

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of a meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 9 October 2019 in the Chapel Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington.

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

Apologies were received from Mr D Kelly and Mrs L Ross.

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk) and one parishioner.

19/41 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting was approved as a true and correct record thereof and signed accordingly.

19/42 DECLARATION

Mr Sharp and Mrs Sharp made a personal declaration in relation to planning application for 36 Lower Street, Great Doddington, as the property was owned by Mrs Sharp's parents.

19/43 POLICE ISSUES

School parking

There had been some further complaints regarding parking issues during school drop-off and pick-ups, which the police were monitoring. It was also noted that the primrose coloured lining had faded – highways had done this under the 'safer routes to school' scheme. The clerk would report these to 'fix my street' and the clerk would report to 'fix my street'.

19/44 HIGHWAY ISSUES

Hardwater Crossroads – This was still under review by highways – the clerk had once again reported the white lining as an issue following the contractor not sweeping the road before painting.

Speedwatch and speeding checks

The speedwatch team continued to be very active and frequently carried out speedchecks throughout the village; the figures from the enforcement would be reported back in due course.

In the meantime the clerk would speak with the team to see what improvements they considered could be made in regard to the vehicle activation signs to see if any grant funding was available from the PFCC Stephen Mold.

Signage to the club

No further action was required in this regard.

Hedge St Nicholas Road

The clerk had received no further information in relation to the hedge from Greatwell Homes.

Request for dog bin at the Wellingborough end of The Ridge –

The dog bin had been ordered for delivery to Mr Puttnam who would install it.

19/45 PLANNING ISSUES

WP/19/00572/FUL - 143 The Ridge – No objection

WP/19/00569/FUL - 12 St Nicholas Road – No objection

WP/19/00553/FUL - 36 Lower Street - Objection from the Conservation Officer – No objection from the parish council

59 Lower Street - Cutting back of tree - No objection

Enforcement action:**18 Glenfield Drive**

The clerk informed the meeting that the planning department had confirmed that a non-material amendment to planning permission ref: WP/17/00490/FUL was granted on 15 July 2019 to allow minor alteration in roof line above garage to match with the existing property. There was no requirement that the parish council would be notified of receipt of such application. The applicant should now be building in accordance with the plans approved. If this is not the case, the person who this affects and feels there is non-compliance should lodge a formal complaint with the planning department who will investigate.

Enforcement – Hardwater – Nick’s Boats

The enforcement officer would be visiting the site to investigate our complaints in the next few days.

19/46 FINANCE

The financial details for the quarter and following invoices were approved.

Payments made:			
Name:	For:	Chq. no.	Amount
GDPCC *	Reimbursement for cost of replacement lamp and bulb for the footpath through the church – S137 funding agreed	1653	144.00
Aylesbury Mains Ltd	Lamp outside 6 Drs Lane	1654	73.20
F M Puttnam	Invoice 06 for grasscutting and dog bin clearance	1655	234.80
EoN	Street lighting 1 9 19 to 30 9 19	1656	407.76
PFK Littlejohn	Audit	1657	240.00

Currys	Insurance August, Sept and October	DD	22.50
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*The clerk referred to the request from the PCC to fund the replacement lamp for the footpath, which was agreed as a one off payment under S137 grant funding.

The clerk also confirmed that the final audit had been received and referred to the comments, which were noted. The notice of conclusion of audit had been placed on the website.

It was also noted that the final precept funding of £10,000 would be paid into the bank on 10 10 19.

The balances were noted and the clerk reminded parish councillors that they would need to consider the precept for 2020-21 at its meeting in December. At the current time there was no instruction on what the future unitary councils would be dealing with and what would be passed to parish councils. Vesting day would be 1 April 2021 so this gave time for decisions to be made. Councillors were asked to think about what was required in the parish for 2020-21 to enable the clerk to seek quotations for any work.

19/47 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

New playground equipment

Mrs Sharp was asked me make enquiries about whether rubber matting could be put under the Zip-wire as it was very muddy. She would get a cost for this.

Proposal for artificial turf pitch (ATP)

The chairman reported that enquiries had indicated that the installation of an ATP would be extremely expensive; however, the FA did provide grant funding where a BID could be submitted. The clerk would also enquire if there was any match funding available from the small grants budget at the borough council. If this was to be considered quotations would be required and a business plan would need to be in place before the applications could be submitted.

Tree outside 47 John Gray Road

Mr Crisp raised the issue of a large cherry tree outside the above property. This had been raised previously but the elderly person, who lived there had not wanted the tree to be removed, this lady had recently died and relatives were trying to sell the house and a request had been received for the tree to be removed as it was believed to be a potential health and safety issue as it had a split down the middle.

The clerk was asked to seek quotations for the removal of the tree.

Replacement mower

Mr Puttnam had reported that the flymo had not been appropriate as it was electric. The parish council considered his previous quotes for a suitable petrol mower and it was agreed that the professional Airmow 51 PRO be purchased at a cost of £525.00.

Complaint about the cemetery area

The clerk informed the meeting that a complaint had been received about the overgrown ivy on the wall of the cemetery, the laurel trees and the saplings that were growing in various places near to the wall, with a request that some additional maintenance be carried out to the area.

It was agreed that remedial work was needed and that this was a good time of year to do this. The clerk would contact a cemetery specialist who had recently contact the parish council to obtain some advice and a quotation for this work. It was noted, however, that some of the trees were located in the churchyard rather than the cemetery and as such were not the parish council's property to remove.

Social Media

Mr Cunningham reported on the activity on social media:

- **Installation of defibrillator**

This had received over 120 likes with no interest in attending a demonstration. It was felt that should the defibrillator need to be used the ambulance service would give clear instructions on what to do.

- **Scarecrow Festival** – again this had proved to be very popular with lots of positive photographs and comments made.
- **Groundworks at the prison** - some complaints had been registered about the ground piling work going on at the Prison site, which was noisy. Mrs Smith confirmed that she could hear this from her home. Whilst it was understood that this was necessary during the construction period, if there was a particular issue residents would need to contact the construction team at the site or complain to the borough council of it being a noise nuisance.

Rubbish outside flats in High Street/Drs Lane

This had been removed by Wellingborough Norse.

Lamps

The clerk had been informed of a number of lamps that were out and she had reported all of these.

Overgrown Conifers, High Street

The clerk confirmed that she had written to the occupier to ask if the trees could be cut back. Mrs Smith also mentioned that the conifers at the property near to the Village Green on the corner of High Street and Lower Street were also very overgrown and invading the footpath. This would be monitored and a letter sent if necessary.

Highway gutters

This had been reported to 'fix my street'.

Branch cuttings outside 1 The Ridge

It was noted that there were a lot of branch cuttings outside 1 The Ridge – it was not sure whether highways had cut these off the tree or if they had come from elsewhere as the tree was quite overgrown. There was also a lot of rubbish outside the property with builders sacks etc. The clerk would raise this on 'fix my street'.

Lime Trees Earls Barton Road

A request for these to be cut back had been made on numerous occasions and declined by highways. The clerk was instructed to obtain a quotation from an arbour-culturist to see how much it would cost to cut the trees back. The parish council could then give consideration to offering to part fund any works if the issue was due to cost and budget limitations.

The clerk also informed the meeting that she had received a call from a resident whose child disembarked the school bus in Earls Barton Road in the afternoon and had to cross the road to walk home. She had complained that it was difficult to see when crossing the road because of the tree shoots. The clerk had reported this as an urgent health and safety issue to 'fix my street'.

It was noted that there were many outstanding highway issues throughout the village and the clerk was monitoring any updates on whether these were moving higher up the list to be actioned.

Health and Safety Issues

Nothing was raised in this regard, other than as detailed above.

19/48 Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 6 November 2019 at 7.30pm.

The meeting concluded at 8.35pm.

Chairman