

DRAFT
GREAT EASTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on the 7th December 2015
in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: A Murdock, G Vizma, N Clarke, L Walsh, P Brittain and D Gibley (Clerk).
Mr R Mitchell, Miss M Stamp, Mr M Yates, Mr I Drummond and Mr and Mrs I McKeggie also attended.

143/15. Apologies for absence.

Cllr P Long, D Cllr M Rickman

144/15 . Welcome. Cllr Murdock said that she had been asked to chair the meeting due to the unavoidable absence of the Chairman because of family illness. She expressed her sympathy and support for the Chairman and his family on behalf of all the Council.

Cllr Murdock welcomed Mr P Brittain, newly elected, to his first meeting.

145/15. Declarations of Interest for agenda items.

No declarations of interest were declared.

146/15. Minutes of Previous Meeting of the 2nd November 2015.

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

147/15. Matters Arising

- **PC Notice board.** The Clerk reported he had met with Cllr Walsh and a risk and assessment recommendation would be for a rail to be installed on the raised edge and the side backing on to the road to minimise any risk from inadvertently stepping backwards whilst reading the notices. It was agreed that this should be costed and installed at the same time as the board is repaired.

Action: Cllr Walsh /Clerk

- **Daffodils towards Bringhurst School.** Cllr Murdock reported that the daffodils had been planted.

148/15. Planning Matters.

- **15/01826/FUL – Phase 2 application for a further 9 dwellings at the rear of Broadgate.** The Clerk reported that Mr Stewart had submitted a second application for a further 9 houses – 7 four bedroom and two bungalows. There was general concern expressed by all those attending the meeting at both the timing of the application and the type of housing , which is not consistent with the community need for smaller homes as evidenced in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

The Clerk said it was proposed to submit a joint response from the Parish Council and the NP Committee. Cllrs agreed a draft response which would be forwarded to the NP Advisory Committee and then submitted to HDC by the revised date of 19 December.

Action: Clerk

Mr Yates said he had concerns about the drainage options and would be forwarding these concerns direct to HDC

- **15/01288/FUL – 4 High Street** - Erection of single storey bungalow. The application remains pending. Afternote. The application has since been approved.
- **15/01661/FUL – Poplars Farm, Caldecott Road – front and rear extensions.** The application remains pending Afternote. The application has since been approved.
- **15/00928/FUL – Two Houses at Deepdale.** The application has been withdrawn.
- **15/01833/FUL – Gatehouse Lane. Change of use of paddock to tennis court.** There were no objections to this revised application.

149/15. Financial Matters

The Clerk reported on the following financial matters:

- **Payments.** The following payments were authorised:

101092	£91.00	NP - Village Hall hire
101093	£20.00	B Penfold – gardening (cemetery)
101094	£40.00	Wreath and donation of £23
On line	£120.00	CGD Contractors – 7th Grass Cut
On line	£20.00	NP – Printing Tim Tech
On line	£1,408.67	LCC – Street Lighting for 2013/14
On line	£1,418.15	LCC – Street Lighting for 2014/15
On line	£91.77	Church floodlighting contribution - annual donation
On line	£210.66	Purchase of salt bin for Church Bank
On line	£6.00	NP – Land search payment to B Mitchell
On line	£10.00	NP – Printing for Consultation day
On line	£30.00	Bugler for Remembrance Day service (50%)

- **Asset Register.** The Clerk reported that the compilation of the Asset Register has begun. It had been agreed that the register should contain relevant historical information in addition to the information required for audit. Cllr Walsh had offered to place the information on a spreadsheet, which would be easy to update. **Action: Clerk**

- **Precept for 2016.** The Clerk advised that the HDC timetable for setting the Precept for 2016/17 required this to be agreed at the January meeting and forwarded to HDC by 20th January. He would be circulating an updated budget and relevant information, prior to the January meeting. **Action: Clerk**

- **Audit Arrangements.** The Clerk reported that the audit arrangements would be changing for the FY 2017/18 onwards, with smaller bodies with an annual turnover of less than £25K continuing to be required to complete and publish an Annual Return but this Return no longer being required to be submitted for external audit. However the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 requires that from 2017 smaller bodies will continue to need an auditor to be appointed as a legal requirement in case there are questions raised by electors to be resolved.

We have two options: either to “opt out” and make our own audit arrangements or to have an auditor appointed by a new “Sector-led body (SLB)”. The advice received from the LRALC and confirmed by Cllr Brittain is that the Parish Council should use the new SLB. These new arrangements would continue for 5 years after which the Parish Council could continue as before or “opt out” and make its own arrangements. It was agreed that the PC should use the new SLB arrangements, which would automatically begin in 2017/18. No further action is required at this stage.

150 /15. Arboreal matters.

- **Trees.** Cllr Murdock reported that there were no outstanding tree applications.
- **Salt Bin.** Cllr Murdock reported that the salt bin for Church Bank had been purchased at a cost of £210.66 and now required to be positioned on site and filled . **Action: Cllr Murdock**
- **Church Bank Trees.** Cllr Murdock said that talks are continuing with the LCC independent tree expert Mr Peter Kenyon to establish the best time for the tree review. **Action:CllrMurdock**
- **Gatehouse Lane – Dump of Bicycles.** Cllr Murdock said that a “dump” of bicycles has suddenly appeared at the end of Gatehouse Lane, the police had been informed and the bicycles have been removed.

151/15. Police, Community and Heritage Matters

- **Burglaries.** Cllr Clarke said the Police had nothing further to report concerning the spate of local burglaries but she understood that enquiries are continuing and there was certainly an increased local police presence.
- **Neighbourhood Watch.** Cllr Clarke said she was continuing to investigate whether a local Neighbourhood Watch scheme could be re-started. **Action: Cllr Clarke**
- **Traffic turning at entrance to the stables below Bringhurst School.** Cllr Clarke said there had been problems with parents using the stable entrance to park and also for turning their vehicles which were potentially dangerous. The Headmistress was aware.

152/15. Neighbourhood Plan Report

The Clerk reported on current planning:

- **Newsletter.** A second newsletter had been distributed to all households in November which had been well received.
- **Village Consultation day – Sat 28th November.** The village NP Consultation Day on the 28th November had been very well attended and each of the four Theme groups had received valuable feedback. A comprehensive report was being prepared for the next NP meeting on the 14th December.
- **Terms of Reference (TORs).** The TORs had been recently revised to reflect a change of name for the Committee from a Steering Group to an Advisory Committee. This change is to conform with external advice and Parish Council approval was requested. This was agreed. The second change was to allow Theme Group meetings to be “closed” on those occasions when sensitive issues were being discussed. This change has also been adopted following external advice.
- **Community Facilities.** Mr B Mitchell, leader of the Community Facilities Theme Group, had circulated a paper outlining the suggestions and potential solutions that had been identified by the Group following the wide discussions held to date. Mr Mitchell said that it would be helpful to know if the Parish Council had any reservations at this stage prior to processing the proposals further. There was general endorsement for the work to date and it was agreed that any specific comments that may arise in the future should be sent direct to Mr Mitchell.
- **Joint meeting.** There was general agreement that a joint meeting of the PC and the NP committee early in 2016 would be mutually useful. **Action: Clerk**

153/15. Poor's Charity

- **Land Registration.** The Clerk reported that Mr Parker had continued to hasten progress with the solicitor who had yet to issue the necessary letters to relevant parties seeking declarations of how Poor's Charity has operated in recent years – evidence needed to support the application to the Land Registry to register the field.

154/15. HM The Queen 90th Birthday 2016.

It was agreed to defer further consideration of a suitable event to mark the Queen's 90th Birthday to the next meeting. Cllrs were asked to consider options and forward ideas for the next meeting.

Action: All

155 /15. AOB

-**Pothole.** Cllr Murdock reported on a new and potentially dangerous pothole close to the exit of the Caldecott road. Afternote. The pothole has been filled.

Action: Clerk

- **Bridge.** Cllr Murdock said there was a loose block at the end of the bridge over the brook which required repair.

Action: Clerk

156/15. Date of next meeting. Monday 4th January 2016 at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

DAC Gibley
(Clerk)

Cllr P Long
(Chairman)