

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 3 April 2013 in the Chapel Rooms, Great Doddington.

Present: Mr C Davies (Chairman), Mr J Crisp, Mrs J Griffiths, Mr K Howes, Mr D Kelly, Mr J Sharp

An apology was received from Mr I Ross, Mrs S Sharp and Mrs A Smith.

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk) and 3 parishioners.

13/01 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed as a true record.

13/01 DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations made.

13/02 PRESENTATION BY LARKENERGY

Mr M Lee, Ms J Wall and Mr R Shaw attended the meeting representing LarkEnergy.

LarkEnergy was a privately owned company based in South Lincolnshire who focused on solar PV and anaerobic digestion with a successful track record in solar development in the UK.

They were proposing to submit a planning application for land at Doddington Road, Wellingborough behind and adjacent to the proposed crematorium. LarkEnergy looked for sites with limited visual impact and the site had been chosen as it had limited visual impact with a good grid connection route via an underground cable. There was also good infrastructure off the A45. They believed that the land could provide a 10mw scheme. A small building would be placed on site and the area would be security fenced. There would also be infrared CCTV on the site. A hedge would also be planted using indigenous species such as blackthorn. The energy created would provide energy to 2,400 homes per annum. The maintenance of the site would be fairly light weight and the sites were monitored remotely. There would be no noise or omissions from the site. Other than the solar panels the site would be grassed and would be regularly cut or possibly used as grazing land for sheep.

The next step of the process would be to hold a public consultation within the village. LarkEnergy would be having discussions with the planning officers; obtaining site specific reports on ecology, flood risk,

visual impact, transport and construction management; the scheme design culminating in the submission of the planning application.

A number of questions were raised by members regarding the amount of energy that the site would produce, the style and design of the solar panels, how the energy was dispersed, the noise levels, the size and style of the invertors, the security risk and the format of a public consultation.

The Chairman thanked Mr Lee, Ms Wall and Mr Shaw for their attendance at the meeting.

13/03 POLICE ISSUES

No information had been received on the joint action group meeting. There had been a mugging in the High Street in the early hours of the morning where watches had been taken off the victims. There had also been a break-in in Glenfield Drive where French windows had been forced and various household products stolen.

13/04 HIGHWAY ISSUES

Grassed area in front of properties in Earls Barton Road

A number of vans were parking on the verged area which was churning up the grass and making it look unsightly. It was believed that these properties were rented from Wellingborough Homes and the clerk was asked to contact them to see if they would ask their tenants not to park on the grass.

Grassed area corner of St Nicholas Road

It was reported that the refuse lorry had been seen on more than one occasion driving over this area where there were bulbs planted. The clerk was asked to contact Wellingborough Norse and highlight the fact that this was causing damage.

Garages at John Gray Road

These were in the ownership of Wellingborough Homes and a query was raised over whether anything was being done with these. The clerk would contact Wellingboroguh Homes and ask them.

13/05 PLANNING ISSUES

It was agreed to defer the item on Community Planning until the next meeting.

13/06 FINANCE

The statement and accounts for payment were agreed:

Wilby Tree Services	940.80
Mrs C A Mundy	
Salary/accommodation fee	524.60

Wellingborough Norse Grounds maintenance	918.00
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Mr R Garon Reimbursement for machinery maintenance	83.90
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13/07 Matters arising

Basketball Net

The clerk had looked into the purchase of a net but there were many different styles and sizes. Mr Howes agreed to measure the current nets and let the clerk know which style and size to order.

Elections

The clerk informed the committee of the forthcoming County Council elections and the changes to the ward boundaries that were coming into effect. County Councillor G Blackwell would be stepping down so there would be a new county councillor for the village.

Tea Drinking Party

There was a proposal to hold a tea drinking party on 14 July 2013 a request had been received for a donation towards this event. It was agreed that under the parish council's S137 powers that a donation of £100 be given towards this.

LarkEnergy Proposal

Members discussed the proposal. The general feeling was that this would not be something that would please the village. The Chairman would make reference to it in his news article for the village news and explain that a public consultation would be held where a scaled model would be available for villagers to see what the site would look like. Until the planning application was submitted there was little that could be done.

Village Springclean

It was suggested that a village springclean be held following the Waendel Weekend.

Picnic tables for the recreation ground and bench for the amenity garden

The clerk reported that these had been ordered for delivery in due course.

13/08 Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting which was the combined Annual meeting of the parish council and Annual parish council meeting would be held on Wednesday 8 May 2013. The meeting would commence at **7pm.**

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Chairman.....