

ORWELL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF ORWELL PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

A meeting of Orwell Parish Council was held in the back room of the Village Hall on
19th May 2010 at 7.30 pm

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

In Attendance: Mrs J Damant - Clerk (JD), Cllr D Bird - SCDC (DB), Cllr S Kindersley -CCC (SK)

85/05/10 Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Mrs J Graham

86/05/10 Election of Chairman:

Mr R Primett was nominated by Mr M Kenyon and seconded by Mr W Talbot.

Mr R Bryant was nominated by himself, and seconded by Mrs K Reid.

A vote was taken and Mr R Bryant agreed to take the Chair.

87/05/10 Election of Vice Chairman:

Mr R Primett was nominated by Mrs K Reid and seconded by Mr Chapman.

Mrs K Reid was nominated by Mr M Kenyon and seconded by Mr Watson

A vote was taken and Mr R Primett agreed to be the Vice Chairman.

88/05/10 Declaration of Chairman and Vice Chairman's Acceptance of Office and

agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct:

Mr R Bryant and Mr R Primett signed their Declarations, witnessed by the Proper Officer, Mrs J Damant.

89/05/10 Planning Committee Elections:

Mrs J Avery, Mr R Bryant, Mr J Chapman, Mr M Kenyon, Mrs K Reid – Orwell Parish Councillors' unanimously approved the election of these representatives for the year 2010/2011.

Chairman of the Council: Mr R Bryant did not wish to stand as Chairman for the Planning Committee. Mr M Kenyon nominated Mr J Chapman and seconded by Mrs K Reid, all agreed. Mr J Chapman agreed to be Chairman of the Planning Committee.

90/05/10 Review of Declaration of Councillors' Interests:

All councillors signed and dated their Declaration of Interests, there were no changes recorded. Mrs J Graham will do this at the next meeting.

91/05/10 Declaration of Interests for items on the agenda:

There were no Declarations declared either personal or prejudicial.

92/05/10 Public Participation:

Mrs Sue Ellington (Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services - SCDC) addressed the Council and thanked them for their invitation she then gave a resume on what SCDC understood Orwell's problems to be. There followed a discussion when councillors reinforced their concerns regarding the health implications resulting from gardens being flooding with sewage and sewage backing up in toilets. They suggested that since SCDC were responsible for environmental health they should be putting greater pressure on Anglian Water and the County Council. Moreover, they expressed their frustration at not having any practical assistance or suggestions despite having had meetings and exchanged considerable correspondence with all the service providers, particularly so with Anglian Water.

It was agreed that the situation was exacerbated through the lack of ditches and surface water drains and/or pumping station having insufficient capacity. It was also agreed the council should seek advice from OFWAT.

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Mrs Ellington concluded by saying that the Orwell problem is common to a number of other SCDC villages and she was resolved to having a meeting with Anglian Water to discuss a plan of action when such flooding occurs.

There were no other members of the public present.

93/05/10

Minutest of the last meeting: 21st April 2010

Amendment - item 76/04/10 Information omitted from the minutes - It was proposed by RB and seconded by MK that Root Force should be instructed to construct the bridge at a cost of approximately £100, all agreed.

It was proposed by RP, seconded by MK that the minutes were a true record of the meeting, all agree. The Chairman then signed the minutes.

94/05/10

CCC Report:

Roads and Footways - The potholes on Hurdleditch Road will be repaired but uncertain as to when. the team is presently working on the A603 but it could be several years before all potholes in the district are repaired.

A & B Roads - The report for the A & B roads is still awaited, meetings had been held back due to the General Election, these are now taking place.

Flooding in Leaden Hill, Town Green Road and Hurdleditch - A list of capital bids has now been submitted but the enlargement of the Town Green Road surface water drain has not been included. However it may be included in the October list. See also item 92/05/10.

Other items

It had been agreed that changes need to be made to the Petitions system, at the moment if a matter is to be discussed by CCC a petition of 15,000 needs to be submitted, however if a matter concerning a member of council is to be discussed a petition of only 2,500 is needed. The Adult Day Care Centre at Toft is due to be closed. There is a 25% budget cut for adult social care.

95/05/10

SCDC Report:

Conditions or roads and footways - see item 94/05/10

Flooding issues -The motion which Cllr Morgan and Cllr Bird put to the Full SCDC Council Meeting was passed with a clear majority.

This motion stated that the Council will, when considering future planning applications for residential development at Cambourne, be mindful of the potential for flood risk being increased in the event that the cause of flooding at the Lower Cambourne Terminal Pumping Station has not been fully addressed.

Further, this Council instructs officers to liaise with the Environment Agency such that senior Directors of the relevant Developer companies and Anglian Water are put on formal notice of the powers of the Environment Agency to take criminal proceedings under section 85 of the Water Resources Act 1991. In the interim Council instructs officers to collect evidence such that, in the event of any repeat incidents, alternative proceedings can be considered under any of the following enactments - s.79 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, s.59 of the Building Act 1984, s.17 of the Public Health Act 1961. Officers are also asked to consider other areas with similar problems.

SCDC had to get the motion passed with reference to a specific case, hence the reference to Cambourne, but they have then (in the last sentence) enabled this to apply to all villages within South Camb's.

The SCDC Planning Department, now have a clear mandate to apply these conditions and process on other cases., i.e a precedent has now been set..

Housing Revenue Account/reform - It has been recommended to the Council that it accepts, in principal, the proposal by the Communities and Local Government Department to proceed to voluntary implementation of self financing for council housing.

96/05/10

Financial Matters:

April financial statement - it was proposed by RP, seconded by MK, all agreed that the statement was correct.

May financial statement - it was proposed by RB, seconded by RP, all agreed that the statement was correct.

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Payments and Additional payments for May (additional payments shaded)			
J Damant	479.60	salary	LGA 1972 s112
Inland Revenue	137.68	PAYE/NI	LGA 1972 s112
J Damant	9.27	expenses	LGA 1972 s111
MPC	70.00	Office rent	LGA 1972 s111
Rootforce	118.52	bridge for	allotments Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 ss23,26&42
P Chilvers	60.00	Internal Audit	LGA 1972 s111
Meadow Nursery	125.00	burial ground bench	LGA 1972 s215
Meadow Nursery	400.00	cut 2 & 3	OSA 1906 s9&10
ORCA 1st payment	2,967.50	donation	S137
D Titchmarsh	860.00	village hall	LGA(misc) 1976 s19

Local Government Act (LGA), Open Spaces Act (OSA)

It was proposed by RP, seconded by WT that all payments were correct, all agreed. Cheques were then signed by RB and KR.

Clerk to arrange for RP to be included as a signature, JC to come off.

Action: Clerk

Window Cleaner - Mr D Cook has agreed to clean the bus shelters at the current price. Clerk to write to Mr Simmons and Mr Cook. Action: Clerk

Rural Payment Scheme (RPA) - has been submitted.

Review of Insurance Policy - It was proposed by RB and seconded by MK that the Chairman and Clerk review the insurance policy and that if all is in order than a payment of £637.88 be submitted, all agreed.

97/05/10

Annual Return 2009/10

1. Report from Internal Audit - the audit is in agreement and the internal auditor has signed it off.

2. Sign off Accounts - Clerk read out sections 2 and 4 of the Annual Return. It was proposed by RP and seconded by MK that the audit was correct, all agreed. The Chairman and Clerk then signed the Annual Return. Clerk is still waiting for the asset figures for the Village Hall, this does not affect the Annual Return signing but is needed for the external auditors.

Mr P Chilvers, due to retirement, will no longer be acting as the Internal auditor. Clerk has been in contact with Mr Bruce Huett, an accountant who has agreed to be the internal auditor for next year at the same charge as Mr P Chilvers. Paperwork still to be done, when Mr Huett comes back from vacation.

Action: Clerk

98/05/10

Planning:

There have been no planning applications this month.

SCDC Decisions:

S/1687/09/F, 60 High Street permission granted for dwelling and garage

S/0251/10/F, 15a High Street permission granted for re-rendering dwelling.

S/0192/10/F, 40 Fishers Lane, amendment to materials has been granted.

Affordable Housing - RB is attempting to arrange a Saturday date for residents to look at the plans for the proposed development on Hurdleditch Road. Circle Anglia are finding Saturdays are difficult to arrange.

99/05/10

Correspondence & Clerk's Report:

Local Service Delivery by Parish Councils - this document was not for Parish Councils.

SCDC and City Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment - RP has responded directly.

Letter received from resident in Chequers Close in response to the PC decision item 75.04.10, Clerk read out the letter.

Damaged curb stones at Leaden Hill/The Grove, response to letter sent by clerk, to be circulated.

SCDC - Planning parish forum on 14th June at 5.45 at Cambourne 'topics - Loss of

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Cambridgeshire East and its replacement, Community Orchards'. RB and WT to attend.
Letter received from Mrs Pagram requesting that her husband's grave be levelled before the headstone is erected. Clerk has spoken with Mrs Pagram and she is happy for the grave to be grassed over.

SLCC Seminar - Health & Safety as it affects Town and Parish Councils and Human Resources to be held at Bretton Centre Peter'boro on Friday 18th June at 9.30am cost SLCC members £30, councillors £35. WT reported that he attended the last session and it had little to do with parish council's. There were no volunteers.

Correspondence circulated 19.05.10

S/1687/09/F, land to the west of 60 High Street

S/0251/10/F, 15a High Street

Letter from resident in Chequers Close

Letter received from SCDC concerning the curb damage on Leaden Hill/The Grove

Letter received from Mrs Pagram - husband's grave to be grassed

Kompan - brochure

CCC - Countryside Access and Public Rights of Way letter

ACRE - The Playing Field

Notes on Neighbourhood Panel

Grounds Maintenance Maps

SCDC Monthly Planning Policy

NHS - meet the Governors

100/05/10

Allotments:

KR reported that there have been more requests received regarding the erection of sheds and water butts. It was agreed that a settling in period needs to take place before any decisions on sheds and other items are discussed. RP suggested that there should not be any construction on the allotment higher than the fence; storage chests maybe more appropriate than sheds. RB suggested that a community secure store, outside the wire, might be a consideration. KR to arrange an allotment meeting with all the holders to discuss their requests and report back at the July meeting.

Action: KR

101/05/10

Parish Plan:

WT will circulate the summary statement, comments are still being collated.

WT will be meeting with Cambridgeshire ACRE to discuss the summary.

Action: WT

102/05/10

Village Maintenance:

1. Notice boards (near village shop) have now been re-varnished and re-erected.
2. The old notice board on Hillside has now been removed
3. Mulberry Tree - MK has contacted Meadow Nursery who will be carrying out the clearance of vegetation in that area. MK stated that the additional support for the tree may be required for next year.
4. Seat in the burial ground has now been repaired.

103/05/10

Street Lighting:

Two site meetings took place with RB, WT, the Clerk and Mr Tony Hull (CCC). The first, outside the entrance to Petersfield School and the second in front of 21 High Street. It was suggested that a 6m column with a 60w light be erected outside the school at an approximate cost of £1,500 and a 6m folding column with a 60w light be erected on the High Street at an approximate cost of £1,700. A £1,000 has been precepted for the school light plus a £200 contribution from the school, the cost of the other light to be taken from reserves. It was proposed by RP to install both lights, seconded by WT, all agreed.

104/05/10

Forward Planning:

Relocating the football pitch - CW awaits the return of the landowner from Germany to discuss leasing the land that was originally used for the football pitch. Concern was expressed about overhead electrical cables in the area.

Action: CW
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105/02/10 Annual Parish Meeting - items to follow up
Request for marketable housing in addition to affordable housing (mixed development).
Ditches - is it permissible to reintroduce ditches where over time they have been filled in and piped. Clerk to contact Highways. **Action: Clerk**
Minimum foot way width - according to Highways this is 1.2metres.

106/05/10 Committee Reports & Areas of Responsibility:
Clunch Pit
The Management Agreement between Natural England and the Parish Council is due for renewal. It was proposed by RP and seconded by KR that the agreement be renewed. RB will arrange. **Action: RB**

ORCA
The next meeting is 9th June 2010

Tree Warden
The Mulberry tree is looking good, and will not be pruned this year.

Burial Ground/Churchyard
The wall at the front of the Church is due to be repaired.

107/05/10 Councillors' Reports:
CW
Shrubbery is growing up the posts at the car park, to be trimmed once the birds have stopped nesting.
It would appear that youths are frequently congregating, in cars, in the Village Hall car park. Clerk to advise the police. **Action: Clerk**

WT
A group of 5 youths are researching grants for ORCA as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Youth club is celebrating its first birthday.
RP
Since the bad weather, the pathways at the entrance to the church and in the churchyard are breaking up. Needs to be inspected and precepted for next year.

JA
Could another notice for dog fouling be placed at the Glebe Field and Clunch Pit. RB will organise. Action: RB

Due to there being no further business the meeting closed at 10.20 pm.

Chairman

Date

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.

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