

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 1 July 2015 in the Chapel Rooms, Great Doddington.

Present: Mr C Davies, (Chairman), Mr J Crisp, Mrs J Griffith, Mr D Kelly, Mrs L Ross and Mr J Sharp

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

Apologies were received from Mr Howes, Mrs Sharp and Mrs Smith.

15/21 PLANNING ISSUES

Planning application WP/15/00354/FUL – 12 Goodens Lane

There were no objections to this application.

Land Earls Barton Road

It was reported that the Planning department had not received any enquiries regarding this land. It was believed that the original developer was no longer interested in developing the site but another party called Life Space Developments located in Northampton had shown some interest though there was nothing further to add in relation to this at the current time.

15/22 POLICE ISSUES

Apologies had been received from PCSO Mike Bowes who was unable to attend the meeting. The following incidents had been reported and were noted:

Theft of motor vehicle – Magna Grove
Theft from vehicle The Ridge
Theft of stone bench in Glenfield Drive

A car had been damaged in Earls Barton Road following a 'hit and run' and the police were aware of this.

15/23 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual meeting and the Annual Parish Council meeting both held on 20 May 2015 were approved as a true record.

15/24 DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations made.

15/25 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Ivy on wall

Mr Sharp reported that Wellingborough Homes had cleared the ivy from the house in High Street which had been done over a number of days. The

cemetery wall appeared to be sound and Mr Sharp would ask Mr Garon to ensure that the roots of the ivy were killed off so it didn't grow back.

Drain outside Devon Cottage

The clerk had reported this to Street Doctor and the damaged drain had been repaired.

Chapel Lane

The clerk had asked the county council if they could consider placing a sign at the top of Chapel Lane so it could be seen from the High Street. She had not had a response to this enquiry so would chase them again about this.

Parking on the bend in High Street

The chairman reported that he had received an email from a parishioner living in this vicinity who considered that the parking in this location was no worse than the parking in other places in the centre of the village. Mr Kelly confirmed that he was meeting with Helen Howard of MGWP Highways to discuss a variety of highway issues in the village. It was considered that it would be highly unlikely that there would be any agreement to having double yellow lines on this bend. The parishioner had also commented on the speed of the traffic. When speeding checks had been carried out by the police there had been little indication of speeding traffic. This would, however, continue to be monitored in the regular checks carried out by the police. There were already two speed activation signs in the village and these were considered to be adequate. Concern was also expressed over the additional traffic that would potentially use the village to get to the crematorium. Assurances had been given that traffic would be directed to the crematorium via the A45 but this would not stop all users. Once the crematorium was completed checks would be made on whether traffic was increasing.

Hedge between the crematorium and solar farm

It was reported that there were brambles invading the highway, causing a danger to cyclists. This would be reported to Street Doctor.

Highway Lamps

The clerk reported that Mr Nobles had kindly put in a sample of an LED lamp on lamp number 7 along The Ridge. The other alternative style of lamp was the one on the activation sign at The Ridge. If parish councillors could consider over the summer which was producing the best light discussions could be held at the September meeting to decide which style of lamps to order for consistency. There were 8 lamps which required replacement initially along The Ridge. It was reported that another lamp was out in the High Street.

Vehicle parked in High Street

It was reported that a vehicle with flat tyres had been parked opposite Devon Cottage for some months and had not moved. The owner had been approached and confirmed that the car was taxed and legally could be parked where it was. This would be monitored.

Hedge, Hardwater Road

It was reported that the hedge needed to be cut back as visibility was extremely poor travelling over the bridge. The clerk would report this to Street Doctor.

Grass verge near allotments in Goodens Lane

It was reported that the grass verge had not been cut this season. The clerk would report this to Highways and ask them to ensure that it was included on their schedule.

Footpaths, Earls Barton Road

It was reported that the footpaths were difficult to walk along due to the overgrowth from the lime trees. The clerk would report this to Street Doctor and ask them to cut back the lower parts of the trunks to ensure this was not a problem.

Roundabout near to Tesco, Turnells Mill Lane

Whilst the roundabout was not in Great Doddington there was concern over the volume of traffic that now exited the A45 to this roundabout. With the additional traffic that would use this roundabout to access the Stanton Cross development and the crematorium when completed, councillors wondered if any thought had been given to the suitability of this in the future.

This would be raised with Mrs Howard of Highways.

Seat in churchyard

This would be repaired in the near future.

Tennis Court/Hardstanding

The fencing needed to be repaired or replaced as the school was no longer allowing the children to use the hardstanding for fear of them hurting themselves. The clerk would contact A1 fencing who put the fencing in to obtain a quotation for work to make it safe.

15/26 FINANCES

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Great Doddington United Reformed Church Hire for meetings	128.00 (1492)
Great Doddington United Reformed Church Chiropody S137 Wicksteed	192.00 (1493)
Inspection of playground E-On	54.00 (1494)
Street lighting maintenance for q/e 30 6 15 Aon Insurance	354.61 (1495)
Annual Insurance Accounting Solutions	997.66 (1496)
Year-end accounts for 31 3 15	336.00 (1497)

The clerk presented the accounts from DCK Beavers which were approved and signed. The Annual Return to 31 March 2015 was presented along with the Annual governance statement for 2014/15 which were both approved and signed by the chairman and clerk.

15/27 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Newsletter

Mr Taschini had nearly completed the newsletter which would be delivered to Mrs Ross to be collected by the deliverers for distribution.

Football Hut

The clerk reported that investigations had shown that the lease related only to the football pitch and not the football hut. This lease would need to be the subject of a surrender if the senior football team no longer wished to use it.

With regard to the Football Hut the clerk needed to know who owned the Football Hut as it did not appear to be, as far as she was aware, in the ownership of the parish council. Mr Sharp recalled that the Football Association had been involved and that the hut had replaced a portakabin which had been on the site. He would ask the trustees if they recalled anything. Advice that the clerk had sought from a property expert had suggested that great care be taken with regard to the water supply being checked for legionnaires should the parish council or anyone else take this on.

Site inspection of the playground

The clerk reported on the inspection recently carried out by Wicksteed. This indicated that there were a number of things such as the painting of equipment which needed to be done but that these were only of low or medium concern. The cost of the issues raised was quite high and the clerk would obtain a quote from Timotey to see if they would charge a similar rate. It was agreed that this be discussed at the September meeting when Mrs Sharp was present.

Police Commissioner

The clerk reported that the Police Commissioner Adam Simmonds would be meeting with the chairman on 29 August 2015 at 11.30am to walk around the village. Any issues of concern needed to be sent to the chairman.

Special Recruitment Starter Pack

The clerk was in possession of the above should anyone be interested in becoming a special for the village.

Website

The clerk had sorted out the issues with the website. No updates regarding the local groups had been received but if any further complaints were heard they should be notified to the clerk immediately so the website could be corrected.

Health and Safety - no issues were raised.

15/28 Next meeting

The next scheduled meeting would take place on Wednesday 2 September 2015 at 7.30pm.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.