

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of GREAT HOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday 14 March 2017, in the Village Hall, Great Houghton (subject to approval at next meeting)

Present: Cllr T Skirrow (Chair), Cllr P Jinks, Cllr T Bowler, Cllr G Kilborn, Cllr R Shaw

Also present: Mike Billingham Parish Clerk, PC A Woods, C Stewart (member of public), E Bowen (perspective County Council Candidate ..Nene Valley).

321/17 Opening procedures:

- a) **Apologies for absence** – NCC Cllr P Larratt, NBC Cllr P Flavell, Cllr N Declerck
- b) **Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting** – The minutes of the ordinary meeting dated 14 February 2017 were approved, as a true record by the meeting and signed by the chair.
- c) **Declarations of interests from members** – There were no declaration of interests from those present.

322/17 Public Participation Section: Ms Caroline Stewart addressed the Council regarding her planning application for 77 High Street, (see agenda item 326/17 below). The plans had been amended to address previous objections and it was confirmed that neighbouring buildings had previously been granted permission for similar extensions. Assurances were also given regarding the concerns for the delivery and storing of building material during any construction period. There were no questions from councillors and the Chair advised that this matter would be considered later on the agenda.

Elizabeth Bowen introduced herself as a candidate for election as County Council Nene Valley representative which incorporated Great Houghton Parish (currently represented by Cllr P Larratt). She advised the meeting that she was currently a district Councillor, a serving Magistrate and worked extensively in financial scrutiny within public sector. She confirmed that she had been calling on residents throughout the village to ascertain concerns and wanted to meet with the Parish Council. The Chair, on behalf of the council, raised concerns regarding the SNC part 2 planning and the proposed development of nearby housing and questioned how they could be included in the draft plan when they had not been referred to in the previous 'issues and options' consultation? Ms Bowen assured the meeting that if elected, will fight tooth and nail to ensure proper process. She pointed out however that there was a national policy for up to 26500 new houses around Northamptonshire. The problem being that 5 million new people were entering the country each year and they needed to be accommodated.

323/17 Reports

- a) **County Councillor** No Report provided
- b) **Borough Councillor** No Report provided
- c) **Police/ Neighbourhood Warden** PC Andy Woods confirmed that there had been no reported crime in the Parish during January. There remained however issues with sexual activities in the car park on Brackmills estate which was being monitored. He advised that it was intended to carry out a speed monitoring campaign through the village
- d) **Great Houghton Playing Fields Association:** The meeting was advised that the February meeting had not taken place and were referred to GHPFA updates (previously circulated). The Clerk advised the Council that a statement for payment had been received regarding the newly installed CCTV equipment however this was made out to GHPFA and not GHPC. There were also concerns that use of the new equipment had not been fully explained which was expected to be provided in the contract. **ACTION** Clerk to write to Assured on these matters.

324/17 Finance & Administration Reports

- a) **To Receive Receipts and Payments Account** – Members received the Receipts and Payments account for the period to the end of January 2017. The Clerk confirmed a bank balance of £34,295.27. Credits of £74 Advertising had been received into the account along with reimbursement of £220 from resident for tree work cost next to war memorial. The clerk also advised that a cheque had now been received from NBC as reimbursement for the pole.
- b) **Following Payments were authorised:**

14 Parish Clerk	100312	Salary	192.79	
14 HMRC	100313	PAYE	48.00	
14 Parish Clerk	100314	Expenses	32.70	
14 P Wright	100315	Village Maintenance	860.00	
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The Clerk advised the meeting that a direct debit payment of £43.06 had now been set up for the annual renewal of the web site hosting through 123REG. This payment was in addition to the Domain payment that had been made by GraphicVent on behalf of GHPC.

- C) Internal Auditor of Accounts 2016/17** – It was **RESOLVED** that DJ Linnell MILCM from NCALC would carry out the internal audit for this financial year.

325/17 To Receive the Clerks Report:

- a) **War Memorial.** The Clerk advised that the application N/2017/0011 had been closed as invalid due to lack of supporting mapping documents. For some reason NBC had written to IMI rather than GHPC requesting information. IMI Nottingham advised that they had not received any request. The Clerk spoke to the planning officer who advised that a plan was required which could be provided by NBC for a cost. Having paid for the plan over the telephone, the Officer assured that a receipt would be sent and that the application would now be processed. Unfortunately there has been no further response from NBC despite the Clerks subsequent email to the Officer dated 22 February 2017. **ACTION** Clerk to write further to NBC to pursue approval for work on listed building.
- b) **Pension Regulations:** The clerk advised the meeting that a further appropriate form had been completed and submitted. He awaited final confirmation from the Pensions Regulator on this matter having written to himself several times to advise that no pension was required.
- c) **BT Telephone Box** The clerk referred the meeting to previously circulated communications from BT. Regarding adoption of the telephone box for £1. **ACTION** matter to be included on next agenda for consideration and determination of adoption of telephone box.
- d) **Distribution of Parish News April-** As the Clerk will be away on holiday from end of March and beginning of April there was a need to make alternative arrangements for delivery of Parish News. **RESOLVED** that these should be delivered to the Chair who would arrange distribution. It was confirmed that Tina Charteress would clerk the April meeting and the Chair would take charge of the GHPC laptop in order to deal with incoming emails during this period.

326/17 To receive the planning report:

Applications Received

N/2017/0102 Little Norway. Further variation of conditions 2, 6, 15, 22, 234 and 27 of planning permission N/2016/0412	No further comments other than those previously submitted strongly objecting to this application	
N/2017/0189 Erection of Split Level Car Park 5-7 The Lakes, Northampton	No Comments	
N/2017/0258 Rear/Side ground and first floor extension – 77 High Street, Gt Houghton	Satisfied with amended application which addressed previously expressed concerns relating to overlooking and loss of privacy. Seek that delivery and storage of building materials during construction is managed to avoid traffic congestion on High Street and damage to boundary wall.	

327/17 To consider further Parish response to the NBC Local Plan (Part2) and SNC Plan 2 The meeting was advised of attendance by the Chair at the joint meeting organised by Wotton Parish Council regarding the South Northants Local Plan (part2A) Preferred Options consultation (part 1) Documents. A further meeting is to be held around the 20th April to formalise the joint Parish response to the proposed draft plan. **ACTION:** The Chair to circulate response to Parish Council members. **ACTION:** these two planning items to be listed separately on future Agenda's.

328/17 To further consider and determine development report and expenditure from GHPFA: Other than that reported at 323/17 (d) above nothing further had been received from GHPFA regarding the development plan.

329/17 To Consider current Parish Council Vacancy: The Clerk reported that at the end of the consultation period (9th March) there had been no request for a formal election to fill vacancy (not yet confirmed by NBC). **RESOLVED** that this casual vacancy to be filled by co-option and advertised on notice boards and in Parish News. **ACTION:** Clerk to arrange advertisement. Any interested candidates to be invited to future Council meeting.

330/17 To Receive Updates on Village Maintenance Matters: Chain-Link Fencing - The Clerk advised the council that as resolved at previous meeting the contractor had agreed to the proposal to include the work on the bench for £1000. However someone unknown had apparently re-set the posts at the Cross. **ACTION** the Clerk to write further to the contractor for a review of the price or undertaking to paint rail in the High Street between Little Lane and the old shop.

Dead Tree- The Clerk advised that he had written further to NBC Highways who had now confirmed that this matter would be dealt with by them in due course. The meeting was also advised of NBC tree maintenance plan of 5 areas being addressed over five year period.

Abandoned Vehicle/Parking Issues – The meeting was referred to previously circulated response from SPC Chris Thompson. The 4x4 had not been lifted as owner had come forward and vehicle was taxed.

Street sign The Cross & Maintenance of Cycleway _These were matters that NBC Cllr Flavell and Neighbourhood Warden Lorraine Wright were to liaise with Community Pay-back team. **ACTION** Clerk to seek response.

Pot Holes – The meeting was reminded of need for individuals to be encouraged to report all pot-holes through appropriate process at streetdoctor@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Speeding vehicles Cherry Tree Lane – concerns were raised regarding the speed of vehicles using Cherry Tree Lane to access the Public House. With no footpaths and a blind corner it created a risk to pedestrians and other road users. **ACTION:** The Clerk to write to appropriate authorities seeking introduction of reduced speed limit and/or other speed calming measures.

331/17 To consider and determine further future arrangements for Parish Website and Facebook – The Clerk referred the Council to response (previously circulated) from GraphicVent regarding use of Facebook page which can be accessed at www.facebook.com/greathoughtonPC/. It would be possible for GHPFA to use this page to post messages regarding activities at the hall. It is noted that they have their own Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Great-Houghton-Village-Hall/
ACTION: Clerk to speak further to GraphicVent on use of this page.

332/17 To Consider and determine funding request from SPC Chris Thompson: The meeting was referred to the request (previously circulated) from SPC Chris Thompson for £100 to purchase a firearms cabinet that would enable him to keep the Pava-Spray (considered a firearm) at home and thereby avoid the need to travel to and from the station to obtain such equipment. The Clerk advised the meeting that if agreed it would represent a Section 137 payment. It was **RESOLVED** that £100 funding was approved.

333/17 To consider the monthly public messages – New Councillor Vacancy – Use of Facebook page

The Chairman closed the meeting at 09.14pm

Signed

Date