

DRAFT
GREAT EASTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on the 3rd October 2016
in the Village Hall
at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs: P Long (Chairman), P Brittain, A Murdock, G Vizma, L Walsh and D Gibley (Clerk)
In attendance: D Cllr M Rickman, Mr D Stewart and Mr and Mrs R Warne.

131/16 Apologies for absence.

Cllr N Clarke.

132/16 . Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, noting that he would take matters of interest to the public first.

133/16 Declarations of Interest for agenda items.

No declarations of interest were declared.

134/16. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of 5th September, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendment:

Minute 122/16. Planning. 16/00380/FUL, Footnote. Add: The application was approved on 6 September, **subject to final S106 agreement.**

135/16. Matters Arising

- **Defibrillator.** Cllr Walsh reported that Mrs Lucy McKay is making good progress on both publicising and additional fund raising for the defibrillator, including a leaflet in the magazine and a coffee morning planned for 10 November. A potential location might be the BT telephone box at the Village Shop.

- **Stockerston Lane sign.** The Clerk reported that LCC had been hastened to repair the sign.

- **Notice Board.** The repair remains outstanding.

Action: Clerk

- **Caravan parked at 5 Barnsdale Close.** Mrs Warne was invited to speak and said that she felt that the Parish Council had only listened to one side of the dispute and had failed to visit her before sending a letter. The Clerk replied that the letter had been even handed and written primarily to seek clarification of their long term intentions for the parking of the caravan. It was reconfirmed that whilst the Parish Council did not wish to become involved in neighbour disputes, it was clear that a number of residents shared the same concerns and it was hoped that the matter could be resolved amicably.

136/16. Planning Matters.

Cllr Brittain reported on the following:

- **16/01084/LBC - 10 Cross Bank- single storey extension.** The application has been approved.

- **16/01297/FUL – Westbrook House- roof lights, re-roof workshop** – The application remains pending.
- **16/01172/FUL – 37 High Street- repairs to roof.** The application has been approved.
- **16/01115/FUL – Poplars Farm- single storey extension and garage.** The application has been approved.
- **16/01227/AGR – Land off Stockerston Road - erect polytunnel and site a container.** HDC have confirmed that a full planning application will be required.
- **16/01370/FUL – 9 Brook Lane – Convert existing barn to dwelling.** The application remains pending. There have been four objections, relating to increased traffic, parking and flooding and the size of the dwelling.
- **16/01371/FUL and 16/01393/LBC – 9 Brook Lane – Erect either one detached dwelling or two smaller dwellings.** The applications remain pending. There has been one objection, which the applicant has addressed.
- **16/01513/FUL – 13 Deepdale - Erect one dwelling and garage.** New application.

- **Village Flooding.** Mr M Yates updated the Parish Council on recent progress in identifying the causes and possible solutions to reduce the likelihood of flooding in Great Easton, including a positive response from Anglian Water. He informed the PC that a meeting has been scheduled for 13 October when Anglian Water have agreed to report on their findings, following which there will be a review of the best way forward. It was agreed that that the Clerk and Cllr Brittain would attend the meeting on behalf of the PC. Mr Yates was warmly thanked for his excellent contribution in pulling together the evidence and supporting information and asked to pass on the thanks of the PC to those others who have also contributed.

137/16. Financial Matters

The Clerk reported on the following financial matters:

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

On line	£120.00	Grant Thornton – external audit
On line	£320.00	Clerk wages – Jul/Sep
On line	£80.00	HMRC PAYE
On line	£120.00	4 Counties – Inv 16/187
On line	£2,970.00	Yourlocale – Inv 010
On line	£90.39	Church floodlighting
On line	£14.00	NP – Hall Hire – 11 Aug
On line	£63.00	NP – Hall Hire – 3 Sep
On line	£61.60	Website – domain purchase
On Line	£216.00	LCC – Tree Survey

- **External Audit.** The Clerk reported that the external audit of the 2015/16 accounts had been completed by the auditor Grant Thornton. The accounts had been approved with one minor amendment, which would be adjusted in next year's account.

- **Budget and Precept for 2017/18.** The Clerk advised that a draft budget would be circulated for discussion at the November meeting. Information concerning the tax base and therefore the Precept will be forwarded by HDC in mid December, which will allow time for final discussion in January to meet the HDC deadline for submission. We have been advised that the 2017/18 Precept will likely be the last year when a significant increase will be permitted.

Cllr Brittain noted that the Precept has remained unchanged for many years and is one of the lowest within the HDC area, adding that there will be potential future expenditures identified in the Neighbourhood Plan which the PC may wish to include in its consideration.

138/16. Arboreal matters.

- **Trees.** Cllr Murdock reported on the following pruning works to trees applications:

- 16/01244/TCA – Pruning works to trees - 43 High Street -approved.
- 16/01469/TCA – Pruning works to trees – 19 Brook Lane – pending
- 16/01385/TCA – Pruning works to trees – 8 Broadgate - pending
- 16/01421/TCA - Pruning works to trees – 2 Banbury Lane – pending
- 16/01405/DDD – Dying acacia tree – pending

- **Grass Cutting.** The Clerk reported that the signed Grass Cutting Contract for 2017 had been forwarded to LCC, together with the invoice for 2016. It was agreed to clarify whether there would be at least one further cut in October. **Action: Clerk**

- **Village Tree Inspection.** Cllr Murdock said that Mr Peter Kenyon, the County Council arborist, had forwarded his report for those trees owned by the PC, at a cost of £216. It was agreed to contact Treespace for a quotation for the pruning work, which should be preferably be carried out in the winter months. It was further agreed to place the report on the website and forward a copy to the Church Bank residents. **Action: Cllr Murdock**

- **Hedge and Trees in Barnsdale.** Cllr Murdock said a complaint had been recently received stating that the hedge opposite the bungalows at Barnsdale had not been pruned this year, with the consequent loss of view across to Rockingham Castle and also the potentially unsafe condition of the two ash trees. It was agreed to clarify the situation with Mr Uppal, who is the new owner.

Afternote. It is understood that Mr Uppal has agreed that the hedges will be pruned this year and there are plans to survey the trees around Barnsdale, including the two ash trees.

- **Railway Line Gate.** Following discussion, the current position is;

- **Letter.** A letter was sent to Mr Uppal with the request that he clarify his intentions. This led to a meeting with Mr Uppal, attended by the Chairman and Clerk and subsequent agreement for Mr Uppal to meet with the NP Group on 6 Oct when the gate and related matters would be discussed.
- **Meeting with Mr Gibson.** It has been agreed to meet with Mr Gibson, the current landowner, on his return from holiday on 8 October, to be attended by Cllr Murdock and the Clerk.
- **LCC.** It was agreed to delay further contact with LCC pending the outcome of the two meetings.

139/16. Police, Community and Heritage Matters

- **Dog Fouling stencils.** It is understood that the renewal of the dog fouling stencils is in progress.

140/16. Neighbourhood Plan Report. The Chairman reported on the following:

- **Pre-Submission Draft Plan and Consultation – 2 Sep-14 Oct 16.** The six week consultation period concludes on the 14th October, following which the NP Group will meet to consider and agree the responses and any consequent amendment of the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

- **Questionnaire Returns.** Mr Yates reported that he had agreed with the Clerk to store the individual questionnaire returns securely in his attic, to comply with data protection regulations.

141/16. Poor's Charity

- The Clerk reported that the paperwork remains with the Solicitor.

142/16. Parish Council Website. Cllr Walsh reported on the impressive progress in developing the “one-stop” Village website, including:

- The purchase of related domain names
- The gradual compilation of local businesses and community clubs and organisations, for free display on the website, including the Village Shop and Sun Inn, with reciprocal links from the related websites back to the village website.
- Website Policy Document. This had been previously circulated, noting that the website and Editor operate on behalf of the PC and comprehensive policies need to be in place. The policy document was agreed, noting that amendments may continue to be made as needed.
- Launch. The website was now live and there had been a “soft” launch to meet the tight deadlines for the NP. The number of “hits” was being monitored and increasing steadily and the website address will be displayed in the shop.
- Emails and the monthly information email. The process of compiling an initial list of emails and issue of a monthly local information email will be commencing shortly.

The sub committee of Cllr Walsh, Mr Tim Smith and Mr Andy Murdock were warmly thanked for their continuing work in developing the increasingly comprehensive village website.

Next Door social network for Great Easton. The launch of the Next Door website had unintentionally coincided with the launch of the PC new village website and it was noted there is a degree of overlap. It was agreed that Cllr Walsh would meet with Mrs Jo Mihajlovic, the coordinator of Next Door, but the general view was that there is room for both websites. **Action: Cllr Walsh**

143/16. Street Lighting.

Cllr Vizma queried whether the LED street lighting upgrade for Great Easton, scheduled for June 2017, would include those for which the PC is responsible. The Clerk was asked to clarify.

Action: Clerk

144/16. AOB

- **Annual Parish Liaison Meeting on Tues 2 Nov at 5.30 at Kibworth HS.** The Chairman and Cllrs Brittain and Murdock, together with the Clerk indicated their intention to attend. D Cllr Rickman, the organiser of this year’s event, said there would be three separate workshops and the potential for local “clusters” of PCs to share local expertise and achieve contract savings would be discussed.

- **Defibrillator Training.** D Cllr Rickman said that free first aid training, including defibrillator training, was being held at Medbourne Sports Club on Tuesday 4 Oct at 7.30. Cllr Walsh said she would inform Mrs Mckay.

145/16. Date of next meeting. Monday 7th November 2016 at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

DAC Gibley
(Clerk)

Cllr P Long
(Chairman)