DRAFT
GREAT EASTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th June 2024 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs P Long (Chairman), C Johnston, F Smith, L Walsh and D Gibley (Clerk)
In Attendance: Mrs Swami.

75/24. Apologies for absence
D Cllr M Rickman, Cllrs B Hemmings and R Wilson.

76/24. Welcome.
The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, adding that he will take items raised by members of the public first and invited Mrs Swami to address the meeting.
Complaint. Mrs Swami said that she has contacted the PC as she has become seriously distressed following allegedly aggressive complaints by neighbours concerning her animals. She added that she has taken measures to minimise the dog barking but now feels harassed and threatened.
The Chairman said that he is personally sorry that she feels distressed and her serious complaint has been circulated to all council members. He added that she has been previously informed that the Parish Council cannot become involved in neighbour disputes and HDC is the correct authority if further intervention is required. He concluded by noting that in his experience the circulation of the complaint will likely lead to informal resolution.
Mrs Swami thanked the PC and said that her wish is to be a good neighbour and play her part in village life.

77/24. Declarations of Interest for agenda items.
None.
78/24. Minutes of Previous Meeting
The minutes of the 13th May were approved without amendment.

79/24. Matters Arising
- **PC Vacancy.** The Chairman confirmed he has submitted his resignation and HDC has been notified. The intention is to coopt at the next meeting.
- **Litter Bin.** The replacement litter bin remains to be positioned outside the Village Hall.
- **Additional Green bin for war memorial green waste.** The Clerk reported that the paid for green bin has not yet been delivered and he is chasing HDC
- **Jitty work party.** The Chairman apologised for the confusion concerning the recently planned work party, noting that the two jitties and the hedging at the top of Church Bank should ideally be improved prior to the village Open Gardens day on 23 June. After discussion it was agreed to publicise a work party evening on Monday 17 June, meeting at the former shop at 6pm and reschedule the annual village perambulation. **Action: All**

80/24. Planning. Cllr Wilson has forwarded a written report on the following current applications and planning matters:
-23/01380/FUL – Land behind 22 Caldecott Road to erect one B&B dwelling. Remains pending. The application was amended in May and is now for one larger B&B, including a garage and parking area, directly behind two of the new houses on the new Jaybee development.
-23/00619/VAC – Development off Caldecott Road. The planning variation is to clad the recently constructed garage and add garage doors making it secure. He noted that it will provide an improved backdrop to the small cemetery.

-HDC Consultation on updating the HDC Local Plan to 2041.
Cllr Wilson's written report noted that the Clerk had attended the recent HDC consultation on the new Local Plan on his behalf and had passed him the relevant papers. Once the additional housing numbers and their locations are confirmed then the PC will be able to progress updating the Neighbourhood Plan. It is hoped that the revision might be a "single issue" process, which will be simpler and avoid the need for a referendum. In response to a query from Cllr Johnston, the Clerk confirmed that external advice will be obtained before making that decision. Cllr Wilson had added that it will be important to revisit the wording of some clauses to avoid ambiguity.

81/24. Flood Alleviation
Cllr Hemming's written report confirmed that the Nevil Estate is progressing an application for funding for a specific flood alleviation proposal and he is in active contact with two other local farms.
82/24. Financial Matters.
The RFO reported on the following financial matters:
- **Payments.** The following payments, inclusive of VAT where applicable, were authorised:
  -£52.00 Grass – three invoices
  -£300.00 Clerk's annual expenses for printer ink, stationery, post etc.
  -£40.00 V hall rental for Youth Group - June monthly invoice.
- **Audit.** The RFO said that the AGAR is required to be forwarded to the external auditor, with the relevant supporting documents, by the 30th June and this is in hand. **Action: RFO**

83/24. Arboreal Matters and Conservation.
Cllr Johnston reported on the following:
-Pruning Works to Tree Applications
-24/00567/TCA – 1 Holt View. Pending.

- **Hawthorn Tree at the Recreation Field**. Cllr Johnston said the recently damaged hawthorn tree, donated by the Pocock family, is showing signs of life and may not need to be replaced.
- **Wild Flower areas.** Cllr Johnston said that a date needed to be agreed for the cutting and removal of the village wild flowers from the designated village areas. It was agreed to finalise a date at the July meeting. **Action: Cllr Johnston**
- **Bio-diversity.** Nothing further to report.
- **West Mercia Rivers Trust.** Nothing further to report.
84/24. Community Actions and Police.
- **Recreation Field**

- Equipment annual inspections. The follow up to the recent equipment inspection, which highlighted the need for potentially expensive repair or replacement to a number of items, remains outstanding.

- Volunteer " Mowers". Mr B Frisby has produced a good flier on Nextdoor to recruit additional volunteer mowers to join the rota.

- Police Liaison. Cllr Smith said there is nothing further to report.

85/24. Defibrillator, Website and Communication.

- Website. Cllr Walsh forwarded an invoice for £273.32 for the annual renewal to the RFO for a refunding payment..

-Mailchimp. Cllr Walsh said that there are now 90 on the mailchimp distribution. It was agreed that mailchimp is well received but efforts need to continue to increase the take up. **Action: All**

- Defibrillator. Cllr Wilson has reported that the expiry date for the defibrillator pads is 31 July 2024 and an order for replacement pads is required. **Action: Cllr Walsh**

. 86/24. AOB.

- 80th D Day Anniversary Commemoration. Cllr F Smith and Mr A Murdock were thanked for organising the beacon above Rectory Farm.

- **Resignation and Farewell.** The Chairman concluded the meeting by noting that this is his final meeting after serving 10 years on the PC and how much he had enjoyed working with all members. Afternote. A suitable occasion will be arranged to say "thank you" in the near future.

-.**87/24. Date of next meeting**

Monday 8th July 2024 at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

DAC Gibley (Clerk) Cllr P Long (Chairman)