

# OAKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Oake Parish Council meeting held at the Oake and District Hall, on:  
Thursday the 12th April 2012 at 7.00pm

1. **PRESENT**

Councillors: A Dyke (Chairman) C Stokes, Mrs Y Yeowell, Mrs W Sargent, C Bishop, D Roots, Mrs F Dunn.

In attendance: Bryan Howe (Clerk)

Also present: Members of the public.

**The meeting was digitally recorded.**

2. **PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME**

A member of the public asked about the affordable housing item on the agenda and a discussion took place regarding the need for affordable housing in the Parish Oake.

The subject of public speaking time was discussed and it was agreed to keep the public speaking time at the beginning of the Parish Council meetings. Cllr Bishop advised everyone to look at the Government web site (Communities and Local Government NGC, the new national planning policy framework) where there is some new legislation regarding affordable housing.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr C Stokes declared an interest in the Oake Golf Course item, and Cllr C Bishop in planning matters.

4. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr Tony Mc Mahon (Somerset County Council)

5. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings held on the 8th March 2012 were circulated and signed by the Chairman as being a correct record.

6. **MATTERS ARISING**

**Bookmarks**

Cllr. Yeowell had purchased 350 bookmarks at a cost of £156.50.

**Notice Boards**

Cllr Stokes said he had secured some sponsorship funds for the provision of two new notice boards and he had provided some prices for replacements. Cllr Yeowell suggested any surplus funds from selling the bookmarks be put towards the new notice boards.

It was agreed that Cllr Stokes and Cllr Dyke would look into all options and report back to the next meeting. Cllr Bishop said that the DLO supply notice boards.

7. **MATTERS OF REPORT**

**Police report**

P.C.S.O. Fyne had previously reported to the annual meeting saying that there was a reorganisation in police areas and she explained who covers which areas. She provided maps and other information regarding the police service.

Louise talked about her work with the school, such as internet security and other projects. She also provided some statistics about crime in the area and she answered some questions from the public.

Cllr. Bishop asked about the speed watch scheme and it was agreed to review it.

P.C.S.O Fyne provided her contact details and reminded the public to use the new police 101 number for non emergency calls.

### **Community Planning 'The Future of Oake'**

Cllr Stokes talked about the feedback from the earlier annual meeting and he was concerned about some comments, he said he would include any new suggestions in the plan. Cllr Bishop proposed that the community plan be deferred for a while to gather further suggestions also he said that next year there will be new financial limits on spending with a cap of 3.5% increase in the precept. However if the Parish Council wish to exceed the cap limit then it will need to provide a second budget and carry out a referendum which will cost £1 per electorate.

### **Shop steering committee update**

The Clerk circulated copies of letters that the Chairman had written to the steering group giving support as agreed at the last meeting. Cllr Yeoell said that the steering group had gained two new members and two people had resigned from the group. As reported at the last meeting the steering group are currently at the legal stage, allocating roles to individuals and applying for grants and raising finance. Cllr Bishop said he had advised the group to apply to Taunton Deane Borough Council for a grant. It was agreed that this subject would be put on the agenda for the May meeting.

### **Jubilee tree planting.**

Cllr. Roots confirmed that the tree planting is going ahead on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April.

### **Golf Course Entrance**

The Clerk said he had not received a reply from the golf club and therefore he would follow it up and report back to the May meeting.

## **8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **First step homes - Affordable Housing**

The Clerk said he received some correspondence from 'First Step Homes' who would like to build affordable housing in the Oake area requesting Parish Council support for a housing needs survey. It was proposed by Cllr. Yeoell and seconded by Cllr. Sargent that as the Parish Council had already discussed this issue back in October 2012 the Clerk should write to the developers stating that the Parish Council does not think there is a need for affordable housing in Oake and surrounding areas and it will not support a housing needs survey. This was unanimously agreed.

## **9. PLANNING**

### **Applications Received**

**27/12/0006**

Erection of 2 No Poly-tunnels 4.87M wide and 9.14M long on land opposite Altona Park  
***The Parish Council voted and gave support to the application but commented that the building should blend into the countryside, and there was concern about the increase in vehicles using the access.***

### **Application Approved**

**27/11/0023**

Approval of reserved matters for outline application 27/10/0012 for the erection of an additional agricultural workers dwelling at Orchard Farm, Hillcommon.

### **27/12/0003**

Erection of an agricultural storage building at Orchard Farm, Hillcommon.

#### **10. FINANCE**

Clerks Salary (March) including Bookmarks	£345.62
HMRC Tax for Clerk	£39.78
Chairman expenses	£18.20
Cllr D Roots (Tree)	£24.95

The above payments were approved by the Parish Council.

#### **Insurance Quote**

The Clerk provided a new quotation for the provision of insurance from 'Came and Company' a debate took place and it was unanimously agreed that the quote would be accepted.

#### **Budget Monitoring**

The Clerk provided an example of the form he will provide in future to monitor the budget against the spending.

As at the 31st March 2012 the Parish Council holds:

Bank accounts	£1,905.82
Post Office account	£1,027.57
Total:	<b>£2,933.39</b>

Precept Received	£5,000.00
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#### **External Audit**

The Clerk confirmed he had received the end of year audit forms and he will be advertising the audit on the notice board on the 16<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **Budget setting**

It was agreed that the Clerk will draw up a detailed budget for the 2012/13 in order that the Parish Council can formally accept, then budget monitoring can proceed, with effect from the first quarter in July.

#### **11. CORRESPONDENCE FOR CIRCULATION/OTHER MATTERS**

The Clerk circulated various documents including the Clerks and Councils direct magazine and local government review.

Cllr Bishop asked if the appointment of representative to the Village Hall could be added to the next agenda.

Web site- The Clerk asked about the maintenance of the web site and it was agreed that the Clerk would ask Marcia Maunder what the current arrangements are.

The Clerk said there will be a new code of conduct in the future, and David Greig gave an overview of the changes.

The meeting closed at 8.28m