

## **GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **The minutes of the Annual Meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 20 May 2015 in the Chapel Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington.**

**Present:** Mr C Davies (Chairman), Mr J Crisp, Mrs J Griffiths, Mr D Kelly, Mrs L Ross, and Mrs A Smith.

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk), Borough Councillor B Graves and 2 Parishioners.

Apologies were received from Mr K Howes, Mr J Sharp and Mrs S Sharp.

#### **15/09 Welcome form the Chairman and Annual Report**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Annual meeting and particularly the new parish councillor Mrs Linda Ross and read his report on the activities for the year.

He explained that the parish council had had a busy and eventful year.

Local residents attended a number of parish council meetings expressing their particular concern over the rumours of a possible large development in Earls Barton Road. The parish council fully supported their opposition to a development on the land in question and invited the Neighbourhood Planning officer to attend a meeting to discuss the options available to the parish council. His advice was listened to and the parish council concluded that a Neighbourhood Plan would not be the best solution for the village because land had to be identified within the village boundary for development and it was considered that no land was available. The only available land was purely for infill development. Should a planning application be received a strong objection would be submitted.

The time has also come this year to look at undertaking a big project to replace all street lamps in the village to comply with European legislation. This would be a costly exercise and the clerk was seeking quotations for the work to be carried out in phases over the next couple of years.

Elections had taken place in May with ward councillor Barry Graves being elected for the Great Doddington and Wilby division. Councillor Graves was also elected as Mayor at the Borough Council's annual council meeting on 19 May 2015. The parish council election had not been contested but Parish Councillor Ian Ross had retired. His place had been taken by Parish Councillor Linda Ross who we welcome to the fold.

Quotes had been sought for an upgrade to the playground equipment to replace the existing old equipment. It had been found to be extremely expensive and way beyond the funding that the parish council had so funding would need to be sought to achieve the desired specification and upgrade.

The housing site at Magna Grove had been completed and despite concern over occupancy from non-villagers this had proved not to be the case and the occupants all had a village connection. The development had proved to be a welcome addition to the village.

The Solar Farm at the end of The Ridge had been erected with minimal disruption to residents.

Work on the crematorium had started and this would be completed by early 2016.

The chairman thanked his fellow parish councillors for their help and assistance during the last year and also Mr Ian Ross for his invaluable advice on planning issues and help with the village newsletter.

#### **15/10 GREAT DODDINGTON POORS LAND CHARITY**

There was no report presented on this occasion.

#### **15/11 REPORT BY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR GRAVES**

The chairman welcomed Councillor Graves and congratulated him on becoming Mayor of the Borough for 2015-16.

Councillor Graves reported on the work that he had carried out on behalf of parishioners during the year.

This included the following:

##### **Solar Farm**

He had received a couple of complaints about mud and stones being deposited on to the main road by contractor's lorries and had talked to the developers and informed them that road cleaning was part of their planning conditions.

##### **Crematorium**

Two residents who live on the Ridge were concerned about the access and the potential increase in the volume of traffic. As part of the Working Party I have been involved in the design and function of the facility. This has included meetings with local Undertakers and Faith Groups to consider their views.

##### **Miscellaneous**

In addition to the above I received several complaints or enquiries for the following:

1. Fly tipping in Cut Throat Lane including and drug related materials.
2. Litter on Doddington Road on the edge of the village
3. Speeding traffic approaching the village from Earls Barton
4. The need for a roundabout at Hardwater Road /Earls Barton Road .
5. Increased volume of traffic from Wollaston to the village.
6. Three residents sought assistance with Council Tax issues.

### **General Council matters**

#### **Deputy Leader**

I was re-appointed Deputy Leader of the Council in May 2014 and this has taken up a considerable amount of my time. Some of the activities this involves are:

- Weekly meeting with Leader, CEO & senior officers
- Involvement with the Police & Crime Panel
- Member of the Health scrutiny committee at the county council
- Stanton Cross – meetings to discuss progress with Bovis Homes.
- Crematorium working group
- Wellingborough North
- Finance & budgets
- Property issues
- Staff meetings
- Joint Action Group – Regular meetings with the Rural Police team.
- Parishes Forum

#### **Chair Health & Wellbeing forum**

This Forum brings together various health professionals, the police, social services, housing and the voluntary sector to co-ordinate activities in the Borough to aim for a healthier community.

#### **Older Persons Advisory Group**

This group advises on all age related matters. It holds regular Older Person's forums and an annual Older Persons conference

#### **Committees**

During the year I have served on the following Committees:

- Resources
- Development
- Standards
- Appointments

## **Election**

As you will know I was re-elected on 7 May and am honoured to have been appointed as the new Mayor at Annual Council. I am planning to hold my Civic Service in Great Doddington Church on Sunday 14 July and will endeavour to promote the village during my term of office.

## **15/12 COUNTY COUNCILLOR BELL**

The chairman read out County Councillor Bell's details on his County Council work as follows:

### **Issues within the division**

- Visit Earls Barton Infant school and attended planning meeting school numbers in Earl Barton.
- Still have a problem with lighting in Compton way still trying to sort
- A number of issues with traffic and parking in the village
- Attended public meeting with regard to Redrow developments I have received a number of letters etc which are noted at this stage.
- Tebbits Yard resurface of road request that parish council add to it urgent road repairs list
- School place problems Wilby.
- Attended public meeting in Wilby re parking and traffic problems in the village
- Attended parish council meetings I Great Doddington, Wilby ,Mears Ashby, Ecton, Little Harrowden, Hardwick, Orlingbury, Earls Barton.

### **County councillors empowering fund**

- Provide fund the council request for speed sign
- Community changing rooms
- Attain a push bike for the CST based at the Earls Barton police station.
- Wellingborough rugby club
- help with long term pain.
- Foot path survey Orlingbury
- Provide part funding for new Gleneagles church.

### **County councillor work as assistance cabinet member**

- Visit NCC county parks
- Midterm review of Library service and have start to visit the 36 libraries in the country
- Stake holder meeting at Chester Farm.
- Visit a number of libraries in the county
- Update on the NCC births Deaths and marriage, service

### **Other county councillor issues**

- Isham by-pass getting funding.

The meeting concluded at 7.25pm

**Chairman**

## **GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 20 May 2015 in the Chapel Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington.**

**Present:** Mr C Davies (Chairman), Mr J Crisp, Mrs J Griffiths, Mr D Kelly, Mrs L Ross and Mrs A Smith.

**Also present:** Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk), Borough Councillor B Graves and 2 Parishioner.

Apologies were received from Mr K Howes, Mr J Sharp and Mrs S Sharp.

#### **15/13 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2015-16**

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

**RESOLVED** that Mr C Davies be appointed chairman for 2015-16.

#### **15/14 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2015-16**

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

**RESOLVED** that Mr J Sharp be appointed as vice-chairman for 2015-16.

#### **15/15 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

#### **15/16 POLICE ISSUES**

Mr Kelly reported on recent incidents in the village with included two burglaries of sheds on The Ridge, a drug offence a Summer Leys, criminal damage to a car and two thefts from motor vehicles. He was attending the Joint Area Action Group on 21 May and would report back to the next meeting.

#### **15/17 HIGHWAY ISSUES**

##### **Wellingborough Homes – Ivy on Wall –**

There was no update but this would continue to be monitored.

### **Drain outside Devon Cottage**

The road drain had dropped and there was concern that this was dangerous for cyclists and could potentially cause damage to vehicles. The clerk would report to the NCC Street Doctor.

### **Parking on bend in High Street**

It had been noticed that vehicles were parking on the bend just after Wilby Lane coming into the High Street. Whilst this wasn't an offence there was concern that potentially this was dangerous. It was also appreciated that there was very little parking available in this location. Mr Kelly would raise this at the JAG meeting to see if double yellow lines could be put on the bend or if there were alternative solutions.

### **Chapel Lane sign**

The clerk had not heard anything further about the moving of the sign. She would chase this up with the NCC.

### **Closure of TB15 by the NCC**

The clerk reported that she had heard from Wollaston Parish Council and one other person sharing their concern over the closure of the above.

The parish council had previously decided not to oppose any closure. This was discussed again and it was agreed by all that this should be closed as it had been an error on the definitive plan made in the 1940's. The parish council would support the closure.

### **Removal of boundary fence at the recreation ground**

The clerk had received one quotation for the work. It was agreed that Wellingborough Norse also be asked again if they wished to quote for this work.

## **15/18 PLANNING ISSUES**

### **49 Glenfield Drive**

There were no objections.

## **15/19 FINANCE**

### **The following accounts were approved for payment:**

Nalc Annual Subscription (1483)	411.70
E-On Maintenance (1484)	364.51
E-On Street Lighting (1482)	1806.18
Norse grounds maintenance (1483)	918.00
Towergate (1488)	383.34
C A Mundy Salary/Acc. Fee)	803.80
Mr R Garon Grasscutting	733.01

The clerk was asked to find out from Norse how many cuts of the recreation ground they made each year as this was not itemised on their invoice.

The clerk also referred to the Annual Insurance – she had received a lower quote than our normal provider in the past before presenting this to the committee she needed to check that the cover was the same. It was suggested that she also go back to our normal insurer to see if they would be able to reduce their quotation. The clerk confirmed she would do this and that to ensure that cover was ongoing from 1 June 2015 she would accept the lowest quote. This was agreed by the parish council.

## **15/20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Football Hut**

The chairman had met with the Football Club who had confirmed that they wished to relinquish the lease though no formal notification had been received to date.

The clerk was seeking professional advice regarding the Football Hut - at the present time the club should be insuring it as per the lease. The clerk would email everyone with the advice she received.

**Website updating** - the clerk reported that she had a problem with accessing the website which she was endeavouring to sort out. Mrs Smith said she would try to ascertain whether the current contact details for the organisations were correct and the clerk would then update the website accordingly.

**The mayor's civic service** - the Mayor would be holding his Civic Service at St Nicholas Church on 14 June at 3pm. Reverend Chris Pearson would be his Chaplain for the coming year and as he was due to retire in the summer he had obtained special dispensation from the Bishop to enable him to do this.

**Churchyard seat** - there was a seat in the churchyard with a broken arm. Mr Crisp would mention this to Mr Sharp.

### **Planning Advisory Group**

It was agreed that Mrs Ross act as the main contact for this and that she would let Mr Sharp and Mrs Smith know if there were any applications received. Communications needed to be sent to her at [Linda.Ross.010843@gmail.com](mailto:Linda.Ross.010843@gmail.com). The clerk informed Mrs Ross that Mr Sharp had been given a book where all planning applications needed to be recorded and suggested that she obtain this from him for completion.

The meeting concluded at 8.20pm.

**Chairman**