

GREAT EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 8TH May 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs P Long, (Chairman), P Brittain, C Johnston, A Murdock, G Vizma and L Walsh.
D Gibley (Clerk).

In attendance: D Cllr M Rickman and 9 members of the public.

59/17 Apologies for absence

None

60/17. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming Cllr Johnston to her first full meeting since being co-opted.

61/17. Previous minutes.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 9th May 2016, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

62/17.Election of Chairman

Cllr P Brittain proposed that Cllr Long continue as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Murdock and agreed unanimously. Cllr Long accepted.

63/17. Election of Vice Chairman

The Chairman proposed that Cllr Brittain continue as Vice Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Murdock and agreed unanimously. Cllr Brittain accepted.

64/17. Annual Accounts

The Clerk explained the annual accounts for the FY ending 31 March 2017, previously circulated, noting that:

- Income/Expenditures. There had been a small excess expenditure of £233.39 and the overall operating balances remain satisfactory. The increased precept for 2017/18 had been approved by HDC, primarily to contribute towards potential expenditures identified in the Neighbourhood Plan.

- Poor's Charity. The 2016 rental income of £315.00 had been received and £945, (3 years income), was now being held in the reserve account, pending transfer to the Valentine Goodman Charity.

- The Neighbourhood Plan income and expenditures have been identified separately. The income/expenditures continued to be cost-neutral to the PC.

- VAT. VAT continued to be successfully reclaimed.

- Defibrillator. A total of £1,809 was now being held in the reserve account.

- Audits. Mrs J Brittain had kindly agreed to again carry out the internal audit and Grant Thornton LLP have been appointed as the external auditors.

The Clerk was thanked for his work as RFO.

64/17. Insurance and Annual Risk Assessment

The Clerk reported that the Annual Insurance policy has been renewed with Zurich Municipal and confirmed that the Public Liability cover remains at £10M.

The annual Village Risk Assessment peregrination was agreed for Monday 5th June at 6.30pm, starting at Cllr Murdock's home.

65/17 Sub-Committee and Charity reports.

- **Village Hall and Recreation Field.** The Chairmen's reports for both the Village Hall and the Recreation Field Committees and the Village Hall financial statement have been previously circulated and are on the website. Both committees continue to operate most successfully for the benefit of the local community and the Parish Council directed that its appreciation of the work and commitment by the respective committees should be recorded and conveyed to the committee members. **Action: Clerk**

It was noted that both committees are sub-committees of the Parish Council and the formal annual reporting is now incorporated in the PC procedures.

- **Valentine Goodman Charity.** The Chairman reported that he had attended the AGM on the 4th April and spoke to a report prepared by Mrs Val McKeggie, one of the two local trustees, noting that 20 payments of £50 had been made to local residents of Gt Easton, Brighthurst and Drayton in 2016. The proposal for the merger of Poor's Charity with the Valentine Goodman Charity had been agreed by all Trustees and is now being progressed.

- **Molesworth Charity.** The Clerk reported that Mrs S Kingston had recently handed the complete documents to the Clerk but the previously agreed action to wind up the charity had not yet been progressed. He noted the current assets are £156.30 held in the bank and the annual income is less than £5. The Clerk requested the PC re-confirm its formal approval for the small charity to be closed, with the small financial assets to be transferred to the Valentine Goodman Charity, subject to the approval of the Charity Commission. This was agreed. **Action: Clerk**

- **Poor's Charity.** The Chairman said that the work to finalise the agreed amalgamation of Poor's Charity with the Valentine Goodman charity was now close to completion. It was reconfirmed that the rental income for the last three years -£945- is in the PC reserve account pending amalgamation.

66/17. Councillors' Responsibilities

The Chairman confirmed the following responsibilities:

Chairman	-	Neighbourhood Planning
Cllr P Brittain	-	Planning
Cllr C Johnston	-	Police, Community and Heritage
Cllr A Murdock	-	Tree Warden and Village Hall representative
Cllr G Vizma	-	Street Lighting
Cllr L Walsh	-	Website, Transparency and Communication
Clerk	-	RFO

67/17. AOB

- **Draft Standing Orders.** Cllr Brittain reported that he and the Chairman had been preparing draft Standing Orders, which he would be circulating prior to discussion at the June PC meeting.

68/17. Date of next Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 14th May 2018

DAC Gibley
(Clerk)

Cllr P Long
(Chairman)