

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 5 June 2013 in the Chapel Rooms, Great Doddington.

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

An apology was received from Mr J Crisp and Mr D Kelly.
Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk) and 3 parishioners.

13/14 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish and the Annual Parish Council meeting were approved and signed as a true record.

13/15 DECLARATIONS

Mrs Griffiths declared an interest on the Lark Energy item.

13/16 MATTERS ARISING

Steps at Village Triangle

It was reported that there were loose steps which needed to be cemented in. The Clerk would ask Mr Puttnam if he would be able to do this.

13/17 POLICE ISSUES

It was reported that the police would be undertaking speeding checks from time to time.

13/18 HIGHWAY ISSUES

Potholes Earls Barton Road

It was reported that at least 2 of the potholes had been filled in.

Kale Lane, Overgrown weeds

An email had been received from the daughter of an owner of an adjacent property to Kale Lane regarding the overgrowth which was infringing on the owners property. In the passed this had been cut back each year though the owner did not know who had done it.

The clerk had confirmed to the owner that this area was not included in the parish council grass cutting programme and had pointed her in the direction of Wellingborough Norse or the County Council.

Overgrown hedges

The clerk had written to the owners of the 2 properties where the hedges were infringing the footpaths.

Grass Verge opposite the shop

Thanks were extended to Mr Crisp for the work he had undertaken to replace the grass in the High Street. He was asked to submit an invoice for the expenditure incurred.

Seat at The Ridge

The seat had been moved nearer to the bus stop and seemed to be getting more use.

13/19 PLANNING ISSUES

A planning application had been received for land near to the priory pub at Bourton Way, Wellingborough for the erection of 68 dwellings. The parish council's only concern was regarding the increase in traffic that additional properties would bring. Mr Ross would forward this comment.

Lark Energy – Solar Farm

As promised Lark Energy had held a meeting for parishioners regarding the proposed solar farm. Over 144 parishioners had attended. On the whole the feedback had indicated that most parishioners were not against a solar farm, though they would have objected to a wind farm on the site as this would have been particularly intrusive.

Crematorium

Mr Ross reported that a number of residents had raised concern about the proposed crematorium and the additional traffic that this would create. Mr Ross had confirmed that the parish council had already made representations to the borough council in this manner. However, the parish council was yet to receive a formal planning application from the borough council, who now owned the property. Obviously when this was received formal comments could be made by any parishioner directly to the borough council.

Skew Bridge/Rushden Lakes

An email had been received from a representative from Skew Bridge/Rushden Lakes development asking if the parish of Great Doddington would support the planning application for the development off the A45.

The parish council agreed that this would bring much needed employment to the area and that it would support the application.

13/20 FINANCE

The statement and accounts for payment were agreed:

E-On – Street lighting 1 1 13 to 31 312	1799.59
---	---------

13/21 Matters arising

Amenity Garden lease

The clerk had received correspondence from Capita Symonds acting on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council regarding the renewal of the lease for the amenity garden.

They wished to renew on the following terms:

- 10 years from the date of completion
- Rental of £200 per annum
- Each party to be responsible for own costs
- Tenant responsible for upkeep of land
- Tenant responsible for all outgoings

The parish councillors considered this. They felt that as the area had always been maintained at the cost of the parish council that the rental of £200 per annum instead of a peppercorn rent was a little too much for the parish council to pay. It was also considered that the paying of the legal fees which could be in the region of £500 was too much for the parish council to pay as this amount of money had not been budgeted for.

Village Spring clean

The village spring clean would be held on the weekend of 23 June between 9 and 10am everyone to meet at the Memorial Hall.

The clerk would ask Wellingborough Norse if they could provide black sacks, high visibility jackets and litter pickers.

Memorial Hall Roof

A question was raised as to whether the parish council could pay for the repairs to the Memorial Hall roof, if the jubilee fund provided the money to the parish council to enable a grant payment to be made and the VAT to be claimed back.

The clerk didn't think this would be possible legally but she would make some enquiries to clarify if this would be possible.

Dog Fouling

There was once again a big issue regarding dog fouling within the village. Should anyone be seen walking a dog and allowing them to foul it should be reported to the borough council to enable a prosecution to take place. Additional signage was being put up around the village.

13/22 Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the parish council would be held on Wednesday 3 July 2013. Mr Ross asked that his apologies be recorded for that meeting. The meeting would commence at **7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Chairman.....