

ORWELL PARISH COUNCIL

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF ORWELL PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Orwell Parish Council was held in the back room of the Village Hall on
Wednesday 16th January 2008 at 19:30 hrs.

Present: Mr R Bryant (RB) – Chairman, Mrs K Reid (KR) – Vice Chairman, Mr J Chapman (JC), Mrs J Graham (JG), Mr M Kenyon (MK), Mrs M Lawton (ML), Mr R Primett, (RP), Mr W Talbot (WT), Mrs J Damant – Clerk., Cllr D Bird (SCDC), Cllr S Kindersley (CCC),

Action

Presentation from Mrs Amanda Tuck, Headmistress Petersfield School.

The school is in the process of looking into the concerns about travelling to school and what can be done to achieve better results. The school circulated 30 questionnaires, of which 17 were returned, see attached results. The school is applying for grants in order to improve facilities and to encourage the pupils to walk and cycle to school i.e., cycle sheds.

1. Apologies for absence:

Mrs J Avery (JA)

2. Declaration of interests: (for items on the agenda)

There were no declarations of interests.

3. Minutes of the last meeting (19th December 2007)

The minutes were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4. CCC Report:

- Two new Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) have been appointed and will be at the Neighbourhood Police Panel meeting, being held in Orwell on 23rd January 2008. There will also be representatives from the Highways Department at the meeting. According to the report circulated by the police the number of police checks that were actually carried out was very minimal, as this was one of the major concerns from many of the villages; this needs to be addressed.
- The Transport Innovation Fund – the Government is giving an extra £1million.
- Mr Mark Lloyd has now been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer.
- Scrutiny Committee Environment – All public buildings will have to display an A4 poster stating their energy rating.
- Concessionary Fares – It appears that all districts will be under funded.
- Cemex – has produced a final consultation document on climafuel trial, though it is difficult to decipher.
- Windfarms – Cllr Kindersley will keep the parish council informed on the proposal to put a wind farm at Eversdon.
- Village Sign – Clerk to email Mr D Vacher (Highways)

Clerk

5. SCDC Report:

- Pollarding of trees at Lordship Close has now been completed.
- Has written to Mr D Vacher concerning the clearing of drains at Hurdleditch/Leadon Hill
- Re-inspection of the council is due to start week commencing 21st January. The Audit Commission would like to hear from parish councils.
- Funding is of concern, Mr Greg Harlock (Chief Executive), has written to the Government asking for more funding, still awaiting a reply.
- Northstowe Planning - Application has now arrived and the team is presently going through the plans, they will be available on the website. Councillors were concerned about the effect this development would have on flooding and excess water.
- Linton Zoo won 'Pride of Place'; Wimpole Hall/Farm came in fifth with 6% of the overall votes.
- The next full council meeting will be on 31st January 2008

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- The SCDC Environmental Officer reported that the infestation of mice at Lordship Close was now under control. MK stated that the Environmental Officer's visit had not been particularly satisfactory since he had not visited the dwelling of the major complainant. Cllr Bird to investigate. There is however growing concern in the increasing rat population in that area.

Cllr Bird

6. Financial Matters:

January Financial Statement Payments: Proposed by RP, seconded by JG all in agreement
Additional payments: ACRE £25.00, Proposed by RP, seconded by JG all in agreement.

7. Planning:

S/1149/07/F, 7 High Street-The Planning Inspectorate had invited comments with regard to the appeal that had been submitted following the refusal of this planning application. It was agreed that the parish council respond reinforcing their previous comments.

S/1965/07/F, 1Hillside – An SCDC administrative error had resulted in the applicant being advised that his application had been refused but the Parish Council were not notified of this decision.

8. Precept:

Clerk explained the forms, previously circulated, and how the figures were arrived at. It was proposed and seconded that the reserves of £2,000 should be deducted before the final brought forward figure was arrived at; this is because this money is not available to the parish council and is made up of grant money for the Parish Plan and prize money for the Village of the Year. It was also agreed there was a need to build up our reserves and set aside money to meet future capital costs for the replacement of notice boards and resurfacing the car park. As a result of these decisions there would not be any money in the precept to support the Village Hall Committee this coming year. The precept was proposed by RP, seconded by WT to be £28,546. Precept to be published in the next edition of the Orwell Bulletin together with an explanatory note prepared by RP, putting the justification of the increase into context. [The Chairman to write to the Secretary of the Village Hall Committee giving justification for no grant being awarded.](#)

RP

RB

9. Community Grants:

RB has checked with SCDC and has now received the relevant forms; these have been passed to KR. It appears that there may be a grant for up to 25% available for play equipment repairs.

10. Standing Orders:

Still ongoing.

RB, KR, JC

11. Correspondence and Clerk's Report:

At the invitation of the CCC Highways a new application for the Minor Highways Improvement Scheme had been completed and sent off.

The SCDC proposed recycling scheme for kerb side plastic has been postponed indefinitely.

Clerk has received quotations for the grass-cutting contract for the Burial Ground/Cemetery and the Recreation Ground; [MK to make comparison of quotes.](#)

12. Parish Plan update:

Parish Plan - WT circulated a comprehensive progress report, any comments to be passed back to WT.

13. Village Maintenance:

MK has received a quotation from Glebe Joinery for repair work on the benches in the recreation ground and he will provide figures at the next meeting. Volunteers or Glebe Joinery will paint the benches once they have been repaired.

14. Committee Reports & Areas of Responsibilities:

Village Hall

Minutes have been circulated.

Clunch Pit

Clerk has written to Wimpole Hall Home Farm inviting them to graze some sheep in the Clunch Pit and Glebe Field. As yet there has been no reply.

ORCA

There have been some objections to the banning of dogs on the recreation ground. The litterbin

will be installed soon.

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Clerk

Carpark

The lights SC58 and SC59, in the village hall car park, need to be checked, Clerk to report. JC has installed a sign asking for rubbish to be put into the bins and not left around the base of the containers.

Police

The Neighbourhood Police Panel will be held in Orwell on 23rd January 2008.

Tree Warden

MK has contacted another company for a quotation for the trees on Hurdleditch and the Churchyard.

MK

Churchyard

Clerk to write to the Church Warden, Mr Wayne Talbot, stating that the parish council has examined the repairs to the church wall and were dissatisfied with the workmanship and are not prepared to take on the responsibility of it in its present state.

Clerk

MK will look at the apple tree in the churchyard and will remove the lower limbs if needed.

MK

Glebe Field

Scrub still needs to be cleared.

Allotments

One allotment has now become available and the next resident on the list has been notified. Details to be sent to the Clerk.

Website

Application for Eastspace has been sent in.

KR

Youth

A meeting to be arranged with KR, RB and WT before next parish council meeting.

**WT, KR,
RB**

15. Councillors' Reports:

RB

It was proposed and seconded that a letter of support be written to the Headmistress of Petersfield School concerning her proposed 'Travel to School Plan'.

JC

The air conditioning units at the shop are due to be installed soon. JC will enquire when this is to occur. The notice board will have to be moved before the units can be installed. This would seem a good opportunity to get the notice board maintained and then possibly move it to its new proposed location.

KR

Has received correspondence from CALOR asking about how the prize money has been spent. At the moment the money is being held in reserves until a suitable project has been decided.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.55pm.
Next meeting will be Wednesday 20th February 2008

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