

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OAKLEY & DEANE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 11TH APRIL 2019

Present: Mrs. Blackman (Chairman), Mr. Bealing, Mr. Bullions, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Harding, Mr. Hewitt, Dr. Johnstone, Mr. Law, Mr. Parry, Mrs. Richards, Mr. Startin, Ms. Tofts and Mrs. Taylor (Borough Councillor). Two members of the public attended the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr. Paler.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2019

Minutes of the meeting, having been previously distributed to all members, were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting and the Chairman signed the minutes.

3. Notices, Circulars and Correspondence

- a) **Elections May 2019:** the clerk confirmed that eleven existing and one new member had all been elected unopposed, so there was one vacancy that could be filled by co-option at the May meeting.
- b) **Expenses submissions:** the clerk reminded all members that they must return their election expenses submission - even if there was no expenditure - by 28th May. There are also Acceptance of Office forms, and a Declaration of Member's Interests forms to complete and the clerk will bring those to the May meeting.
- c) **Virgin Media:** a generic response to the most recent letter sent by the Parish was received, along with details of how members of the public could contact Virgin. It was agreed that the contact details should be published in the Link article as well as being available at the APM.
- d) **Mayor Making:** Councillor Taylor will become Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane on May 9th and Mrs. Blackman will attend the Mayor Making ceremony.
- e) **Beach Park Recycling Centre:** the clerk continues to receive complaints about the recycling area. Mr. Ellison asked Cllr. Taylor to speak to the relevant team at BDBC as it has been nearly six weeks since he and the clerk met with representatives from the Borough, Serco and Hart DC, and to date no response has been received.
- f) **New Rector:** the Institution Service of the new Rector, Ben Kautzer, will take place on Monday 29th April and Mrs. Blackman and the clerk will attend.

4. Clerk Report

The clerk had distributed her report to all members in advance of the meeting and there were no comments and no questions.

5. Planning Matters

- a) **Minutes of the Planning Meetings held on 21st March and 4th April** were circulated to all members and there were no comments or queries.
- b) **'Too Poor to Play':** the clerk had circulated a report from The Guardian about segregated play areas on estates where children living in social housing and affordable rentals were prohibited from using the play equipment available to owner occupiers. Members agreed that the clerk should write to BDBC requesting confirmation that no such practice would be followed at any of the play areas in Oakley and Deane. Also, Mr. Ellison

asked for clarification as to whether the play area on the Park Farm development, which Wates had agreed to remove due to the proximity of Beach Park, was now being reinstated by Bewley Homes.

- c) **Development Control Committee Meeting 3rd April:** at the DC meeting, it was stated by the Planning Officer that despite Oakley exceeding its Local and Neighbourhood Plan allocation of new housing, and the Borough having a five year land supply, that did not preclude the Borough allowing new development to take place and be regarded as 'windfall'. The clerk had drafted a letter to the Planning Officer outlining our concerns about this, and the effect it will have on residents' confidence in the Neighbourhood Plan process. Members agreed she should send the letter and copy it to MP Kit Malthouse. Ms. Tofts commented that it made a mockery of the Neighbourhood Plan, and Mr. Bealing said he felt the Parish was being 'punished'. Dr. Johnstone said that development without infrastructure would seriously adversely affect the village, and all members agreed.

6. Working Party Reports

Working Party preferences: the clerk thanked those members who had returned their WP preferences and asked those who had not to get them to her as soon as possible.

Action List: the clerk circulated the March action list and there were no comments or queries.

a) Burials and Churchyards

- i) **New area at Burial Ground:** S W Contracts will confirm to the clerk what date they can commence the works at the Burial Ground, where the former spoil heap was situated.
- ii) **Update on church wall:** the clerk has heard from Mr. Goddard who has agreed to take on the preparation of the tender documents and the profiling of suitable contractors.

b) Environment

- i) **Working Party Report:** the working party report was issued to all members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Tofts provided an update, that she had now heard from Chris Slack from BDBC and was arranging a suitable date for a meeting.
- ii) **Rectory Road Pond:** Mr. Ellison said that he was not sure of the Working Party's plan for the pond. Ms. Tofts replied that as a local resident had indicated he thought that a bog garden might struggle due to the amount of oil and run off from the road, she wanted to consult with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust to get their opinion before making any final proposal.
- iii) **Galvanised Planter:** Mrs. Blackman asked why it was proposed that perennials were to be planted if there was an intention to keep the planter for only one further year. Also, she enquired why the WP had not asked the Oakley Gardening Club for details of their proposed planting scheme. Mr. Harding asked for the detail, and Mrs. Blackman replied it would be red geraniums and vanilla marigolds. Members then voted on which scheme they preferred, with a majority choosing the geraniums/marigolds, and the clerk was asked to confirm with the Oakley Gardening Club. Mr. Ellison

commented that the Parish Council was always most grateful for voluntary help, as it made a huge contribution to the village.

c) Finance

- i) Approval of Payments:** it was proposed by Mr. Harding and seconded by Mr. Hewitt, and agreed by all members that the following payments be approved:

Payee	Charge to Budget	Total Cost	Service	Status
NEST	64.26	64.26	Clerk Pension March	Paid DD
EE +T Mobile	15.72	18.86	Clerk mobile phone	Paid DD
HMRC	558.58	558.58	March Contributions	Unpaid EFT
BDBC	253.75	304.50	March Grounds Maintenance	Unpaid EFT
M Bastick	331.50	331.50	Handyman Hours March	Unpaid EFT
Larkstel	1615.00	1938.00	March Grounds Maintenance	Unpaid EFT
Nigel Jeffries	485.66	582.79	February Grounds Maintenance	Unpaid EFT
Larkstel Ltd	187.50	225.00	Litter bins March	Unpaid EFT
HALC	1014.00	1014.00	Subscription 2019/20	Unpaid
T Harrington	172.44	172.44	March cleaning	Unpaid EFT
BT	67.79	81.23	Clerk landline phone/Broadband	Unpaid DD
BT	10.00	12.00	Portable mini hub	Unpaid DD
Castle Water	13.09	13.09	PH Water	Unpaid
Castle Water	126.26	151.51	NF Water	Unpaid
Malshanger Estates	354.67	354.67	Allotment water to 30/6	Unpaid
SSE	145.18	152.46	NF Electric to 31/3	Unpaid DD
B Bedford Expenses	214.46	249.26	Rabbit fencing, shingle, payroll, phones	Unpaid EFT
M Bastick	30.97`	30.97	Handyman expenses March	Unpaid
John Dollin	142.00	142.00	Flyers	Unpaid

It was agreed that Mr. Startin and Ms. Tofts would approve the EFT payments. Mr. Ellison requested confirmation that Mr. Shenton had performed the gas boiler service and annual gas safety checks, and the clerk will follow up urgently.

- ii) Payment of litter grant:** the clerk confirmed she had received a BACS remittance advice from BDBC for the 2019/20 litter grant.

d) Highways and Transport

- i) Working Party report** was issued to all members in advance of the meeting. Mrs. Blackman commented that not only the clerk, but she, and Mr. Bullions, had received comments resulting from the article in the Gazette about proposed traffic calming measures in St John's Road. Mr. Harding advised that the Gazette had published incorrectly and apologised.
- ii) One Stop:** Mrs. Blackman asked if any response to the letters sent to One Stop had been received and Mr. Harding replied there was no reply as yet but that he would follow up for a third time.
- iii) Upper Farm Road Survey:** Mr. Harding informed members that OTIS had been deployed at Upper Farm Road for two weeks and in that time, had recorded only four instances of lorries exceeding the speed limit.

- iv) **Speeding in the village overall:** Mr. Parry asked whether speeding in the village was concentrated in one or two places, or evenly distributed. Mr. Harding replied that there were certain areas, St. Johns Road being one, where speeding was more of an issue – one vehicle was recorded doing almost 60mph in a 30mph limit.
 - v) **Parking at The Vale shops:** Mr. Law commented that the issue of parking at the shops was still a problem and asked whether the Parish council could work with the owners of the shops to enforce a maximum stay of two hours to alleviate the practice of people parking there all day. The main problem with that is how such a measure could be enforced.
- e) Publicity and Events**
- i) **Working Party report** was issued to all members in advance.
 - ii) **Oakley Act of Remembrance:** Mrs. Blackman asked if all members agreed that Mr. Thurston, Mr. Barber and Mrs. Davis be co-opted so that they are all covered by the Parish Council's insurance. All members agreed and thanked them for agreeing to support the Service of Remembrance for Oakley.
 - iii) **Merchandise:** Mrs. Blackman informed members that Mrs. Bettridge did not wish to be co-opted to the Council as from end of March and therefore the merchandise needed to be moved to a new location. The clerk was asked to contact Mrs. Bettridge to establish how much there was. She was also asked by all members to thank Mrs. Bettridge for all her work and support.
 - iv) **Welcome Packs:** Mr. Bullions agreed to take all the leaflets etc that Mrs. Blackman has so he can make up the packs for future use.
 - v) **Carols at the Pond:** Mrs. Blackman asked if members wished to continue with the service and if so, whether it would be on 21st December. All members agreed with the date, and that the service should go ahead.
 - vi) **Website:** Mrs. Blackman asked all members if they would agree that the clerk should enter the new website in the HALC competition and all agreed.
 - vii) **Mr. and Mrs. Burgess:** it was agreed by all members that the clerk should write to Mr. and Mrs. Burgess to thank them on behalf of the Parish for all the work they had done for the Parish including Service of Remembrance, Carols at the Pond and many others.
 - viii) **Annual Parish Meeting:** Eight members confirmed they will be attending the meeting, and the clerk asked them to arrive at the school for 6.45pm on the evening to prepare, and to stay afterwards to put chairs back and clear up. Draft agendas have been sent out to all speakers.
 - ix) **Database:** Mr. Paler has produced a document which was distributed to all members, showing potential usage of the new system as it would work for Working Parties. This will be discussed at a later meeting when he is present to answer questions.
- f) Sports Grounds and Play Areas**
- i) **Working Party Report** was issued to all members in advance of the meeting. After the meeting on 1st April with the new contractors, Mr. Ellison contacted Mr. Galliford to express his thanks for his support and advice, and the clerk had sent a card to Mr. Galliford to thank him. So far, Scofell the new gang mowing contractor, has been very proactive and helpful.

However, Nigel Jeffries still needs to be monitored especially as this is the start of a new contract, so correct procedures need to be enforced from the start.

- ii) **Meeting with OYFC:** on 9th April Mr. Ellison and Mr. Parry met with representatives of OYFC to discuss the end of season arrangements. At the moment there is no clarity on what matches remain to be played at Newfound and the clerk has contacted Larkstel to request that two pitches on the SW side of Newfound are marked up for 7 x 7 games. OYFC were asked to ensure that the clerk is kept informed of fixtures and it was again confirmed that Newfound is available in the evenings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The clerk was asked to contact the secretary and chairman to ask them to remind managers that no games should be played at Newfound on Thursday evenings, as the Parish Council meets – on 11th April there was almost no parking available for members and residents as there were one (or two) games being played when members arrived.
- iii) **£106 monies:** Mr. Ellison has started the process to request funding for the improvement of the track from the B3400 to the Newfound carpark, from funds from the Leamington Court development, and for funding towards a bench at Beach Park, from funds from One/Two Fox Lane.

Retirement of Mr. Law: at this point, Mr. Law left the meeting. Mrs. Blackman thanked Mr. Law for all his work on the Parish Council, and all members concurred. Mr. Law will be replaced by Mrs. Smith, and all members welcome her and look forward to her joining the Council in May.

7. Reports from representatives to other organisations

- a) **Andover Road Village Hall:** Mr. Hewitt confirmed new crash bars had been installed. Mrs. Blackman reported that a light in the small committee room needed a new bulb.
- b) **East Oakley Village Hall:** Ms. Tofts had nothing to report. The clerk advised that notices of an impending planning application had been sent to neighbours, and that this had caused confusion, and residents had contacted a former councillor to ask about the plans. Ms. Tofts agreed to make members aware of this.
- c) **Jubiloaks/Woodlands Group:** the clerk had nothing to report but is attending the AGM of Jubiloaks, on 14th May.
- d) **Village Show Committee:** no meeting has taken place
- e) **OCA:** meeting report was circulated to all members. Mrs. Blackman clarified that the question Mrs. Bedford had asked, about potential publishing of new books/leaflets by herself and Mrs. Warner was raised because there was some uncertainty about whether the Parish would continue with merchandising in the future.
- f) **PCSO:** PCSO Andy Jones joined the meeting at 9.10pm. He asked if there were any issues members wished to raise, and confirmed that he would be attending the Annual Parish Meeting. He asked about Speedwatch and OTIS, and offered to help with any problems. He left shortly afterwards.
- g) **Councillor Taylor** then left the meeting, but not before Mr. Ellison asked her if there was any update re the lease of the land at Newfound. She

confirmed that the Legal Officer had not replied to her last email, and would follow up further.

- h) **CCG:** Mr. Parry represented the Parish at the CCG meeting on 14th March. Following the re-launch of the NHS Plan for England, which outlines investment decisions for health over the next ten years, the CCG held a meeting for councillors at the Borough Offices. The plan is to create clusters, for example, Oakley, Overton, Kingsclere and Tadley, and provide specialist services at one of the cluster practices. The ambitions are to help people look after themselves, to help manage long term conditions more easily – not necessarily by seeing a doctor, but perhaps a nurse or pharmacist, to make it easier to see a specialist when this is needed, and to provide better support for older people.
- i) There is also an aim to modernise the hospitals in the area. However, Mr. Parry noted that there is still a lack of cohesion, and a more integrated approach is needed – the silo mentality still dominates in some areas.
- j) Mr. Parry spoke to Dr. Decker (who is attending the APM) and asked about the future of the Oakley Surgery and what plans they had for the support needed for the increasing elderly population. Ms. Tofts commented that the charity section's resourcing is dwindling and provided examples of the reduction in dementia support. Dr. Johnstone commented that what we needed to do to support local health care needed to be clarified but it was important to note that should a general election take place, funding and strategy may be put on hold and changed dramatically so it was not clear what long term requirements there were. Mr. Parry has agreed to apply to be an 'ambassador' for the CCG which may bring the Parish closer to the health providers. Mrs. Blackman thanked him for attending the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

8. Confidential Items

Resolved: that owing to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

- i) **May meeting procedure:** Mrs. Blackman and Ms. Tofts remain in office until a new Chairman is appointed at the meeting on 9th May. Ms. Tofts will chair the meeting initially and the first item of business will be to elect a chairman and (if members wish) a vice-chairman. Those standing for election as chairman must be proposed and seconded by two members of the council. If only one member stands, they are automatically elected. If there is more than one member standing for election and duly proposed and seconded, then a ballot will be held, and the clerk will collate the results and announce them.
 - ii) **Mrs. Blackman:** the clerk proposed a vote of thanks for Mrs. Blackman, who is standing down as a councillor after 36 years as a member and also as chairman on two separate occasions. Mr. Ellison also asked that a formal note of appreciation for Mrs. Blackman's long service, commitment and hard work be made and minuted, and all members agreed.
9. **Date of the next meeting** was agreed to be May 9th 2019