

OAKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Oake Parish Council meeting held at the Oake and District Hall, on:
Thursday the 10th January 2013 at 7.00pm

1. **PRESENT**

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

In attendance: Bryan Howe (Clerk) Cllr T McMahon (SCC)

Also present: Members of the public.

The meeting was digitally recorded.

2. **PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME**

A member of the public talked about a footpath at the property 'Mayfield's'. Photographs were produced to show the current footpath and the proposed changes. The problem is that walkers are passing close to parked cars and recently someone caught their coat on a vehicle. The owner of the property has spoken to the footpaths officer at Taunton Deane Borough Council and has submitted an application to move the footpath. The owner Mr Trot, wishes to gain support from the Oake Parish to move the footpath. Cllr Tony McMahon said he would investigate the current position and report back to the next meeting on the 17th January 2013, when the Parish Council will decide if to support the application.

Mr Holley talked about a planning application he had submitted, and the clerk apologised that it was not included on the agenda. The clerk said he had spoken to the Planning Officer and she had agreed to extend the consultation period for a further week in order that the Parish Council can give its observations.

Cllr Tony McMahon presented a cheque for £690 from SCC to be spent on repairing and renewing the footpath gates and stiles, the money has come from the Health and Wellbeing budget. Cllr Bishop said the Parish Council had other money allocated to footpaths and this could be added to repair other gates and stiles. The chairman and clerk thanked Cllr McMahon for the grant. Cllr Roots reported a damaged bridge due to the recent floods. Cllr Bishop said that he had received a letter from the school asking about traffic calming and the possibility of a 20 Miles an hour speed restriction and said that he has asked the headmaster of the school to write to the Somerset County Council regarding his concerns. Cllr Dunn said that the school has doubled in size in the last two years and it has become very dangerous crossing the road. It was suggested that a crossing could be installed near the village shop/post office. Cllr McMahon said that traffic studies have been carried out in the past but he would re visit the problem. Cllr McMahon said he would contact the highways team to investigate options.

It was reported an increase in dog fouling on footpaths. The clerk said he would write to the dog warden at T.D.B.C and mention it in the 'News from the Villages booklet'.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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.

4. **APOLOGIES**

P.C.S.O.L Fyne. A report was circulated prior to the meeting.

5. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings held on the 8th November 2012 and the 30th November 2012 were circulated and a correction was made to planning observation 27/12/0022 changing the 'Hamlet of Oake to Hamlet of Hillfarrance' this was amended and the minutes were signed by the Chairman as being a correct record.

6. **MATTERS ARISING**

Precept 2013/14

The clerk then explained changes in the way the District Council receives its central government grants and the potential effects this will have on the Council base and the rate in pound for

residents of Oake. It was proposed to keep the precept at £5,000 for 2013/14 by Cllr Bishop and seconded by Cllr Dunn, and it was agreed to set the 2013/14 precept at £5,000 and full consideration will be given to rate in pound and the effect on the precept. Cllr Stokes said the Parish Council should at the end of 31st March 2013 contribute to its reserves as they are relatively low.

Footpaths

A discussion took place regarding spending the £690 grant awarded by Cllr McMahon. Cllr Bishop suggested that further funds (£150) allocated to footpath maintenance could be used to repair and replace gates and stiles. The chairman said he would look into this and report back to the next meeting.

Co-opting two parish Councillors

The clerk reported that he had received two applications from Ian McMath and Harold Sharland. It was agreed to co-opt both applicants on to the Parish Council.

Flooding

Cllr Bishop said that various properties were flooded in Oake and surrounding area. A site meeting took place with Mr Quick to discuss recent problems. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Chief Executive and the Chairman of the Somerset County Council explaining the problems and failure of the gullies and drains to take the water, requesting that more funds are made available to carry out regular maintenance.

Links with other Parish Councils

The chairman confirmed that he was still waiting to hear from the Bradford chairman and the subject will be added to the next agenda when further information will be available.

7. MATTERS OF REPORT

Police report

P.C.S.O. L Fyne did not attend the meeting, but provided a report. The report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Shop steering committee update

Cllr F Dunn reported that the shop has been open for over a month and it was going well. She said that it is a community benefit society and they are currently writing to all in the community asking if people would like to be members. The shop will be closed for a refit with effect from the 21st January for a week.

Web site updating

The clerk reported that progress is slow with many photograph's being transferred, and the old site is still up and running. He hoped that more work can be carried out during the period of January to March. When the new site is live it will be reviewed by all Parish Councillors. The clerk said he would keep the Council updated.

Village Hall Committee

Cllr Cliff Bishop said that it has been agreed to replace floor of the stage in the Village Hall.

Community Infrastructure Levy

Nothing to report

8 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

Pot Holes between Allerford and Norton Fitzwarren

The clerk said he would report large pot holes in the road between Allerford and Fitzwarren, also the damage to flood-line sign.

Complaint-Speeding Traffic at Golf Club/School

Cllr Roots said a member of the public had reported speeding traffic. It was agreed to invite the person to attend the next meeting to provide more information or to write a letter in order that the Parish Council can discuss it in detail.

Somerset Playing Fields Association

It was agreed to subscribe to the association for one year at a cost of £10 per year.

Affordable Housing in the Oake area

It was agreed that some Councillor's should attend public meetings regarding proposed building work in the area to listen to proposals in order to report back to the Parish Council.

9 PLANNING

Planning Applications received

27/12/0026 Construction of single storey link extension between dwelling and domestic outbuilding with installation of roof lights and windows at Barn Owl Farm.

The Parish Council supports the application as it is considered not to have a detrimental impact upon visual or residential amenity and is therefore considered acceptable.

Planning Applications refused

23/12/0022. Erection of 2 no live works units at High Orchard, Hillfarrance.

Planning Applications approved

27/12/0021. Formation of alternative vehicular access at West View, Oake.

10 FINANCE

Payments

Clerks Salary (Nov/Dec)	£378.24
HMRC Tax for Clerk	£79.56
Heathfield P.C.C. (Grant)	£450.00
Hillfarrance P.C.C (Grant)	£500.00
Oake P.C.C (Grant)	£500.00
Oake Recreation Area (Grant)	£1,050.00
Oake Play Area (Grant)	£500.00
Mr P Coles	£70.00

Income

T.D.B.C. Grant	£2,720.00
SCC Grant (Footpaths)	£690.00

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 31st December 2012.

Cllr Stokes suggested that the Parish Council ask how organisations spend grant funds. It was agreed that the clerk ask the organisations when sending the cheques and report back to the next meeting.

11 CORRESPONDENCE FOR CIRCULATION/OTHER MATTERS

The Clerk circulated various documents.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday 14th February 2013

The meeting closed at 8.43pm

Signed _____
Chairman

Date _____