

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 10 May 2017 in the Chapel Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington.

Present: Mr J Sharp (Vice-Chairman) 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 Mr J Crisp, Mr C Davies and Mr J Griffiths. Cllr Graves also submitted his apologies.

17/10 Welcome form the Chairman and Annual Report

The Vice-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 busy and eventful year.

Along with the normal everyday reporting of highway issues, the parish council had concentrated on the replacement of the majority of street lamps throughout the village. There was still further work required on the replacement of some lamps and columns and a bid for capital funding had been made to the borough council in this regard.

A charity had been established to fund raise for more play equipment at the recreation ground and a number of events had been and would continue to be held for this purpose.

The parish council had also responded to concerns about speculative developments. The Plan for the Borough of Wellingborough was being developed by the Borough Council and work was ongoing on this and the plan would be out for consultation later on in the year.

Following a number of accidents at Hardwater crossroads the parish council had requested the highways department to make improvements to the white lining and signage at this junction. The work was finally carried out earlier this year and we are hopeful that this will improve this dangerous junction.

There was continuing concern over the lack of a footpath from Magna Grove into the village. It had been reported that people living at Magna Grove were cutting through onto Earls Barton Road, which was dangerous. There had been much correspondence with the Highway department as we were concerned about the danger; highways were unable to put a footpath in this location due to the lack of space to do so and the concern over danger. Residents had been advised to cross onto Earls Barton Road directly from Magna Grove.

Improvements had however, been made to the drain in Earls Barton Road to help with the flooding issues. Further work was also required to repair the actual drain under the road and this would be carried out later in the year.

The Nene Valley Crematorium had opened and no adverse effects regarding volume of traffic to the village had been noticed. This would continue to be monitored.

Planning permission had been given for the new prison at Millers Park. A number of highway changes would be made and during the construction traffic would be requested to use the A45 and not travel through the village. The prison was expected to open in 2020.

The old fencing at the recreation ground had been removed and consideration was to be given to replacing the area behind the goalposts with a chain-linked fence.

Mr Taschini had given up his tenure as editor of the Village News and his replacement Karin Brawn was working on the next edition, due out in June.

The website was no longer fit for purpose and the parish council had made arrangements for an upgrade due to be completed in the summer.

The vice-chairman thanked his fellow parish councillors, the clerk and Mr Taschini for editing the village news.

17/11 GREAT DODDINGTON POORS LAND CHARITY

The vice-chairman reported that there had been five book grants awarded to students totalling £250 and applications should be directed to him for the coming academic year.

A donation of £500 had been made to Great Doddington Friends of the Park. Four luncheon clubs had been held and had proved to be popular with between 40 and 50 parishioners attending.

17/12 REPORT BY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR GRAVES

Councillor Graves had been unable to attend the meeting but provided a report on the activities of the borough council.

17/13 REPORT ON THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Following the county council elections on 3 May a new County Councillor had been elected in Robert Gough. He would be invited to the next parish council meeting.

The meeting concluded at 7.10pm

Chairman

