

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2010 at the Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr. Mrs. Walker (Chairman) Mrs Fardon, Mrs. Olney, R. Baily, D Fowler, R Harris, G Sansom, J Saunders, R Saunders, M. Taylor, the Clerk, Mr. Hewitt (Oakley Recreational Association) and 0 members of the public.

Open Forum – Presentation by Oakley Recreational Association on Tennis/Netball Court works

Mr. Hewitt advised that the ground works for the new court were complete and the painting and lining would be finished within two weeks. The management of the court had yet to be finalised but bookings would be made through the Sports & Social Club. The Club did not want to charge but would have to cover maintenance costs. The court would be open from 8.00am until 9.00pm in summer but would close earlier in winter as there were no floodlights. Football would not be permitted on the court and Mr. Hewitt agreed to put a notice to this effect on the court. A notice would also be posted with booking information/regulations for use and Council suggested booking through the ORA website, once this was up and running. A resident's concern that the fence was too low had been reported to the ORA. The contractor had confirmed that the fence was the standard height and the ORA would advise the resident. Council congratulated the ORA on their management of the construction and Clerk to write a formal letter of thanks.

1. **Apologies:** P White (business)

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

Clerk for item 18b) and Chairman for item 18d) as a relative of the litter picker.

3. **Minutes of Council Meeting held on 2nd March 2010**

Resolved: to adopt the minutes.

4. **Clerk's Report:**

Bollards on the Green – Cllr. Baily had checked the quality of the posts from the contractor with the lowest quotation and installation due to begin 26.04.10. Cllr. Baily advised that the removable post would drop down rather than be hinged and that he would meet the contractor on site before work began. Clerk to write and advise residents

High Street Bus Shelter – Clerk had chased Stagecoach for bus stop signs on the High Street shelters.

Lovell Road Phone Box – BT still unable to advise when it will be removed.

Highways – some potholes repaired and more reported. Missing Keep Left sign on Highfield Road roundabout had been replaced and the broken one reported. Clerk had requested ivy on Oakley bridges be cut back and remarking of white lines and new stop signs at the Church Lane triangle.

High Street Bus Shelter – Bedford BC had advised that the sum of £6935.83 quoted as remaining from the s.106 monies from the High Street bus shelter was incorrect as Amey has yet to be paid. The actual amount is likely to be around £3250. Clerk had confirmed that Council does want the money and Borough solicitors are drafting a letter re. maintenance arrangements.

Highfield Road/Station Road footpath - awaiting quotations for hard surfacing.

Directory – Clerk had thanked Old Road Securities for sponsoring the Directory

Parking on Footways – Clerk had asked police to pursue residents' complaints about parked vehicles blocking the footways in Hunts Path.

Gypsy & Traveller sites - Bedford BC had advised that Head of Planning is due to report to Council Executive on Allocations & Designations including gypsy & traveller sites in April.

Lovell Road Bus Shelter – residents had requested a seat in the shelter. Temporary seats had been placed in the shelter but Clerk to investigate suppliers for a permanent seat.

Queens College Farm Entrance – owner had complained about residents parking and turning in the entrance and damaging the road surface. As it is a private road, Council could only suggest that he installs a gate or bollards.

Oakley Signs – Bedford BC had removed graffiti and Clerk to thank them. Cllr. Fowler noted that frost had damaged the stonework and he was investigating the best means to repair.

OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL 13.04.10.	3.
<p>The bin inside the play area had a melted lid but was well used and being emptied so no action necessary at present. Residents and the litter picker had suggested that the concrete bin in the corner be replaced as rubbish was blowing out of it and because it had no liner, Bedford BC would not empty it. Proposed by Cllr. Fowler, seconded by Cllr. R. Saunders that a new large bin the same as the others in the village be purchased</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>Cllr. J. Saunders noted that Council still had a small bin and it was agreed to offer it to the ORA for the new tennis/netball court.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>11. <u>To review Council's Complaints Procedure:</u></p> <p>Clerk had circulated revised procedure including an informal complaints procedure and complaints dealt with by other bodies. Proposed by Cllr. Sansom, seconded by Cllr. R. Saunders that revised procedure be adopted.</p> <p>Resolved</p>	
<p>12. <u>Linch Furlong:</u></p> <p>Cllr. Sansom to arrange for councillors to mulch trees with chippings. Cllr. Fowler noted that 18 residents had signed up for the bat walk on 08.05.10.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>GS</p>
<p>13. <u>Oakley Sustainability Project:</u></p> <p>Cllr. Olney tabled proposed Heads of Term for the allotment land lease. The rent free period would be 3 years provided the Allotment Society put in fencing or hedging. Rent would be reviewed every 5 years and determined by an independent expert in the case of any disagreement. The Allotment Society would manage the site but not collect the rents. The access road would be maintained as a track and residents who also used it for access would be asked to contribute to the maintenance. A community hut could be erected and would not require planning permission. Cllr. Olney confirmed that a community orchard was also included. Once the Heads of Term were agreed, Bedford BC would issue a temporary licence and work could begin on site. This should take no longer than one month. Proposed by Cllr. Baily, seconded by Cllr. Fardon that Heads of Term be accepted</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>Cllr. Sansom commented that the community orchard should be treated separately from the allotments and reported separately to Council. Cllr. Baily added that how the orchard would be run and maintained had yet to be decided. Cllr. Fowler suggested Group enquire how Bedford BC run the Manton Lane orchard and Cllrs. Baily and Olney to pursue.</p> <p>Cllr. Olney noted that a community litter pick would be held on 17.04.10.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>PO</p> <p>RB/PO</p>
<p>14. <u>Borough Councillor's Report:</u></p> <p>Cllr. Olney reported that the Bedford BC skips would be in the village on 17& 18.04.10. and then again in September. Highway works for 2010/11 in Oakley included dropped kerbs in Ruffs Furze, resurfacing of part of Church Lane and Westfield Road. Footpaths and Dewlands were not included and the remainder of Church Lane was a reserve project. Cllrs Olney & Walker would be attending a community safety meeting on 19.04.10. to discuss alcohol sales to underage young people and explain the effect on villages. 10 of the 15 off licences between Oakley and Sharnbrook had sold alcohol to an obviously underage young person during a random test. Licencees would be trained and further random tests would be carried out in June It was expected that licencees would be revoked if the licencees were caught again.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p>
<p>15. <u>Planning Applications and Decisions and other planning matters:</u></p> <p>Decisions notified since last Council meeting – 2nd March 2010.</p> <p>Application No: 09/02974/FUL – extension to concrete hardstanding, installation of 2 bunded storage tanks, new storage building associated works (revised) at Oil Depot, Highfield Road</p> <p>Parish Comments: No objection now floodlighting amended</p> <p>Decision/Date: Permission 11.03.10</p> <p>Application No: 10/00196/FUL – single storey front and rear extensions at 46, Ruffs Furze</p> <p>Parish Comments: No objection</p> <p>Decision/Date: Permission 17.03.10.</p>	

Application No: 10/00190/FUL – single storey front extension linking bungalow to garage at 44C, Ruffs Furze
 Parish Comments: No objection
 Decision/Date: Permission 26.03.10.

Application No: 10/00288/FUL – infill extension at first floor level to form enhanced IT facility at Lincroft School
 Parish Comments: No objection
 Decision/Date: Permission 30.03.10.

Applications Received since last Council meeting

Application No. 10/00487/FUL – one & two storey rear extension. Erection of double garage with new block paved drive at Orchard House, 12 Lovell Road
 Parish Comments: No objection to the extension to the house but concern that the garage is too close to no.18

b) Bedford BC Strategy for Bedford High Street – Council generally supported the proposals but commented that measures were needed to avoid traffic congestion in the Town Centre and from vehicles trying to bypass Bedford from the north; new restaurants in the High Street could cause closures elsewhere in the Town Centre; consultation should be undertaken before any new public art is installed and cycle lanes should be protected and not simply green strips on the road.

Action

c) Bedford BC adoption of Great Denham Design Guide & Code - noted

Action

d) Bedford BC adoption of west of Kempston Design Guide & Code - noted

Action

Bedford BC Allocations & Designations Plan – workshops 24 & 25/05/10 inviting 2 representatives to attend. Cllr. Sansom to attend on 24.05.10. and Cllr. J. Saunders on 25.05.10. Chairman & Cllr. Olney would be attending a Borough Councillor workshop on 15.04.10.

Action
Clerk

Bedford BC/Central Bedfordshire Council– proposed incinerator at rookery Pit, Stewartby to be determined by the Government Infrastructure Planning Commission, not Bedford BC/Central Bedfordshire Council - noted

Action

Chairman noted that the Minerals & Waste Plan would be issued for consultation in May and the proposed Twinwood incinerator would not be decided until the summer.
 Cllr. Sansom was concerned about the vehicle on the verge near Sainsbury's advertising Santa Pod and Clerk to write to Bedford BC.

Clerk

16. Correspondence:

Action

- a) Bedford BC – Mayor's visits to village pubs to discuss local issues. As Mayor had attended the April 2010 Annual Parish Meeting, Council agreed not to pursue
- b) Bedford BC – No Stopping restriction to be introduced outside Lincroft & Oakley Lower Schools amongst others to keep entrances clear. Restriction is enforceable by the police - noted
- c) Bedford BC – train station redevelopment - noted
- d) Bedford BC – rural skips in Oakley 17 & 18.04.10. - noted
- e) Villager Bus AGM 19.04.10. Cllr. Fardon to attend
- f) CPRE AGM – 22.04.10 - noted
- g) Bedford BC – Rural Transport Road Show 11.05.10. at 11.00am on the Green
- h) Oakley Pre-School – thank you for donation - noted
- i) Oakley Village Hall – thank you for donation - noted

17. Grant applications: none

Action

18. Finance Matters:**a) Accounts for period up to 13th April 2010****Income and balances:**

National Westminster Bank - Current account balance at 31.03.10.	£79,104.12
National Westminster Bank – Reserve account balance at 31.03.10.	£1,781.55
National Westminster Bank - Treasurer’s Reserve Account balance at 31.03.10.	£140,000.00

Received since previous meeting

CTA Bedford - Directory	£25.00
Oakley Gardening Club – Directory	£12.50
Oakley Recreational Association – Directory	£25.00
Metrosigns 2000 – Directory	£50.00
DJR Tennis – Directory	£25.00
V E Parrott – Directory	£50.00
Oakley Bowls Club – Directory	£6.00
Oakley Women’s Institute – Directory	£12.50
Oakley Village Hall - Directory	£12.50
Oakley Upholstery - Directory	£12.50
Hazel Kaye - Directory	£50.00
Whites’ Engineering - Directory	£25.00
Oakley Youth Club - Directory	£25.00
Palmer - Directory	£12.50
Stitch in Time - Directory	£12.50
Almond Garages - Directory	£25.00
Methodist Church - Directory	£37.50
Oakham Decorators – Directory	£25.00
RSCDS - Directory	£12.50
Burnett - Directory	£12.50
Lincroft Sports Club - Directory	£12.50
Carpetline - Directory	£25.00
NLW - Directory	£25.00
Oakley Building Services - Directory	£50.00
Post Office - Directory	£50.00
Tudor Rose Patchwork - Directory	£25.00
Interest	£0.05

Total receipts this meeting £656.05

Payments Already Made:

H M Revenue & Customs - PAYE	£595.49	Chq. No. 502
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Payments Made:

Wildman Transport - emptying bottle bank 10.03.10 & 31.03.10.	£110.46	503
P. Hall – laying hedge at Linch Furlong	£2937.50	504
Bedford BC – installing temporary CCTV camera	£293.75	505
BATPC – affiliation fee	£451.00	506
H M & J M Parrott – playground inspection	£47.00	507
Clapham Parish Council – photocopying Mayor’s visit fliers	£20.00	508
Cllr. Fardon – Directory expenses	£10.07	509
Main Hall hire 06.04.10. 3 hrs @ £9.50/hr. Committee Room hire 13.04.10. 3hrs @ £6/ph	£46.50	510
Mr. D. Steynor – bus shelter cleaning March	£22.67	511
Clerk - salary and expenses 01.03.10. – 31.03.10.	£576.81	512
Mr. J Walker - litter collection @ £40/wk (6 weeks)	£240.00	513
Oakley Recreational Association – s.106 disbursement for tennis/netball court	£29,180.00	514

Total payments this meeting £34,531.25

OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL 13.04.10.**6.****Resolved:** to approve the accounts for payment

Clerk

b) Clerk's salary 2010/11

Proposed by Cllr. Fowler, seconded by Cllr. Baily, that Clerk's salary be raised one increment to scale point 28 i.e. £8970.59 per annum for 14 hours per week. Employers had agreed no cost of living increase for Clerks in 2010/11.

ResolvedAction**c) Bus shelter cleaner's salary 2010/11**

Bus shelter cleaner is content to include the new shelter at the junction of High Street/Reynes Drive in his contract. Proposed by Cllr. R. Saunders, seconded by Cllr. Fardon, that new shelter be included in the contract and salary be set at £28.50 per month for 5 shelters.

ResolvedAction

Clerk

d) Litter picker's salary 2010/11

Proposed by Cllr. R. Saunders, seconded by Cllr. Sansom that litter picker's salary be maintained at £40.00 per week from November to March and £45.00 per week from April to October to take account of the extra litter picking in Pavenham Road during the summer.

ResolvedAction

Clerk

e) Cricket Field lease

Oakley Properties had advised that they were not prepared to consider any revisions to the terms of the lease. Solicitor has asked for instructions on how Council wants to proceed. He suggested that the original use should remain the same i.e. to allow vehicles on the Field. Cllr. Baily suggested that an open market rent clause was fair and included in most leases. He volunteered to discuss with the solicitor and report back to next Council meeting.

Resolved that he should do so.Action

RB

19. Date of next Council meeting: 4th May 2010

Chairman