

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

Present: Cllr T Bowler (Chair), Cllr R Shaw, Cllr Declerck, Cllr Jeakings, Cllr Candale, Cllr Jinks

Also present: M Billingham Parish Clerk, Nigel Perkins by invitation of the Council.

446/17 Opening procedures:

- a) **Apologies for absence** – were received and approved from Cllr Kilborn (working), NCC Cllr Bowen (unwell), NBC Cllr Flavell (attending other meeting), Neighbourhood Warden
- b) **Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting** – The minutes of the ordinary meeting dated 10 October 2017 were considered and it was RESOLVED that minute 434/17 – Planning Report be corrected as follows:

434/17 To receive the planning report:

A Applications Received

N/2017/1104 Permanent Diversion of Footpath Little Norway	Whilst not opposing the diversion the Council was most concerned that the access point from the Bedford Road remained extremely dangerous for both walkers and drivers. The council seeks for the footpath to be continued towards the roundabout at the Brackmills junction or for a pelican crossing to be installed at the current location or for it to be further diverted to connect with current access to Little Norway Farm, and a 40mph speed limit be implemented on the stretch of Bedford Road from Little Houghton Lay-by to Brackmills Roundabout.	
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Subject to this correction it was resolved that the minutes were a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

- c) **Declarations of interests from members** – There were no declarations of interests relating to any agenda items.

447/17 Public Participation Section: There were five members of the public present.

Objections were raised by neighbours present relating to planning application on behalf of 11 Atterbury Way (Agenda item 451/17 (b)). The proposed development was oversized, would create significant overlooking and loss of privacy issues for next door neighbours, as well as significant loss of light and overshadowing due to size of development.

Concerns were raised relating to the change of service provider for the local Bus service that could result in the bus only stopping at Lime Farm way and not stopping at the White Hart/The Cross. This would have a significant detrimental impact on residents, particularly the elderly and those with mobility issues, if they had to get from the bottom of the High Street all the way up the hill to a single bus stop.

The meeting was assured, that the Parish Council had not been made aware of any changes to the current two stop arrangements and would oppose and such proposals.

448/17 Reports

- a) **County Councillor.** Cllr Bowen was not in attendance but the meeting was referred to her previously circulated emails relating to the issue of HGV vehicles and the Hampton Green Development.
- b) **Borough Councillor** Cllr Flavell was not in attendance but the meeting was referred to her previously circulated email relating to HGV vehicles.
- c) **Police/ Neighbourhood Warden.** The meeting was referred to report from Police previously circulated. One reported burglary and one Auto-crime reported at Bedford Road. Residents of Willow Lane offered advice relating to security.
 There had been a change of Neighbourhood Warden for the village which will now be Paul Townsend. No further work had been undertaken by the Community Team due to staff shortages. Materials for further work had now been provided and the cuttings have been removed from Leys Lane.
- d) **Great Houghton Playing Fields Association (GHPFA):** Councillor Representative who had attended the last GHPFA committee meeting (24 October 2017) was not present so the meeting was referred to the minutes of the GHPFA meeting for 28 September previously circulated. The meeting was referred to communication (previously circulated) from GHPFA Chairman regarding GHPC representation and

need for regular attendance. **ACTION** the Clerk to invite the councillor to provide a written report of last meeting.

449/17 Finance & Administration Reports

- a. Members received and **APPROVED** the Receipts and Payments account for the period to the end of October 2017. The Clerk confirmed a balance of £35150.96. Income includes £10150 being half yearly Precept from NBC, £95 advertising. There was one outstanding cheque from previous month for £100 Lt Houghton CE School.
- b. Members **AUTHORISED** the following payments:

BT	100371	Telephone	103.32	17.22
Sally Odell	100372	Catering	400.00	
SLCC	100373	CILCA Registration	250.00	
BT Payphones	100374	Adopt Kiosk	1.00	
AC Print	100375	Parish News	260.00	
Parish Clerk	100376	Expenses	224.36	
Parish Clerk	100377	Salary	488.69	
HMRC	100378	PAYE	62.20	
Paul Wright	100379	Maintenance Oct	406.00	
Paul Wright	100380	Maintenance Sep	280.00	
NVHS	100381	Donation	100.00	
D Thomason	100382	TMD Tree Services	280.00	
			2,855.57	17.22

ACTION Clerk to enquire as to why telephone bills are being paid by GHPC and not GHPFA

- c. **To receive and approve the Quarterly Internal Control Report:** Due to Councillor not being present, the Parish Clerk confirmed that the quarterly internal control report had now been carried out and provided the meeting with a copy of the completed report. It was RESOLVED that the report be APPROVED and signed by the chairman.

450/17 To Receive the Clerks Report: No further complaints have been received relating to the noise and dust issues arising from the Little Norway Development although a complaint had been received from a near neighbour and the planning authority had been written to further. It was confirmed that the contract for adoption of the telephone kiosk had now been returned duly signed by all parties. It was now a matter of waiting for the kiosk to be decommissioned and determining just how it should be used going forward? It was RESOLVED that the matter be left on the agenda for future meetings and decisions.

451/17 To receive the planning report: Nigel Perkins was introduced to the meeting having been invited by the parish council (minute 404/17 (c) August) to advise the council on planning matters utilising his skills and experience in this field.

A Applications Received

N/2017/1369 Hampton Green – 525 new homes. Newport Pagnell Rd/ The Green	The parish council objects to the application and in particular the planned exit from the estate leading on to The Green. The road into and through the village is clearly incapable of accommodating an estimated 1100/1500 additional vehicles. The parish council will seek that if approved the developers should fund traffic calming installations and weight restrictions along The Green and through the village. ACTION The clerk to receive proposals for formal submission of objections on behalf of parish council	
N2017/1382 11 Atterbury Way Great Houghton - Larger home extension	The Parish Council objects to the application based on a number of material considerations including, loss of light/overshadowing, overlooking/loss of privacy, design/appearance and materials, layout and density of building. Application is contrary to criteria of maintaining a balanced housing stock within the village. ACTION the clerk to receive proposals for formal submission of objections on behalf of parish council. ACTION Cllr Flavell to be invited to ‘call in’ this application for determination by full planning committee.	

- C **To consider adoption of Design Statement:** Advice was provided to the meeting on the way forward. It was confirmed that the objective was to develop an agreed document, the contents of which would have to be taken into consideration by the principle planning authority. Nigel Perkins kindly offered to assist the PAG in these matters. **ACTION** Clerk to obtain copy of design statement from ACRE
- D **To receive report from PAG:** The group had considered N/2017/1382 and suggested a number of material considerations that were to be included in the formal response (see above)
- E **To consider Conservation Area Appraisal:** The Clerk referred the meeting to the NBC Appraisal Management Plan previously circulated. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council fully supports the plan and fully supports the introduction of an Article 4 Direction within Great Houghton. It was further **RESOLVED** that in order to further protect buildings and structures within parts of the conservation area, being The Cross, Cherry Tree Lane, Little Lane, and Willow Lane, where the roadways are extremely narrow, that both a 20mph speed limit and a 7.5 tonne weight limit should be introduced.

452/17 To consider further the NBC Northampton Local Plan Part 2 (Sites Consultation): The Council was referred to the formal response previously circulated setting out the councils principle objections to the sites for further consideration being LAA1204 and LAA1098.

453/17 To consider further joint Parish response to the SNC Local Plan (Part2 a) No further information had been received for consideration this month

454/17 To receive Report on village maintenance matters: The clerk advised the meeting that letters sent to further houses with gravel drives and had subsequently been swept back from footpath. Community Team had not carried out any further work due to staff shortages and with the change of Warden there was a need to clarify ongoing work schedule. The bus stop on the Bedford road had been reported to Highways and the lights are now working again. The meeting was referred to communications with Pocket Park who had confirmed that tree work had been completed but there remained some further work to be undertaken by the PPC relating to hedgerows. The damaged Leys lane sign had been referred to NBC for repair. The meeting was advised of the damage to chain-link fencing on the Cross caused by lorry. **ACTION:** the clerk to write to vehicle owner seeking damages.

455/17 Renewal of GHPFA Lease and Trust Deed: The meeting was referred to the model document previously circulated and to the communication from GHPFA chairman expressing some concerns relating to representation. It was **RESOLVED** that a sub committee consisting of the Chairman and the Parish Clerk on behalf of GHPC be set up to meet with GHPFA to progress these matters.

ACTION Clerk to write to GHPFA

456/17 To consider future development of website and its management. The meeting was reminded of the requirements and obligations placed on the parish council by way of the Transparency Regulations and Code 2015. The council was also referred to recommendations provided by NCALC regarding management of council websites. It was **RESOLVED** that measures be taken to improve the current website and to enable management of the site within the council.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange meeting with councillor representative and current website managing company Graphic Vent.

457/17 To receive updated report on traffic management issues: The meeting was referred to communications previously circulated from NCC & NBC councillors and representatives. The clerk confirmed that numerous reported vehicle movements had been recorded and copied as appropriate. Damage had been caused by a lorry becoming stuck between buildings in Willow Lane. It was **RESOLVED** that an HGV weight limit and traffic calming measures throughout the village, must be introduced as a pre-requisite for any planning application for new housing development to be considered as appropriate or sustainable. **ACTION** further information to be obtained relating to the recording ability of the speed activated camera.

458/17 To consider and approve donation to Nene Valley Help Scheme: it was **RESOLVED** that a donation of £100 be made to NVHS

459/17 To consider maintenance issues Brackmills Wood and Cycleway: The meeting was advised of problem with narrowing of cycleway along rail bed due to overgrown shrubbery. The dog-bins need replacing/repairing and fire-breaks are overgrown thereby nullifying their purpose. Vehicles are managing to gain unlawful entry to the wood via an unprotected embankment at the car park from industrial estate. This has resulted in considerable damage to walkways and made some areas impassable. Ragwort is rampant throughout some areas and requires controlling. People are camping in the woods. **ACTION:** clerk to arrange meeting with NBC, NCC and Brackmills management to discuss and resolve.

460/17 To consider noise and other pollution matters within conservation area: Complaints from residents relating to excessive noise in late night early morning, cars travelling up and down Cherry tree Lane, incident of people urinating in street, debris from local event not cleared away.

ACTION Chairman to investigate and report

461/17 To consider implications of NCC Proposed Budget and medium term financial plan: The meeting was referred to documents previously circulated. The council was most concerned with a number of the proposals including, loss of mobile library, any reduction of bus services, loss of empowering councillor's community fund and other measures all of which will be detrimental to rural residents, particularly those with mobility issues. **ACTION** Clerk to formally respond setting out council's concerns and objections

462/17 To consider information relating to village playground: The meeting was referred to the ROSPA reports, previously circulated and to communication from GHPFA chairman. The council welcomed the information provided by GHPFA and noted in particular the areas of concerns and recommendations relating to damage caused by strimmer. The council appreciated that the regular attendance of GHPC representatives at GHPFA meetings was paramount to ensure full and proper communications between the two representative committees. **ACTION:** the GHPC representative to provide a written report on the GHPFA meeting attended for circulation to all councillors prior to next GHPC meeting.

463/17 To consider the monthly message: Respond to NCC Budget mid-term financial plan

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm

Signed

Date