

MINUTES OF OVINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT UPPER FARM,
OVINGTON ON TUESDAY, 3RD MARCH 2020 AT 8 P.M

In the chair: Mr. K. R. Nott
Present: Mr. P. E. Pawsey
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)
Together with 1 (one) member of the public

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr. D. Finch, Mr. M. Lewin and Mrs. I. Parker

2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The minutes of Ovington Annual Parish Meeting held on 5th March 2019 were read by the Clerk, confirmed and duly signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

a) Highway matters

It was reported that ECC Highways had failed to repair the direction sign at Donkey Corner or the Village Sign near Hole Farm, which had been damaged by a vehicle. The latter needs straightening so the Neighbourhood Watch sign can be attached to it. It was agreed to chase ECC Highways and Mr. D. Finch.

There were no other matters arising.

4) BEST KEPT VILLAGE & VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITIONS 2020

It was resolved not to enter Ovington for the Best Kept Village Competition or the Village of the Year Competition in 2020.

5) BELCHAMP ST. PAUL PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT

In the absence of a School Governor no report was given.

6) NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME REPORT

The Clerk read a written report from Mr. M. Lewin. Ovington had a reasonably quiet year with a few minor thefts and an attempted break-in. The problem of hare and deer coursing on farmland remained, the main issue being the time between reporting activities to the Police and its slow response, which is often too long to be effective and the perpetrators have far too much time to make their escape.

7) AIRFIELD JOINT ACTION GROUP REPORT

Mr. P. E. Pawsey reported that the current management of EGC was co-operative and there were no issues. The meeting offered by Mrs. Parker last year had not taken place.

8) BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

In the absence of Mrs. I. Parker no report was given.

9) ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

In the absence of Mr. D. Finch no report was given.

10) PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Mr. K. R. Nott reported upon the following:

- a) The sad death of Mr. A. G. Bragg, a former chairman of the Parish Council.
- b) The increase in the budget and precept for 2020-21 consequent upon the loss of grants from ECC and BDC.
- c) Mr. P. Gentry is the new Parish Council webmaster.
- d) A Mental Health training course arranged by Miss. T. Kelson and Mrs. K. Chapman had been held.
- e) Mr. D. Patient had undertaken GDPR training on behalf of the Parish Council and will report and recommend improvements at the next meeting.
- f) The Parish Council had supported the ‘Campaign Against Urban Sprawl’ and proposed garden villages.
- g) The failure of BDC to achieve an acceptable Local Plan, which was deplored.
- h) New septic tank regulations considered
- i) A new notice board and shelving for books had been installed in the former telephone kiosk at Ovington and thanks were expressed to Mr. P. E. Pawsey who had arranged the work, Mr. K. Bailey who had carried out the carpentry work and Mrs. I. Parker who had granted £200 out of the Councillor Grant Scheme.
- j) Thanks were recorded to Mr. P. Pawsey who cuts the grass in Ovington Churchyard.
- k) The Chairman thanked Mr. Pawsey and the Clerk for all their work for Ovington through the year.

Mr. S. G. Norris, churchwarden, on behalf of Ovington Church, also thanked Mr. Pawsey for grass cutting and keeping the churchyard so tidy and well kept.

11) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported that grips along the highway through Ovington, particularly near Blacksmith’s Piece, Silver End had not been cleared, causing flooding in a dip in the road. It was agreed to report this to ECC Highways and Mr. D. Finch.

Mr. Pawsey offered to stain the wooden shelves in the former telephone kiosk, which was gratefully accepted.

Mr. Norris reported that the new Gigaclear link in Ovington was an improvement over the previous system, but unfortunately it did not extend to all properties in the village.

Thanks were expressed to Mr. Pawsey for the use of his home for the meeting.

There was no other business.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm

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(Date)

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(Chairman)