

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 6 September 2017 in the Chapel Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington.

Present: Mr C Davies (Chairman), J Sharp (Vice-Chairman), Mrs L Ross, Mrs A Smith and Mrs S Sharp.

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk).

Apologies were received from Mr Crisp, Mr Howes and Mr Kelly.

17/50 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made.

17/51 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2017 were approved and signed as a true record.

17/52 WEBSITE UPDATE

Work had been ongoing over the summer to update the new website. The clerk had also applied for funding from NALC and the outcome of this would be known towards the end of September.

17/53 POLICE ISSUES

There were no issues reported.

17/54 HIGHWAY ISSUES

Church Lane

The clerk had received correspondence from Northamptonshire Highways regarding concerns over parking in Church Lane. Highways had carried out a review of parking restrictions. Two responses to this review had been received from residents of Church Lane raising issues about school time parking, visitor parking to the playing field and church goers blocking residential access.

A site assessment was completed on 1st August – some issues regarding parked vehicles were noticed near to the junction with High Street but these were not causing any highway issues.

Highways concluded that there were no issues and a request for additional parking restrictions was not approved on the grounds that such restrictions cause parking displacement, demand for parking in the village was high and not uncommon in this area, double yellow lines are against the council's criteria to protect a private access.

Parish councillors discussed this decision and whilst appreciating that additional restrictions would not be beneficial they considered that the parish council's previous request for the primrose lining to be repainted was in fact valid and should be reconsidered. It was also noted that the site assessment had been carried out on 15 August when the school was closed and was therefore not a true evaluation of the concerns.

Subsequent to the site inspection there had been an incident in Church Lane where two ambulances and two fire engines had not been able to access a property to get a gentleman who was seriously ill out of his home due to parked vehicles blocking access. The gentleman had subsequently died. This had been raised by a concerned resident.

It was therefore agreed that the clerk would respond to the Senior Parking Technician and reiterate the need for the primrose lines to be repainted.

Electricity Pole – Goodens Lane

The work had yet to be completed on this pole. This would continue to be monitored.

Street lighting Amenity Garden

The lamp was not working. Aylesbury Lighting had reviewed the lamp and it was the supply that was the issue not the lamp itself. The clerk would report this to the relevant body. .

17/55 PLANNING ISSUES

18 Glenfield Drive – WP/17/00490/FUL

No objections were raised.

14 The Ridge – WP/17/00513/FUL

No objections were raised.

The clerk reported that the Plan for the Borough of Wellingborough was out for consultation for a six week period, should anyone wish to comment thereon.

17/56 FINANCE

The following accounts and financial statement were approved for payment:

Aylesbury Lighting (1539)	186.24
Lamp repairs Frost Court/Earls Barton Road	

17/57 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Recreation Ground/Damage to hardstanding fence

It was reported that an operative from Wellingborough Norse had slipped whilst grass cutting and there was some damage to the fence. Wellingborough Norse were aware of this and would arrange for repairs.

Bin Recreation ground

The clerk reported that she had approached Wellingborough Norse for a wheeled bin but they had said that whilst they would quote for a replacement litter bin they did not feel that a wheeled bin would be a suitable alternative for a number of reasons: including contamination in the green bin, bins going missing unless properly anchored, location/access for emptying.

Parish councillors didn't think this would be the case. This would be discussed at the next meeting.

Hole at the recreation ground

The hole had been filled.

Boundary fencing

The quote was still awaited though the company had now carried out a site inspection.

Dog fouling recreation ground

This continued to be an issue with irresponsible dog owners not cleaning up after their animals. There were plenty of bins around the recreation ground so there was no excuse. Anyone witnessing this should take a photo and report to Environmental Services at the Borough Council. The Editor would be asked to arrange for an article in the next newsletter.

Donation for play equipment

Mrs Sharp reported that she had received a donation of £2,500 from Tesco's Carrier Bag Fund towards the play equipment.

Energy Renewal charges

The chairman signed a contract for the next 12 months. This would be diarised to be reviewed in May 2018.

Hardwater Crossing

There was concern regarding the overgrowth at the Hardwater Bridge. The clerk would report this to street doctor.

Health and Safety - Trees

The clerk reported on some information regarding the safety of trees owned by the parish council. It was confirmed that the parish council

did not own any large trees but the clerk was asked to contact the Safer Routes to School team regarding the footpath through the Spinney to suggest that they made sure that the trees were safe therein.

The trees along Earls Barton Road were also getting very large and the buses were knocking branches off and this would be highlighted via Street Doctor about the need to cut the trees back.

Parking of vehicles on highway

The issue was raised regarding a large white van parked on High Street and the corner of Chapel Lane. This van was very close to the turning thus obscuring the view particularly of children and the elderly crossing the road having visited the shop. The clerk would report this to the Police and ask that they speak with the owner about moving the vehicle further back from the junction.

Prison

It was believed that work was expected to commence at the Prison in November.

Speeding – The Ridge

The issue of speeding along The Ridge had been taken up by a local resident who had been in correspondence with highways and the police. The police had responded to confirm that they were and would continue to carry out speed checks along The Ridge but that they needed the approval of a resident to use their land to park the speed van. The Wellingborough end of The Ridge was harder for the police van to be located and this was where the biggest problem was deemed to be. Highways had responded to say that any remedial works would have to be paid for by a third party as they were unable to fund anything as the police survey's had indicated a very small amount of compliance, a survey would cost in the region of £3,000.

The police had also agreed to reduce the numbers required from speedwatch to six with a co-ordinator. Currently there were four people who had agreed to be involved.

The parish council would continue to monitor any changes in the non-compliance and to try to find people who were interested in participating in speedwatch.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 4 October 2017.

The meeting concluded at 8.35pm.

Chairman