

GREAT EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 6th January 2014 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr. B. Tyler (Chairman), Cllrs. L. Parker, H. Ingram, I. Luscombe, N. Clarke and A. Murdock. Mr D. Stewart and Mr D. Gibb.

1. Apologies for Absence: There were none

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Item 5: The proposed budget covered 2014/15 not 2013/14 as minuted. With this amendment the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Cllr. A. Murdock reported that following the clearing of rubbish on the Gatehouse Lane site and the erection of a new sign there appeared to be a reduction in fly-tipping incidents.

4. Planning Developments

The proposed Broadgate development has attracted a large number of comments both of support and objection. The main objection concerns flooding which the site has been troubled with for many years. Mr. Stewart confirmed that the matter has been discussed with the appropriate authorities, including the L.C.C. Flood Authority and that on Jan 21st a scheme to channel excess water into an existing but unused drainage pipe will be started. This is expected to reduce the problem considerably but the eventual developer of the site would also harvest rainwater as part of the development planning.

Mr. Stewart was thanked for his presentation and he left the meeting.

5. Financial Matters

H.D.C. requires every parish to provide details of their precept calculations, having circulated a precept spreadsheet and a budgeting template. Since there is no change proposed in the precept for Great Easton in 2014, these requirements seem to be inordinately complicated but have been complied with and the resultant information has been supplied to the H.D.C. Finance Department.

Cheques for signature:

100925 Clerk's salary Oct – Dec 2013 £400.00

6. Police, Community and Heritage Matters

No recent information has been received from the police. Cllr H. Ingram will continue to press for reports to be provided on a regular basis.

7. Arboreal Matters

The removal of a beech tree very close to the house wall at No. 1 Musk Close has been proposed. After examination of the site the tree warden, Cllr. A. Murdock, will not raise any objections.

8. H.D.C. Communications Survey

H.D.C. has requested the views of Parish Councils regarding the effectiveness of their communications with the District Council. The survey sheet provided was examined and the completed form will be returned to H.D.C. by Cllr. L. Parker.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

After some debate it was agreed that although there would be considerable commitment and enthusiasm required to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, residents should be offered the opportunity to produce such a document if there was sufficient interest.

A notice will be published in the Parish Magazine inviting interested residents to contact Cllr. Nora Clarke with a view to forming a dedicated team willing to commit themselves to the project.

10. Poor's Charity

Following the resignation of Mrs. Eileen Band as the sole remaining trustee of the Poor's Charity, the Council resolved to appoint Cllr. Heather Ingram and Mrs. Kathy Gibb as the two trustees to administer the charity in any way they see fit at their discretion.

The Council requested that they consider whether the current and long standing application of the annual rent from the Poor's field is suitable and appropriate for the present day, and, as a matter of record, to report back their intentions to the next meeting of the Council.

11. A.O.B.

H.D.C. have advertised that it employs a team of two qualified men known as the Quick Response Team to carry out small urgent jobs in the Harborough District.

The retirement of Cllr. Ivor Luscombe had been reluctantly accepted and his valuable work over many years, especially as Tree Warden, has been greatly appreciated. The Chairman Cllr. B. Tyler, referred to his conscientious approach to all his Council activities and wished him and his family well for the future.

Date of Next Meeting:

Feb. 3rd 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

D. G. Douche
(Clerk)