

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 5 August 2020 at the Memorial Hall, Great Doddington.

Present: Mr C Davies (Chairman), Mr J Sharp (Vice-chairman), Mr J Crisp, Mr P Cunningham, Mr K Howes, Mrs L Ross, Mrs S Sharp and Mrs A Smith.

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk) and two parishioners.

20/12 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2020-2021

It was proposed by Mrs Smith and seconded by Mr Cunningham that Mr C Davies be nominated as chairman for the municipal year. Mr Davies accepted the nomination and on being put to the vote this was unanimously declared carried.

RESOLVED that Mr C Davies be appointed chairman for 2020-2021.

20/13 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2020-2021

It was proposed by Mrs Ross and seconded by Mrs Smith that Mr J Sharp be nominated as vice-chairman for the municipal year. Mr Sharp accepted the nomination and on being put to the vote this was unanimously declared carried.

RESOLVED that Mr J Sharp be appointed as vice-chairman for 2020-2021.

20/14 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Zoom on 9 July 2020 were approved as a true and correct record thereof and signed accordingly.

20/15 CONFIRMATION OF ADVISORY GROUPS/APPOINTMENTS

Planning – it had been agreed that Mrs Ross, Mr Crisp, Mrs Smith and Mr Sharp be appointed thereto for 2020-2021.

Governance and Finance - it had been agreed that Mrs Ross and Mrs Smith be appointed thereto for 2020-2021.

Health and Safety – it was agreed that all parish councillors would report any health and safety issues as soon as they became aware of an issue.

Social Media – Mr Cunningham be appointed to monitor and report and respond on any issues of concern on social media.

20/16 POLICE ISSUES

The following police issues were reported:

John Gray Road – Police had found cannabis growing in a property.

John Gray Road – Theft of number plates.

Rugby Club – It was reported that there had been intruders at the club.

20/17 HIGHWAY ISSUES

Hardwater Bridge - The clerk had not received any further complaints about the bridge but this would continue to be monitored.

Hardwater crossroads - There was still no date for the white lining to be completed.

1 The Ridge - Rubbish - The rubbish outside 1 The Ridge was invading the highway and looked extremely unsightly. A number of complaints had been received from local residents. The clerk would write to the occupier and ask that they arrange for everything to be removed before 31 August 2020. If this wasn't done, arrangements would be made for the parish council to dispose of this and pass the charge onto the occupier.

Football Match - A charity match had taken place at the recreation ground with the permission of the parish council chairman. This had resulted in a large number of vehicles and a number of complaints about parking over drives and not parking considerately had been received. This was a one-off event but it did highlight the issue over parking. It was suggested that if a charity match took place again that marshals be appointed by the organiser for car parking purposes.

Footpath next to Vineyard - It was reported that the footpath was very overgrown and this made it difficult to navigate. Mr Cunningham said he would speak to the owner to ask if they would cut back the overgrown part.

20/18 FINANCE

The following finances were approved along with the approval of invoices for payments:

E-On -

Street lighting 1 2 20 to 29 2 20 394.18

Wellingborough Norse

Grasscutting the recreation ground July 2020 291.17

Aylesbury Mains Inv 19916 111.96

Aylesbury Mains Inv 19907 70.20

Great Doddington Memorial Hall – Hire of Room 30.00

20/19 Planning

No applications had been received but Mrs Ross made reference to the new Planning Guidance that was being introduced. The guidance was expected shortly and the clerk would circulate this as it would probably be for consultation.

20/20 Health and Safety Issues

The playground had recently been reopened and there were some issues with the some of the equipment. These had been reported to Timotay for urgent repair.

20/21 Social Media

The following issues had been referred to on social media:

Proposed Horse Fair Bank Holiday weekend - this had been reported to the chairman of the parish council and the clerk had subsequently raised this with the Environmental Health department at the Borough Council. The officers had already taken action in relation to the event and would not be permitting a licence for the event.

Both Northamptonshire Police and Public Health England were also involved from the policing perspective and also with regard to the prevention of spreading coronavirus and were putting plans in place in case the unlicensed event went ahead.

It was noted that the land was privately owned by the organiser of the event and was located opposite Summer Leys entrance and fell within the parish of Wollaston but was very close to Great Doddington and would potentially affect parishioners, hence the concern that had been raised.

Two parishioners addressed the meeting and expressed their concern that despite the information that had been reported they were led to believe that the event was still going to proceed. They were very concerned that there would be an extremely large number of travellers descending on the land and that this would bring potential disruption to the village, particularly in the location they lived.

The chairman noted their concern and said that discussions were ongoing with the police and by local councillors and a request had been made that the parish council also be kept apprised of decisions that were being made.

20/22 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Lighting for the recreation ground

A fitness class hoped to run a socially distanced class from the recreation ground, however, the lighting was poor and whilst there was a lamp at the ground it didn't seem to be working. The clerk would report this to Aylesbury Mains so they could either repair or provide a quotation for replacement.

Gigaclear

Work had commenced by Gigaclear of providing faster broadband there were traffic lights at Hardwater.

Bench replacement The Ridge

It was agreed that the VE bench was the favoured bench and that the clerk could place an order for this. A discussion about where this would be located took place, with various suggestions. All parish councillors would think about the best location for this decorative bench and report their preferences to the clerk.

Footpath in the churchyard

A specification for the widening of the footpath was still awaited.

Issues in John Gray Road

Concern was raised that some of the new tenants who had moved into homes in John Gray Road as they appeared to be creating some issues with regard to anti-social behaviour. One person had been arrested by the police for and another had said they did not wish to live in a village environment. A query was raised about how these people, who had no connection to Great Doddington, had been housed in this location particularly when there were others from the village who desperately wanted to remain in the community.

The clerk would find out what the housing allocations policy was and would also make enquiries as to who local residents should report their concerns too. It was assumed it would be Greatwell Homes. She would also report the concerns of residents to Borough Councillor Graves for his support.

20/23 CLOSE OF MEETING

The chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and for maintaining social distancing rules and regulations and closed the meeting at 8pm.

Chairman.....