

GREAT EASTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
of the 6th April 2015
in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr B Tyler (Chairman), D Gibley (Clerk), Cllrs: N Clarke, P Long, A Murdock, L Parker and G Vizma.

D Cllr D Beaty, Mr and Mrs R Harvey, Rev R Barribal, Mr and Mrs M Ingram and Mrs K Gibb also attended.

39/15 Apologies for absence

None

40/15 Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and said that, as customary, he would take those items of personal interest to the public first.

- Dog Day Care Centre – 14/01446/FUL

Cllr Parker said that the applicant has appealed against the HDC planning refusal, partly on the grounds of inconsistency by the Planning Officer.

After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should re-state its continued objections to the proposed development, to include reference to:

- the questionable employment and economic benefits.
- the inaccurate stated location of the proposed development which is in Alec Lane, a narrow byway off Stockerston Lane
- the potential access problems in adverse wintry conditions on a minor road not included in the local gritting routes
- the previous concerns at locating a development in an area of outstanding natural beauty

The Planning Inspectorate Appeal reference is: APP/F2415/W/3005499 and comments can be received until 24 April 2015. It was also agreed to circulate the PC submission to Mrs Ingram for the wider information of concerned residents. **Action: Cllr Parker/Clerk**

41/15 Minutes of Previous Meeting of the 2nd March 2015.

The minutes, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

42/15 Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- Lampposts. The Clerk reported that LCC had provided a map and update concerning the respective PC and LCC responsibilities for the local lampposts. The issue of the Deepdale lamppost remains outstanding. **Action: Clerk**

- Broadgate – Wild Flowers. Cllr Murdock said that the previous reference in the minutes had apparently been noted and the wild flower bed was now in full bloom.

Molesworth Charity. Cllr Clarke reported that she had met with Mrs Kingston to progress the winding up of the Molesworth Charity. The small current account balance would be transferred to the PC account pending the final decision as to its disposal.

Action: Cllr Clarke

- **Gatehouse lane – Fly Tipping and the Charity Bins.** Cllr Murdock said that HDC had responded very promptly to the two requests for the removal of the fly tipping and the charity containers at the entrance to Gatehouse Lane. A note would be included in the next Parish magazine.
- **Quadbikes.** Cllr Clarke reported that the quadbike problems had been resolved.

43/15. Planning Matters

- **14/01519/FUL -Erection of two dwellings at 13 Deepdale.** Cllr Parker said the revised application had now been withdrawn. Mrs Gibb said that the Highways Dept had recently conducted a 48 hour camera survey of the road, presumably to gather information for a possible further application.

44/15. Financial Matters

- **Annual Account.** The Clerk said that the annual accounts would be available for the next (AGM) meeting.
- **Cheque payments.** The following payments were authorised:

101062	£16.00	Village Hall hire for NP meeting
101063	£320.00	Clerk wages (Jan- Mar 15)
101064	£80.00	PAYE
101065	£243.80	Zurich Insurance – Annual renewal
- **VAT** The Clerk said that VAT would be recoverable for NP invoices and potentially for the Grass cutting expenditures.

45/15. Arboreal matters.

- **Grass Contract.** Cllr Murdock reported that the two grass maintenance contracts with LCC and the local contractor - CGD Ltd - have been agreed and signed . The initial cut had been carried out and there appeared to be general satisfaction at the overall standard, in particular around the War Memorial.

46/15. Police, Community and Heritage Matters

- **Dog Fouling.** Cllr Clarke said that dog fouling was now an increasingly important issue, including the area of the Recreation Field. The school was potentially involved in designing a suitable poster for display. Cllr Clarke was clarifying with HDC concerning the legal wording for a letter to dog owners and would report back on recommended actions at the next meeting. **Action: Cllr Clarke**
 It was agreed, in principle, to contribute to any costs of signs at the Recreation Field.

47/15. Neighbourhood Plan Report

Cllr Long gave the following report on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan:

- **Chairman.** Mr Andy Murdock has been formally appointed as Chairman and Cllr Long would continue to represent the Parish Council on the Planning Group.
- **Draft Great Easton Settlement Profile.** HDC have now agreed that *“the settlement hierarchy framework as set out in the report, (with Great Easton as a Selected Rural Village) will now form the basis for development options in the new Local Plan”*. Cllr

Long added that this was excellent news and would provide an agreed basis for the further development of the NP and Local Plans.

- **Questionnaire.** The joint questionnaire, in conjunction with Midlands Rural Housing, is on course to be distributed to all households in late April/early May.

- **Communication.** The first newsletter will be distributed to all households in April.

- **Theme Groups.** Four main themes have been agreed, (1) Environment,(2) Housing and Heritage,(3) Roads, Transport and Employment and (4) Community Facilities. It has been decided to start with the Environment at the next meeting in April.

Cllr Long was thanked for his encouraging report.

48/15. Poor's Charity.

Cllr Parker said that unexpected complications had arisen concerning the access to Poor's Close which is across Clerk's Land, for which the Church has a similar longstanding tenancy agreement with the Clarke family. A further complication is that Clerk's Land appears to have been incorrectly included by the Church Commissioners when registering their ownership of the surrounding field. To resolve these issues could severely delay the registration of Poor's Lane.

Cllr Parker added that his recommendation was the registration of Poor's Land, and the agreed merger of Poor's Charity and the Valentine Goodman Charity, should not be delayed. He noted that if the issue of the access arose in the future, a separate gated direct access to Poor's Lane could be installed or a legal access agreement with the registered owners of Clerk's Land could be arranged at that time.

This was agreed and Cllr Parker was thanked for his work.

Action: Cllr Parker

49/15. AOB. The following matters were raised:

- **Pothole on verge opposite the hall.** The Chairman said that the deep pothole had been reported to LCC Highways who on examination had indicated a possible fractured pipe, which will be investigated and rectified.

- **Election -7 May.** The Clerk reported that the various election notices are in place.

- **Queen's Diamond Jubilee Commemorative Oak.** Rev Barribal said the Church Bank residents were concerned that the Queen's Oak, when reaching maturity, would seriously impact on the natural light entering the adjacent houses. He added that he understood there had been no proper consultation with local residents prior to planting the oak and requested whether it could be moved. It was agreed to assess the views of the local residents and report back at the next meeting. **Action: Cllr Murdock**

- **Magna Carta Event.** The Chairman said that difficulties in scheduling and liaising with Brighthelm School meant that he had reluctantly decided not to proceed.

- **D Cllr David Beaty.** The Chairman expressed his appreciation, on behalf of the PC, to David Beaty, standing down this May having completed 12 years as the District Councillor for Nevill Ward. His invariably helpful advice and support has been highly valued.

50/15. Date of next meeting - AGM. Monday 4th May 2015.

DAC Gibley
(Clerk)

Cllr B Tyler
(Chairman)

