

## **GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **The minutes of the Annual Meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 9 May 2018 in the Chapel Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington.**

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

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

Apologies were received from Borough Councillor Graves.

A minutes silence was held in memory of parish councillor Joanne Griffiths who passed away earlier in the year.

#### **18/08 Welcome form the Chairman and Annual Report**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the annual meeting of the parish council and read out the report on the activities for the year.

He explained that the parish council had had a successful year with a number of lengthy projects coming to fruition.

Planning - a number of applications had been received for consultation, there had been no contentious items. The Plan for the Borough of Wellingborough was now with the Inspector and the open space in the village would hopefully remain as open space.

Street Lighting - the majority of the street lamps had been replaced and the benefits of this were starting to be felt with better lighting and lower costs. We would, in the coming year, focus on replacing the old concrete style columns.

Highways – discussions had taken place with highways and the police in regarding to speeding – these had proved to be fruitless as when speeding checks had been carried out there was a very small amount of non-compliance. This would continue to be monitored. There were numerous potholes around the village and these had been reported to Street Doctor as well as the fading white lines. Another issue was the growth of the trees along Earls Barton Road. The parish council had asked for the trees to be trimmed many years ago and had repeated this request for a number of years. The work remained on the county council's list of remedial works but it was unable to tell us when this work would be carried out.

Prison site – work had commenced on the site with clearing of trees. Over the next few months there would be more activity.

Solar Farm and Crematorium – neither of these appeared to be causing concern to the village.

The chairman extended his thanks to all parish councillors who continued to work for the community of Great Doddington.

#### **18/08 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR GOUGH**

County Councillor Gough reported on the issues, widely publicised, at the county council. The county was in a very poor financial situation and a number of cuts would have to be made in the coming months, though the service areas were unknown. It looked like the government would be pushing for a unitary authority for Northamptonshire and the boroughs and districts were holding discussions around this with a preference for a North Northamptonshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council. The county was aware that highway issues were behind but he stressed the need to report anything through Street Doctor. He confirmed that the expected cuts to the library service looked like they would happen and that the mobile library was no longer running and would not be replaced. There were difficult times ahead with a lot of unpopular decisions to be made but he stressed that any concerns should be passed through to him and he would help if he could do so.

(Councillor Gough left the meeting.)

#### **18/09 POORS LAND CHARITY**

The vice-chairman reported that four pensioner's lunches had been held and had proved to be very popular. The charity was also available for students to apply for book grants and this was advertised in the Village News.

#### **18/10 REPORT BY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR GRAVES**

Councillor Graves had been unable to attend the meeting but provided a brief report on the activities of the borough council, which included details of the committees he sat on which included planning. He remained available should anyone need to contact him.

The meeting concluded at 7.15pm

**Chairman**