

## **GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 7 December 2011 in the Chapel Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington**

**Present:** Mr I Bowers (Chairman), Mr J Sharp (Vice-Chairman), Mr J Crisp, Mr C Davies, Mrs J Griffiths, Mr K Howes, Mr D Kelly, Mr I Ross, Mrs A Smith,

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk)

#### **11/19 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2011 were approved and signed as a true record.

#### **11/20 DECLARATIONS**

Mr Howes declared a personal and prejudicial interest on item 11/25 and left the room.

#### **11/21 POLICE ISSUES**

Mr Kelly reported that he had received the crime figures from the police but these had been reported to the parish council in November.

#### **11/22 HIGHWAYS**

##### **30 MPH ROUNDEL AT THE RIDGE**

The clerk reported that the 30 mph roundel requested of the County Council last year had now been placed at the beginning of The Ridge. White lining had also been carried out at road junctions throughout the village.

##### **SALT BINS**

The clerk had contacted the County Council about the installation of a bin at the top of Goodens Lane and had once again been informed that the county council was unable to place a bin at this junction.

It was agreed that a salt bin should be paid for by the parish council. It was important to have a bin in this location because of the difficulties in exiting Goodens Lane onto the main road. The clerk was asked to contact the County Council to ensure that the bin was ordered from the same suppliers as they used. Once the bin was in place the parish council would consider how this would be replenished.

### **TREE ROOT HIGH STREET**

The Chairman reported that the tree root had still not been removed. Mr Crisp had instructed the contractor to carry out the work and would chase this up.

### **TELEGRAPH POLE**

Mr Ross reported that he had noticed that work was commencing to relocate the telegraph pole as requested by the parish council.

### **PLANTERS**

The Chairman reported that he had contacted Hansons to see if they were able to provide a container pipe for the inside of the planters. Hansons had said that they were unable to provide one. Work would need to take place early on in the new year to make sure that the planters were repaired prior to the spring/summer planting. A decision on who and how the planters should be repaired would need to be made in January.

## **11/23 PLANNING**

### **Proposed Wind Farm Wollaston**

Following receipt of the planning application it was agreed that a response to the planning application be sent expressing concern that the general impact on the area and particularly the visual impact to Great Doddington should be taken into consideration.

## **11/24 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The following accounts and statement were approved for payment:

Marchean Newsletter	315.00
Great Doddington Jubilee Fund Donation S 137	500.00
Mr M Kerlin Grasscutting, dog bin clearance and bus shelter	235.00
Reids Playground Maintenance Inspection Fee	90.00
Mrs Jean Crisp S 137 Donation to Pensioners lunch	100.00

## **11/25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Christmas Greetings**

The clerk circulated a christmas card sending festive greetings from the Mayor and Mayoress of Wellingborough.

### **Report on Annual Inspection of Playground**

The Clerk reported the findings following the inspection of the playground area.

It was agreed that the clerk instruct RPM to carry out all high risk work as soon as possible and that a quotation be requested for the medium risk works recommended.

### **Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework**

The County Council had confirmed that they had formally adopted the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) this was available to download on the website.

### **Community Tree Planting Scheme**

The Clerk had received an email from Henry Unwin at the County Council regarding the community tree planting scheme and the availability of a free tree pack for planting to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

A discussion took place over where trees could be planted in the village. It was considered that this was a good idea. This would be referred to the Diamond Jubilee committee and Mr Davies would raise this at its next meeting.

### **Tenders for Grasscutting**

(Mr Howes left the room during the discussion on this item).

The clerk reported that three quotations for the grasscutting and ancillary work had been received from the following:

Mr K Howes - £1900

Mr R Webber of Agriplant Ltd. - £3900

Mr R Garon - £1500

The three quotations and costings were considered and it was unanimously agreed that the contract be awarded to Mr Garon at the cost of £1500.

**RESOLVED** that the clerk write to Mr Garon to confirm that his tender had been accepted.

(Mr Howes rejoined the meeting).

### **Gardening Team**

There was a rumour that Mrs Newsome was intending to resign from the Gardening Team. The clerk had not received any information on this from Mrs Newsome. If the rumour was true the clerk would write to her and thank her for her service to the gardening team over the years.

### **General Issues**

It was reported that a blue Peugeot car had been parked on the pavement in the High Street opposite Devon Cottage and that this was obstructing Wheelchair Scooters and prams from using the pavement. Whilst this was believed to possibly be a visitor to the village the clerk would try to establish who the registered owner was and ask them to park on the road rather than the pavement.

The ivy on the wall of Mrs Thompson's property was once again overgrown and the clerk would write to her and ask her to arrange for this to be cut back.

### **Cost of Electricity Supply**

The clerk had carried out some cost comparisons with regard to the electricity charges. Following a discussion it was agreed that the clerk would contact NALC to see if other parishes were concerned about future electricity charges. She would also contact E-on the electricity suppliers to see how they charged and whether there were different tariffs that could be considered to reduce the levels paid and whether there would be any advantage to fitting low energy light bulbs.

### **Seat in the amenity area**

The clerk reported that the damage to the seat was not covered by the parish council insurance.

## **11/26 RESIGNATION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR**

The Chairman informed the meeting that it was his intention to stand down as Chairman and also as a parish councillor. He had found this decision difficult to make. He considered that his position was untenable following comments made about a proposed planning application which may be submitted to the borough council sometime in 2012 for land between Great Doddington and Wilby.

He thanked all the parish councillors for their support over his time as chairman and wished the parish council well in future years.

Mr Sharp as vice-chairman thanked Mr Bowers for his kind words and expressed the parish council's disappointment that he was resigning as both the chairman and parish councillor and wished him well in the future.

This resignation left a vacancy on the parish council. The clerk would notify the borough council and ask them to prepare a notice of vacancy for the noticeboard. A new chairman would need to be appointed in due course but in the interim Mr Sharp as vice-chairman would be the acting chairman.

**11/27 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was yet to be agreed. The clerk would contact the parish councillors with a suitable date.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

**Chairman.....**

