

ORWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Unapproved Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the (back room) of the Village Hall on Wednesday 21st January 2009 at 19:30 hrs.

Present: Cllrs: R Bryant (RB) – Chairman, Mrs K Reid (KR) – Vice-Chairman, J Chapman (JC), Mrs J Avery (JA), Mrs J Graham (JG), Mr M Kenyon (MK), Mr R Primett (RP), Mr W Talbot (WT),

In attendance: Cllr D Bird (District Councillor), and Mrs J Damant (Clerk)

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

Action

1. **Apologies for Absence**
Cllr Kindersley (County Councillor), there was no apology received from Mr C Watson.
2. **Declaration of Interests on the Agenda**
There were no declaration of interests
3. **Minutes of the last meeting 17th December 2008**
It was proposed by MK and seconded by WT that the minutes of 17th December after minor amendments be approved as a true record, they were agreed by all members and signed by the Chairman.
Pg 544, item 15 heading should read – ‘Orwell Village Website’
4. **CCC Report**
There was no report.
5. **SCDC Report**
Lime Trees fronting Lordship Close – have now been lopped. Councillors would like to express their gratitude on how professional and considerate the contractors were. Cllr Bird will report this to SCDC. **Cllr Bird**
How much does SCDC spend on maintenance in the village? – Cllr Bird is still obtaining information. **Cllr Bird**
Road Sweeping, scheduled to take place in mid Feb, mid June, mid August. Cllr Bird to ask for actual dates.
Clearance of vegetation from the brook – has now been done.
Telephone survey – members complained about a recent telephone survey carried out by a Scottish company on behalf of SCDC. It was thought that the questions were biased towards the answers they wanted to hear and the heavy Scottish accent made it difficult to understand the questions.
Park & Ride – have now started a Sunday service, Cllr Bird to include details in the bulletin. **Cllr Bird**
Refuse Bin - in a recent article in the Cambridge Evening News it suggested that there was to be a new additional refuse bin, this is not correct. SCDC have no intention of introducing another bin at this time.
Speedwatch – there will be one set of apparatus to cover all the villages in the South Cambridgeshire area. Each apparatus will cost £3,000.
Police – Dr Dorothy Gregson is the new CEO and Monitoring Officer.
Housing Transfer – KR asked how the transfer would affect the use of the Sheltered Housing Community Rooms by other village organisations? Cllr Bird will investigate. **Cllr Bird**
6. **Financial Matters**
The financial statements for January were received and considered. It was proposed by RB and seconded by MK that the financial statements could be signed as a true record, all agreed. The Chairman then signed the statement.
It was proposed by RB and seconded by RP that the following payments were approved for payment plus any additional payments.

Name	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net	Description	Power
Mrs J Damant	401385	365.61	0	365.61	Clerk salary	LGA 1972 s 112
PAYE & NI	401386	113.97	0	113.97	Inland revenue & NI	LGA 1972 s.112
Meldreth Parish Council	401387	60.93	0	60.93	Office Rent	LGA 1972 S 133

LGA – Local Government Act

OSA – Open Space Act

There were no additional payments

Prize money update – Suzanne Weir of Calor stated that the £500 would be forwarded soon.
Financial Risk Assessment Part II – still ongoing.
It was proposed by WT and seconded by JG that the council would include the Playing Fields Membership at an additional cost of £10 to the Cambridgeshire ACRE membership, all agreed.
Clerk will contact ACRE.

Clerk

7. **Precept**

It was proposed by RP and seconded by RB to set the precept at £28,485 this was agreed by all.

8. **Planning**

S/2109/08/F – Extensions, 14 Lotfield Street
Recommendation: Approval

SCDC Decisions:

S/1898/08/F, 28 High Street, permission refused for boundary wall
To write to the planning department to express concern as to how this matter was handled.
S/1421/08/F, 43 Hill Side, permission granted for extension
C/11/40/075, South Barn, permission granted for tree work

RB/Clerk

9. **Community Grants: – Application for a grant to repair the play equipment and establish an outside gym;**

Costs have now been received and are being processed. The estimated cost is for both projects is £15,000 to £20,000.

10. **Correspondence and Clerk's Report**

The following documents were circulated.
Neighbourhood Panel reply
SCDC Communications – feedback on the budget
Communities and Local Gov – Communities in Control, feedback by 12.03.09
British Youth Council workshop
Small grant scheme (Tesco) – given to WT
SCDC Community Chest Grant scheme – given to WT
Minerals & Waste public consultation from 26.1.09 to 9.3.09
Speedwatch
Road safety compliance consultation
Clerks & councils Direct 2009 brochure
LCR
NHS In Touch
National Probation Service Annual Report 2007/08
PC monthly update
NALC report
COPE
Clerk & Council Direct magazine
ACRE membership (copy)
SCDC Domestic Abuse
Neighbourhood Panel Notes
Notice boards brochure sheet
Sustainable Parish Energy Programme (SCDC)

11. **Parish Plan - update**

The draft parish plan is in hand.
The youth version is also in hand a meeting is to take place.

12. **Village Maintenance**

Fire damaged bench – insurance claim

Brochure has now been given to the Clerk who will contact the insurance company.

Clerk

Painting of bench slats at Meadowcroft.

ORCA will paint the benches in the recreation ground over the next few weeks. Still to be done has been held up due to the poor weather conditions.

Bench at Hurdleditch

The bench has now been delivered and will be installed shortly. The cost of installing the plinth to be forwarded to the Clerk, so that the invoices can be sent to Highways for payment.

MK/Clerk

13. **Dog Fouling**

Two bins have been requested, however SCDC are not keen on installing a bin on Footpath 11 as the only people who will use this would be residents of Meadowcroft Way. There is already a bin at the entrance of Meadowcroft Way for all to use. Similarly SCDC are reluctant to install a bin at the bottom of Leaden Hill, as one already exists some 60 metres away.

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14. **Peter Kruger's Report**
To be discussed at the next meeting.
15. **Committee Reports and Areas of Responsibility**
- Village Hall
Concern has been expressed over the way the telltales have been installed in the Village Hall to measure any movement of the East wall. Members thought that unless the telltales were installed professionally they could be accused of acting irresponsibly, should the wall collapse. RP to convey the council's concerns to the Village Hall Committee. **RP**
- Clunch Pit
The winter management plan has been submitted to Natural England.
- ORCA
Scheduled to meet on 4th March 2009.
- Footpaths
The new directional posts have arrived and will be installed. RB has written to Mr Stimpson regarding the steps on Footpath 5. P3 grant to be completed by JA. **JA**
- Car park
The lights appear not to be working correctly, KR to investigate. **KR**
- Village sign
RP reported that the paintwork is looking fine, but the sign needs to be washed, this will be done when the weather improves. RB suggested that it would be better for the window cleaner to undertake the task.
- Police
Mr Roger Dawes offered to attend the Neighbourhood Panel Meeting on 21st January. The Orwell Neighbourhood Watch will be officially launched in March 2009. The Annual Conference of the Neighbourhood Watch to be held on the 31st January will be looking into the increasing incidences of vehicles being broken into. KR to attend. **KR**
- Tree Wardon
Hurdleditch Road could take up to 12 new trees. MK will meet to discuss the work needed in the carpark. The Cherry trees which are overhanging the neighbours garden will not look nice if they are cut back so may need to be cut down to the base. It was suggested that one of the trees should be removed and leave the other two. Brambles and leaves to be cleared. The mulberry tree needs to be thinned out and a new metal support bar installed. MK will advise Meadow Nurseries and will be on site when the work is carried out. It was proposed by MK, and seconded by RB that £15 per person per hour was acceptable, all agreed. The Chestnut tree and apple tree in the churchyard are to be pruned at cost of £18, proposed by RB seconded by WT all agreed that this was acceptable. **MK**
- Church/Burial Ground
The plaster on the wall appears to have blown again. WT has been trying to contact the original contractor but without success. The wall may need to be tanked. WT is now looking for new quotes. The rotting slats of the bench in the burial ground are to be replaced using the slats salvaged from the damaged bench on Hurdleditch Road (see item 12)
- Glebe Field
The fencing along the top boundary of the Glebe field needs looking at, the corner posts appear to be rotting and the fence is now leaning over. There are a lot of rabbits, ferreting has taken place but will need some more sessions.
- Allotments
A plot has now become available and the next person on the list has been notified. Clerk to arrange new tenancy agreement. **Clerk**
- Youth Liaison
A grant has now been received. The Parish Council would like to congratulate all those involved for all the hard work they have put in to this project. The youth club will operate on a Tuesday evening in the pavilion for 2 hours for ages 11 to 16 yrs. Fiona Richardson and Wayne Talbot will be the youth leaders. The [Connection Bus Project](#) has agreed to provide a youth worker to help get the club started and provide assistance for 1 year.
- Parish Council Web Site
Minutes and agendas to be updated. **Clerk**
16. **Councillors' Reports**
RB
Some of the notes from the Parish Forum meeting have been put in the circulation pack. Cemex, at a meeting of the liaison group, advised that the works was to be used as a depot employing 10 men plus some security personal. The kiln and other equipment are to be mothballed. The quarry face and the water table will be monitored and stabilised as necessary. The only known infill likely in the immediate future is the removal of dust from the kiln. The future of the railway is yet to be decided. Future liaison meetings will be scheduled every six months.

RP

RP stated that John Stammers who had recently passed away has been a past clerk to the council, he suggested that the council should acknowledge his past service to the parish council and to the village community in general. The Chairman will write to his widow.

RB

MK

Is there any news concerning the land behind Chapel Orchard for the purpose of allotments. RB reported that SCDC have yet to receive a reply from the landowner.

Councillors items for next agenda and closure of meeting

Fire damaged bench
Maintenance Programme
Allotment land

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 22.50hrs.

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Signed: _____ Dated: _____
Chairman

For the avoidance of doubt the only legally acceptable version of the Minutes of Orwell Parish Council are those signed in Public Meetings by the Chairman. They are available for public inspection from the Clerk.