

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OAKLEY & DEANE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 10TH OCTOBER 2019

Present: Mr. Hewitt (Chairman), Mr. Bullions, Mr. Ellison, Mrs. Eydatoula, Mr. Harding, Dr. Johnstone and Mr. Startin, and Mrs. Taylor (Borough Councillor). Two representatives from Manydown attended the meeting, and one member of the public was present.

Public Session

Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Pritchard from Manydown attended the meeting to update the Parish Council on the status of the outline planning application for North Manydown. The Joint Development with Urban&Civic is approaching finalisation, and a separate application for early ecological works has been submitted. The future of the land still to be farmed has to be agreed, as well as the break points across the Green Corridor, and flora and fauna protected. There is a seed bank at Kew for samples taken from all areas of the site, and preservation of biodiversity is a high priority for the developers.

In terms of transport, while there is no change to the major road layouts detailed in the most recent Outline Application, further consultations on public transport have been organised. Dr. Johnstone pointed out that Oakley has an aging population, and its position some 4 miles outside the town and the railway station make it unlikely that most residents would cycle to and from town other than for leisure – certainly not for commuting.

Mr. Reynolds then spoke about the design standard to which all developers will be required to adhere. Mr. Ellison asked who would monitor compliance, and Mr. Reynolds said that was not decided yet, and possibly could be done by utilising the current resource at the Borough Council, or by contracted personnel working direct for Manydown LLP.

Mr. Ellison asked when Manydown would count towards the Borough's 5 year land supply and Mr. Reynolds confirmed this could be as early as February 2020 if the outline plans are approved by then. Consultations will take place in early December 2019 and a Development Control date would be set approximately 5 weeks after the consultation finishes. Following a question from Mr. Startin, Mr. Reynolds stated that the first 'spade work' could commence in Autumn 2020.

Mr. Harding commented that traffic using Pack Lane to avoid the works on the B3400 will increase hugely during the building phase and Mr. Reynolds agreed it would have an impact but that road works would be done alongside the existing carriageway as much as possible. Mr. Harding informed Mr. Reynolds that he had detailed information on traffic flows

that he would be happy to share with the Manydown team. Mr. Startin asked if it was envisaged that the works at the Leisure Park would be taking place during the construction of Manydown and this was confirmed.

Green Issues

An Oakley resident attended the meeting and spoke about the success of the 'Green Week' led by St Leonards, and the positive public response it had engendered. It is important that this positivity is maintained, and whilst the Parish Council is not necessarily in the best position to organise events and schemes, it has a wide set of contacts, including in other villages and towns locally, and has natural links with green issues such as playing fields, parks, the ponds, footpaths etc. Dr. Johnstone agreed to meet with the resident to ensure that a Parish presence in the various groups in the village and to give guidance to the Council to pursue environmentally friendly choices in its operations.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mr. Bealing, Mr. Parry, Mr. Paler, Mrs. Richards and Mrs. Smith.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 12th September 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) The clerk informed members that to thank Mrs. Parry for attending the meeting in September at St Leonards and taking minutes, she had purchased an Amazon voucher. Mrs. Parry had sent a note of thanks to all members.
- b) HALC AGM: the AGM is being held this year on 9th November at Winchester. No members wished to attend.

4. Clerk Report

The clerk issued her report in advance of the meeting and there were no comments or queries.

Clerk computer: Mr. Paler had worked with the clerk in her home office and noted how slow her computer was – this was not related to internet

connectivity but to the specification and age of the computer (approximately 8 years old). He proposed the purchase of a reconditioned machine with a much higher specification at a cost of £290.00. Mr. Ellison suggested that this purchase be made out of the 2019/20 budget but that the IT group do a full report on what IT functionality is required going forward and build up a reserve to cover such future requirements. Mrs. Eydatoula agreed that this would be a good solution at least temporarily. Dr. Johnston said that rather than getting a reconditioned pc it would be preferable to purchase a high-spec machine, example a Mac, which would be more reliable and give better functionality. However, the cost for this could not come from this year's budget. Mr. Ellison proposed, and Mr. Hewitt seconded, that the purchase of the reconditioned machine be made and that the clerk could recover the expense immediately as it was significant.

This then highlighted the issue discussed at previous meetings about the fact that the clerk has to pay for items using her own funds and claim back the following month using the expenses process. This month she had claimed over £500.00 and this is a considerable sum for anyone to pay on behalf of their employer. It was agreed that the previous discussion by the Finance Working Party to give the clerk an advance, against which she could offset expenditure and then operate as an imprest account, should be revisited and a formal proposal to the full council made as soon as possible.

5. Planning Matters

- a) **Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 3rd October** were circulated to all members and there were no queries or comments.
- b) **Meeting with Wates/Bewley Homes on 15th October:** The clerk and Mrs. Taylor informed members that they had both had numerous calls and emails from residents expressing concern and anger about the proposed development for a further 110 houses in Station Road. Members were encouraged to attend the meeting on 15th October. Mr. Flint and Mr. Glasscock had prepared a statement for the clerk to issue explaining the NPPF changes, and the lack of a 5 year land supply due in large part to the non-delivery of Manydown. It was agreed that a note should go into November Link to inform residents that the Parish and Borough Councillors were preparing a petition against extra development and the clerk agreed to write something to this effect and get Mrs. Taylor's approval. The clerk will also work on getting an online petition set up and Mrs. Taylor will seek support from Mr. Malthouse MP. It was agreed that the plans were opportunistic and sought to take advantage of the

failure of the Borough to be able to evidence a suitable land supply quota.

- c) **Local and Neighbourhood Plan Updates** : Mr. Parry and the clerk met with the Planning Policy manager at the Borough in September and were informed that the Neighbourhood Plan has to be updated to take account the changes required to the Local Plan. The Planning Committee will make a recommendation as to whether the changes should be done by the Borough, or whether a new NP team can be set up.

6. Working Parties

a) Burials and Churchyards

Dr Johnstone updated members about the meeting with Rev Kautzer and Mrs. Brown. The meeting was very positive, and it was hoped to co-opt one or more members of the PPC onto the working party. Dr. Johnstone will speak further with Mrs. Brown on this matter. Dr. Johnstone also raised the issue of a new burial ground, and her interest in at least some of it being set aside for natural burials. One of St Leonard's main concerns is parking.

The clerk was asked to escalate the issue of the wall with Goddard Associates.

b) Environment

Mr. Harding informed members about the meeting at the Methodist Hall about the future of the pond. It appears that the pricing may well be much less than originally estimated. Mr. Harding has met with 12 different contractors and is almost ready to prepare formal tender documents. There is a proposal not to have planting around the full pond, as now, but to have a 60/40 split and members were in favour of this . The question of funding was raised – but Mr. Harding stated that it was unlikely that the works would be done until the 2021/22 financial year so there would be the opportunity for some accruals of funds in advance. The clerk and Mr. Harding have a meeting with Mr. Abel in October to discuss possible support for the works at the main pond. A shared email address has been set up for the pond 'team' which currently consists of the Environment Working Party and some members of the public who attended the meeting in September.

Mrs. Eydatoula asked why if the County Council were responsible for the Rectory Road pond, and part of the Council tax paid by residents was to fund work by the County Council, works were being done by the Parish therefore getting residents to effectively pay twice. Dr. Johnstone said that there should be more probity in the use of funds and that residents do not realise that they are 'double paying' in this way.

Allotments: the skip was delivered on September 20th and collected on 23rd and was fully used. Unfortunately someone put tyres in the skip, which is not allowed, and so the Parish had to pay extra to have them removed and disposed of.

Planters: The Gardening Club asked if they could purchase some pansy plants to backfill the planter after the dahlias and other summer bedding plants had finished and all members agreed. It was also proposed that the Gardening club take over maintenance of the Jubilee flower bed and the clerk will speak to OCA about this at the October OCA meeting. Mr. Hewitt suggested that as one of the rose plants has died it be replaced by begonias which are relatively maintenance free and will produce a good effect.

Green Week: the report from the Green week open day is deferred to the November meeting.

c) Finance

It was proposed by Mrs. Eydatoula and seconded by Mr. Ellison, and agreed by all members, that the following payments be made:

Payee	Charge to Budget	Total Cost	Service	Status
NEST	108.45	108.45	Clerk Pension September	Paid DD
EE and T Mobile	16.14	19.37	Clerk mobile phone	Paid DD
HMRC	570.30	570.30	September Contributions	Unpaid EFT
Scofell	296.66	355.99	September Grounds Maintenance	Unpaid EFT
SW Contract Services	300.00	360.00	Churchyard and Kings Orchard	Unpaid EFT
M Bastick	222.75	222.75	Handyman Hours September	Unpaid EFT
Larkstel Ltd	2663.00	3195.60	Sept Grounds Maintenance bin emptying and 1.5k kg of loam	Unpaid EFT
Nigel Jeffries	587.92	705.50	August Grounds Maintenance	Unpaid EFT

T Harrington	180.14	180.14	September cleaning	Unpaid EFT
BT	10.00	12.00	Portable mini hub	Paid DD
P Williams	179.40	179.40	Works at Newfound	Unpaid EFT
J Paler	145.012	145.01	Ragic subscription	Unpaid EFT
BT	42.00	50.40	Office phone September	Paid DD
B Bedford Expenses	434.00	511.80	Sept Expenses	Unpaid EFT
Castle Water	57.74	57.74	Water PH	Unpaid
Castle Water	99.90	119.88	Water NF	Unpaid
G Fuller	130.00	130.00	Bugler for Remembrance Service	Unpaid
Malshanger Estate	299.36	299.36	Water to allotments	Unpaid

Mr. Harding and Mrs. Richards approved the EFT payments.

Mr. Startin had prepared budget sheets for all working parties and the clerk asked all working party leads to complete and return their sections to her and Mr. Startin before the November meeting. The sheets need to show expected expenditure for the remainder of this financial year, and full year 2020/21.

d) Highways and Transport

Mr. Harding sent out minutes of the meeting held on 10th October.

Working party priorities were agreed to be speeding, on-street parking and potholes.

It was agreed that the clerk should search the previous minutes to check if a fee for hiring OTIS had been agreed. If not, the figure of £25.00 plus mileage was suggested.

Mr. Harding explained that the preliminary findings from OTIS's deployment in Hill Road had proved very interesting – while there was not significant indication of speeding, the actual vehicle movements per day were much higher than initially expected. If a suitable site can be found, OTIS will next be put up in either Station Road or by the Deane Gate pub.

e) Publicity and Events

No members of the working party were present at the meeting.

Service of Remembrance: the clerk informed members that Mr. Harding was doing the reading, and Mr. Bullions was laying the wreath on behalf of the Parish. She showed the members the poster for the Service and all members commented how attractive it was. She asked if authority to pay for the wreaths could be given in advance and all members agreed. Approximately 6 members of the Parish Council will attend the service.

Carols at the Pond: the clerk showed members the poster and all expressed their approval. The clerk confirmed she had asked Mr. Elkin to lead the service on 21st December, and that Mrs. Burgess would speak to Mr. Colman about the donation of a tree. She informed members that a request from Oakley Bowling Club for a donation towards a new mower had been received, but she thought that perhaps the Bowling Club could be nominated as one of the charities to receive part of the collection from Carols at the Pond. Mr. Ellison suggested that a donation of £75.00 would be appropriate. Dr. Johnstone said that she thought that the collection could better be put towards the pond and that she did not understand why tax payers money should be given to a private club. She asked for details of the schedule relating to the disbursement of Section 137 funding, although whether the decision to give funding is legal, as opposed to whether it is the correct use of public funding, is not necessarily the same. The decision as to which local charities will benefit from the collection will be made at the November meeting.

f) Sports and Play Areas

Matters arising from September minutes: the parish council gave approval for the owner of 16 Avon Road to complete the fencing of his garden at its boundary with the play area. The works have been monitored by the working party and the works have been done as per the agreement.

Working Party Report: Mr. Ellison sent a brief working party report, updating members on decisions taken at the September meeting, and also requesting approval for further works:

Electrical works at Newfound done, with the exception of a new issue re the alarm cable in the disabled toilets, which will be fixed asap

Electrical works at Peter Houseman, done

Shutters at Newfound: ordered

OYFC floodlight circuit breaker replaced

Work on the Newfound cricket square done

To be actioned:

order 4 new chairs for Newfound

confirmation to St Marys and Oakley 3rd XI that use of Newfound for next season is agreed

PAT testing

Attendance at OYFC meeting – agree date.

7. Reports from representatives to other organisations

Andover Road Village Hall: the planning application is still under discussion

East Oakley Village Hall: nothing to report

Jubiloaks/Woodlands Group: the clerk will attend the next meeting

Village Show Committee: the clerk issued a report in advance of the meeting.

OCA: Mr. Startin circulated a report in advance of the meeting.

8. **Date of the next meeting** was agreed to be 14th November 2019