

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council
held on 5 December 2012 in the Chapel Rooms, Great Doddington.**

Present: Mr C Davies (Chairman), Mr J Sharp, (Vice-Chairman), Mr J Crisp, Mrs J Griffiths, Mr K Howes, Mr D Kelly, Mr I Ross and Mrs S Sharp

An apology was received from Mrs A Smith.

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk).

12/60 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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

12/61 DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations made.

12/62 POLICE ISSUES

PC Bowes represented Northamptonshire Police at the meeting.

He reported that there had been a break in whilst the occupants were in the house at 3 Hardwater Road. This was as yet undetected.

The priorities for the current quarter remained as previously reported as being Juvenile nuisance in Irchester, speeding in Finedon and motorcycle nuisance in Finedon.

A question was asked about whether community speedwatch was being resurrected. PC Bowes said he had not heard this but confirmed that he would make enquiries and let the clerk know.

12/63 MATTERS ARISING

Moving of bench along The Ridge

The clerk had prepared a letter to send to residents of The Ridge from The Stag public house to properties at Kale Lane asking that any objections be submitted to her.

Cherry Tree top of Wilby Lane

Mrs Webber had informed the clerk that she did not believe that the tree necessarily needed to be removed but would investigate further. She had suggested that if it was to be removed that this was a good time to do so and had recommended a number of alternatives such as Hawthorn, Field Maple, Birch or Whitebeam. The clerk would contact

Mrs McLester of Wilby Lane as the tree was outside her property to see if she and her neighbours would be happy for it to be removed and replaced possibly with a maple tree. Another Cherry Tree would also benefit from being removed and replaced in Wilby Lane. Mr Sharp would look into the variety of trees that would be suitable for this area. The clerk would then obtain a quote from Wilby Tree Services for the removal and replacement.

Neighbourhood Watch Signs

Mr Sharp would purchase appropriate signs and then seek reimbursement from the parish council.

Asset and Risk Assessments

This would be reviewed at the next meeting.

12/64 HIGHWAY ISSUES

Public Lamp – John Gray Road

The Chairman had informed the clerk that the lamp was on during the day outside 19/21 John Gray Road. The clerk had already reported this.

12/65 PLANNING

7 Hardwater Road

A site viewing had been held by the borough councillors and they agreed with the concerns of Mr Sanders and as a result at the committee meeting deferred the application for further negotiations to take place for a revised scheme for the height to be reduced to a more acceptable level.

Cemetery application

The application by Mercia Crematoria was expected to be heard by the Planning Committee at the meeting on 19 December 2012.

12/66 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were approved for payment along with the financial statement:

Mrs J Crisp	
S 137 donation for pensioners lunch	100.00
Mr R Garon	
Grasscutting	512.88
Additional cuts	500.00

12/67 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Grasscutting

Mr Garon, as requested by the parish council, had submitted an invoice for the additional grasscutting that he had undertaken because of the inclement weather. A question was asked as to why additional cuts had been undertaken outside of the contract. The Chairman explained that Mr Garon had not requested additional payment but that as he had done such a good job the parish council had decided that it was worthy of proper reimbursement because of the exceptionally wet summer and high growth that there had been. Consideration would be given to whether the contract could be extended to include removal of wreaths from the cemetery. The clerk would check the Cemetery Policy to see what it said.

Dispensation for Precept setting

Advice had been given that parish councillors should be issued with a dispensation for them to decide the annual precept. The clerk circulated some forms and suggested that parish councillors complete and submit them to her should they wish to be able to vote on the precept at the January meeting.

Work to Tree 1 Glebe Farm Court

Notification had been received that there was to be a 20% crown reduction of a lime tree at the above address from the Borough Council.

Trees in the Spinney

Some concern had been expressed regarding the trees in the Spinney which was owned by Mr Bowers. The Spinney was adjacent to the footpath owned by the County Council and there was concern should any of the tree fall onto anyone using the footpath.

It was agreed that this did not fall within the parish council's remit but out of courtesy the clerk would highlight this with the county council.

Recreation ground

Reference was made to the park benches/picnic benches. These were in need of replacement as they were very weathered. This would be considered under the finances for 2013/14.

Concern was also expressed as cars were being driven over the football pitch and it was believed that if the gate was kept locked this would help. Consideration was given to the best way to sort this problem out as the bottom of the gate was at certain areas quite high from the ground. It was considered that discussions would need to be entered into with the Senior and Junior Football Clubs. Mr Howes would report back to a future meeting.

Salt Bins

It was confirmed that the salt bins in Glenfield Drive had been filled.

Mrs Griffiths confirmed that the bin on the corner of Goodens Lane was in place and that she would arrange to get this filled and would submit a receipt to the parish council for payment.

Parking on Pavements

The Chairman had received information from the police on the law with regard to parking on pavements and this would be submitted to Mr Ross for the next parish council newsletter.

Newsletter

With regard to facebook it was confirmed that the parish council would not endorse any comments on facebook but that an advertisement could be included in the newsletter to make the parishioners aware of what was available.

Community Planning

Mr Ross reported on the information that he had received following a recent presentation he had attended by Northamptonshire Acre about the new planning legislation that had come out of the Localism Act.

There were 3 options available to the parish council; a Parish Plan; Village Design Statement or a Neighbourhood Plan. All were time consuming and some were more expensive than others to put in place. The clerk informed the meeting that four of the larger villagers were in the process of preparing Neighbourhood Plans assisted by the Borough Council.

It was requested that the Head of Planning be asked to attend a future meeting to provide more information on the options available for a village the size of Great Doddington. The Borough Councillor would also be asked to attend.

12/68 Health and Safety

There were no issues raised.

12/69 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on 2 January 2013 at **7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Chairman.....