

OAKINGTON & WESTWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk's Report for 10 September 2018 meeting

Pond Work

Riparian owner informed in writing (6.7.18) that the Parish Council's position remains the same and reiterating the offer to install fence if he allows access to his land. Insurer copied and had advised there is no further action the PC should take at this stage. No response from riparian owner to date.

Shop/pub sign at Crossroads

Local Highways Officer had visited site. He reported that the crossroads is already 'littered' with signs and therefore he had found it difficult to find suitable locations for new signs that wouldn't distract motorists. Two sites were suggested:

1. Below direction board in Dry Drayton Road
2. Lamp column near Cambridge Road pinch point

LHO to send quote to Clerk. (Estimated approx. £200). Cnty Cllr Hudson urged LHO to progress this as soon as possible.

Highways Meeting 10 August

Notes circulated with agenda papers on 4 September.

Cemetery tap – requested by resident at July PC meeting.

Included on September meeting agenda.

Play Area Repairs/Annual Inspection Report

Two more wooden sleepers are rotten and one plank partially rotten on top. Clerk & Cllr Starling had turned the plank over as an interim measure. Clerk has instructed Longstanton handyman to replace all three due to health & safety concerns.

Annual play area inspection report circulated. Clerk & Cllr Warboys to work through it and bring a suggested action plan to October meeting.

Mill Road Orchard

Clerk & Chair had met Daniel Wright on site and subsequently accepted a quote for £250 +VAT to clear vegetation. Daniel is not interested in undertaking maintenance of the Rec Orchard trees. No volunteers have come forward to undertake this work.

Cloud Storage

Files on Clerk's laptop are now being backed-up to OneDrive as well as separate hard drive.

Poor Mobile Reception

Letters had been sent to: Vodafone, EE, O2 and Three. Unsatisfactory written responses from EE and O2. Essentially insisting they have good network coverage in Oakington and have no plans to improve it.

Councillor Vacancy

I notified SCDC Elections team of Marcus Dann resignation. Awaiting confirmation that the vacancy can be filled by co-option. This will be advertised shortly with a view to co-opting at the October PC meeting.

Defibrillator

I had to order a replacement battery at AED was showing a low battery warning light. Cost £68.49 + VAT

Annual Governance & Accountability Return

I received notification from PKF Littlejohn that they were raising an 'except for' matter on the AGAR part 3 again this year. I queried this as the figures they quoted related to 2016/17. The officer subsequently confirmed that he had made an error and the 'except for' would be removed.

Northstowe meeting – 21 August

Chair & I attended a meeting Northstowe Principal Planning officer James Stone (Other attendees – John Street - Longstanton Chair, Libby White- Longstanton Clerk, Dist Cllr Sarah Cheung-Johnson). Chair has already circulated his meeting notes. I thought the meeting was a useful information sharing exercise. It was disappointing to learn though that James Stone will not be the principal planning officer for Phase 3 and it will likely be an agency worker.

Northstowe Community Governance Review

Kirstin Donaldson, SCDC Programme Manager will attend the 12 November PC meeting to give a short presentation on CGR and take questions from councillors.

Emergency Plan

Cllr Warboys, Clerk and Andrew Dennis met on 30th August to finalise the flood kit list. Emergency Plan reviewed. To be discussed under item 18/134.

Police Officers meeting – 14 August

I met with Sergeant Emma Hilson & PCSO Bujar Mani (Histon Sector Police) to discuss mini 'crimewave' which took place early hours of 7 August and the perceived lack of Police action following several 101 reports. Officers stated they don't have the manpower to follow up on every 101 report but will prioritise patrols in villages that have suffered recent crime incidents. They are moving back to a 'Neighbourhood' policing model and we should notice officers out in the community more as a result. Full meeting notes circulated on 14 August.

Bench

See agenda item 18/132.2

Stocks Green

Report received of cars being parked on the green by tenants of 45 Water Lane. I have written to the tenants and copied lettings agency. (There is a licence in place which permits the parking of one vehicle to the rear of the property at the end of the track)

Laura Lawrence

Clerk

4 September 2018