

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 4 December 2013 in the Chapel Rooms, Great Doddington.

Present: Mr C Davies, (Chairman), Mr J Sharp (Vice-Chairman) Mr J Crisp, Mrs J Griffiths, Mr D Kelly, Mr I Ross, Mr J Sharp and Mrs A Smith.

(Apologies were received from Mr K Howes and Mrs S Sharp).

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk) and 6 Parishioners.

13/57 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 6 November 2013 were approved and signed as a true record.

13/58 DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations made.

13/59 HARDWATER ROAD BRIDGE

The Chairman welcomed the residents of Hardwater Road to the meeting.

They had attended the meeting to express concern over the proposed lifting of the current weight restriction on the bridge. They had contacted County Councillor Bell to discuss this with him and he had suggested that they get the parish council to write to the County Council.

The clerk confirmed that notification had been received regarding the bridge and a letter had been sent by the parish council expressing concern over the proposal and asking that it be reinstated. She had also spoken with County Councillor Bell and he had suggested that Helen Howard of MGWSP be contacted asking for the weight restriction to be reinstated, which the Clerk had done.

The residents collectively expressed their concern as they considered that the road was totally unsuitable for heavy vehicles. Even though the bridge was being upgraded HGV's would still not be able to get over it and also the rest of Hardwater Road was not suitable for large vehicles and was very, very dangerous.

Mr Kelly said he would be seeing Helen Howard at a meeting the following day and would reiterate the concerns.

The Chairman suggested that all those who were concerned should write to County Councillor Bell to enable him to pursue the reinstatement.

RESOLVED that the concerns be noted and that the clerk would continue to pursue the reinstatement with the county council.

13/60 POLICE ISSUES

There had been 1 incident which was a theft from a motor vehicle.

It was also reported that there had been a burglary along Earls Barton Road. There were no further details of this.

13/61 HIGHWAY ISSUES

30 MPH Signs

The clerk had been informed that the work was now complete. Mr Crisp thought that some of the work still needed to be done, he would check and let the clerk know.

Keep off the Grass sign

The Chairman had now erected the sign.

Steps at the Village Triangle

The repairs had been completed.

Earls Barton Road development

Mr Crisp had received complaints from a local resident regarding the builders parking their vehicles outside his house. It was clarified that a vehicle if carrying a valid tax disk could park anywhere. The developers had been extremely conscientious at keeping the road clean and dirt free. brushing the road to ease any issues.

Street Lighting

The lights outside 22 Glenfield Drive and 1 Glenfield Drive had both been repaired.

There was a problem with the lamp outside 29 John Gray Road and a part was awaited.

13/62 PLANNING

There were no items for discussion.

Members asked if there was an update on either the solar farm or the crematorium. The clerk confirmed that she would ask the borough council for any information.

13/63 FINANCES

There were no accounts submitted for payment.

13/64 ANY OTHER MATTERS

Zebra Crossing

A meeting would be held at 8.30am on 12 December in High Street with Helen Howard to discuss where it would be best to locate a zebra crossing. Mr Sharp and Mrs Smith said they would be available and would report back to the next meeting.

Ring o Roses Playgroup

The clerk confirmed that funding for the running of the playgroup could not be given by the parish council.

Lease of Amenity Land

The draft lease had been forwarded for the lease of the amenity land and appeared to be in keeping with the agreement reached. The rental would be at a peppercorn and the parish council would need to maintain the land.

Allocation of houses Earls Barton Road

The clerk was asked to find out whether the allocations policy had been drawn up and what interest there was in the properties from people with connections to the village. The major concern was that the properties would be filled by people with no connection.

Hedge along The Ridge

The Clerk reported that she had received a communication from a resident of The Ridge, asking why the hedge had not been cut. The chairman referred to his copy in the village news which explained that a farmer did not have to cut back a hedge. He had, however, spoken to Mr Griffiths who had offered to cut the hedge back when he had time.

Playground

The clerk informed the meeting that she had contacted a local firm regarding drawing up suggestions on how to best develop the playground area for all ages to use.

The children at the school had suggested that football goals be painted on the railings of the basketball court.

If anyone had any thoughts on what would be desirable they should let the clerk know.

Quotation for basketball court repairs

The clerk had received a quotation for the above.

Mr Crisp wasn't sure that what was proposed would be appropriate he would discuss this directly with Mr Puttnam.

Basketball nets

The chairman would measure and find out what type of net was required to replace the existing ones as there were many different ones on the market.

Letter from Mrs Parsons

The clerk read out a letter from Mrs Parsons which related to the village news publication amongst other things. The parish councillors were disappointed that she felt that residents of The Ridge were not included in village events. A number of events had taken place over the last few years which all residents were invited to attend and which had been attended by many people who lived outside the centre of the village.

The Chairman would respond to the letter.

Speed Limit Hardwater Road

Residents asked what the speed limit was for Hardwater Road and for Hardwater Road, as there had been several serious accidents.

The clerk would make enquiries of the County Council.

Pensioners Lunch

The pensioners lunch would be held again this year and the parish council agreed that a donation of £100 would be given towards this.

Earls Barton Road

Discussions would be held in January regarding the name for the new development.

13/65 Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the parish council would be held on Wednesday 8 January 2014. The meeting would commence at **7.30pm.**

Chairman.....

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.