

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council
held on 12 February 2014 in the Chapel Rooms, Great Doddington.**

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

(An apology was received from Mr J Sharp.)

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk) and 1 Parishioner.

13/64 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 8 January 2014 were approved and signed as a true record.

13/65 DECLARATIONS

Mrs Smith declared an interest on Item 13/68 Planning application WP/2013/0873/LB.

13/66 POLICE MATTERS

It was reported that there had been 1 incident reported during January of criminal damage. Mr Crisp reported that he had seen 2 or 3 cars with flat tyres one Saturday morning in early February and didn't believe that this could have been a coincidence and wondered if anything had been reported.

RESOLVED that this be noted.

13/67 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Fly tipping

It had been noted that there had been a considerable increase in fly-tipping particularly in Hardwater Road and Cut Throat Lane. The fly-tipping would have to be removed by Wellingborough Norse but if anyone witnessed anyone fly-tipping they should take details such as registration numbers and pass the information onto Wellingborough Norse who could then take prosecution action against the culprit.

RESOLVED that this be noted.

Piece of land opposite the Stag, corner of The Ridge/High Street

An inspection of the area had taken place and remedial work had been recommended to be carried out. This had been added to the programme of highway works but no date had been given for the work to be carried out as yet though it would be before the end of the financial year.

RESOLVED that this would be monitored.

Lighting near to the Merry Miller

The county councillor for this area, Councillor G Lawman, was addressing this problem with the county council. Mr and Mrs Digby had been informed of this.

RESOLVED that this be noted.

Verge Maintenance Trials

The clerk reported that she had received correspondence from Rebecca Miller of MGWSP informing the parish council that they intended to carry out verge maintenance trials in Great Doddington. Historically verges had been maintained by the County Council, but due to cuts in funding the mowing of non-safety critical sites had been radically reduced. A trial would be taking place in the village, along with other villages, to use a growth regulator with selective weed killer to delay growth and keep weeds at bay. The intention was to spray weeds initially and then carry out new planting in late March. It is hoped that this will reduce the number of annual cuts to a maximum of three. The area they would be running the trial would be Hardwater, crossroads.

RESOLVED that this be noted and monitored.

Lamp outside 22 Glenfield Drive

This lamp had been reported as being 'out' on a number of occasions recently and E-on had managed to restore the lamp to working order for the time being but had recommended that this be replaced. They had provided a quotation to remove the existing lantern and to supply and install a PHOSCO P567 42W PLY (white light) lantern with photo electric cell control for the sum of £310.00.

RESOLVED that the quotation would be kept on file until the lamp could no longer be repaired.

Hardwater Road – Bridge – Weight Restriction

Following previous correspondence between the parish council and the county council expressing concern over the weight restriction on the bridge the clerk referred to correspondence received from MGWSP regarding the revised proposals as follows:

The letter confirmed that Bridge No. 3270 was being strengthened and it was proposed that the existing 3 tonnes weight limit (except buses and access up to 25 tonnes) would be removed so that this bridge will become unrestricted. Bridge No.3268 has been assessed for weakness and although the bridge would benefit from a 7.5 tonnes structural weight limit it is not proposed that a structural weight limit be implemented and for the time being the bridge would continue to be regularly monitored for signs of any further weakness.

As the weight restriction on bridge No. 3270 is being removed it is proposed that a 7.5 tonnes amenity weight restriction (heavy lorries) be provided along Hardwater Road. This restriction will have exemptions for access, loading/unloading, agricultural purposes and emergency vehicles.

Councillors agreed that this seemed a more acceptable solution to the previous proposal, they believed that the bridge was to be reopened within the next few days.

The Chairman made reference to a letter received from a local resident regarding the safety of the bridges with regard to a proposal for the Wollaston side sign to be a give way sign, thus giving priority to vehicles already on the bridge, or to alternatively placing traffic lights on the bridge. This letter should have been directed to the county council earlier on in the process as unfortunately the bridge was now near completion so it was probably too late for this to be implemented but the clerk would forward the letter to Mrs Howard. Mr Kelly said he had recently walked down to the bridge and had noticed that some remedial work needed to be carried out at the side of the roads. Mr Ross suggested that this would probably be done before the road was reopened and that should there be an issue councillors could meet with Mrs Howard and the borough and county councillors to discuss further. Mr Kelly said he would take some photographs.

With regard to the 30mph speed restriction that the parish council had requested on behalf of the residents of Hardwater Road the clerk reported that she had received a phone call from Matthew Clarke of the NCC who was an assistant to Mrs Howard. He had explained that to implement a 30mph speed restriction certain national and local guidelines and criteria had to be met, such as whether the road was straight, or what the visibility was like. There also had to be ways of enforcing the speed limit. A site inspection had indicated that the criteria would not be met to even progress a 30mph scheme.

The parishioner in attendance, Mr Craig was allowed to address the meeting. He expressed his concern that this had been the response received; he believed that vehicles travelled at far too fast a speed and that an accident was waiting to happen.

Councillors discussed this further and asked if they could have written reasons directly from Mrs Howard regarding why a speed limit would not be considered so they could decide whether this should be pursued further.

RESOLVED that the clerk would take the necessary action.

Lease of amenity land at Great Doddington

The clerk had received a copy of the Lease for signature by two parish council members.

RESOLVED that the Lease be signed by the Chairman and Mrs Griffiths.

13/68 PLANNING ISSUES

The sub-committee had commented on the following:

WP/2013/0873/LB - Alterations and conversion of existing barn at Grove Farm, High Street

The sub-committee had considered the plans submitted and could find no reason to object to the application.

WP/2013/0567 – Stone Wall at 19 Lower Street

A site viewing meeting had been scheduled for Tuesday 18 February, prior to this application being heard by the Planning Committee on 19 February.

Front Extension – 58 Glenfield Drive – No objections.

13/69 FINANCE

The following accounts were approved for payment:

BDO Stoy Haywood (replacement cheque as the original had not been received)	180.00
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13/70 ANY OTHER ITEMS

Housing, Earls Barton Road

Councillors updated the parish council on the meeting held with the housing officers in regard to the allocation of the homes. All the homes were for rental and not shared ownership and were two bed roomed properties, as such single people were not able to apply for them.

A number of residents from Great Doddington had applied and though the borough council had not made the allocations at the time of the meeting, it was believed that they would be offered a property. Following a number of complaints received regarding allocations via facebook it had been found that a number of complainants had not applied on the Keyways site. Full instructions had now been placed on Facebook for anyone who wished to apply for one of these properties. Any queries needed to be raised with the borough council.

The street name for the development had been agreed as Magna Grove.

RESOLVED that the developments be noted.

Solar Farm and Memorial Hall roof

The chairman reported that Lark Energy had made a donation of £2,000 towards the Memorial Hall Roof fund.

Prison Site

There were no further developments to report.

Crematorium

There were no further developments to report.

Shelleys Hairdressers and Beauticians

Permission was being sought, for a sign to be placed outside its new premises, from the borough council.

Playground

Mrs Sharp reported that she had held a site meeting with Playground Supplies who had suggested various different options for play equipment at the site. They would be sending through quotations for the different options.

Quotation for dog bin

A quotation had been received for a dog bin. It was agreed that as only one comment had been received and because of the cost that this be put on hold unless further requests were made.

Review of Code of Conduct

The clerk made reference to the review of the code of conduct and to each individual’s register of interests. Members clarified that their registers were up to date. Any changes needed to be notified to the clerk and monitoring officer at the borough council.

Ivy on walls in churchyard

To be placed on the next agenda.

13/71 Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the parish council would be held on Wednesday 12 March 2014. The meeting would commence at **7.30pm.**

Chairman.....

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.