model Standing Orders** – these had been issued from NALC and would be circulated and discussed at the January 2014 meeting.

**Resignation of Cllr Stokes** – Cllr Stokes gave the Chairman and Clerk his letter of resignation. The Council members were disappointed but understood his reasons. He was thanked for his time and work on the council and would be missed. It was agreed to contact David Greig at TDBC for the notices to find another councillor.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_