

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 7 March 2012 in the Chapel Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington

Present: Mr J Sharp, (Acting Chairman), Mr J Crisp, Mr C Davies, Mrs J Griffith, Mr K Howes, Mr I Ross and Mrs S Sharp

Also present: Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr D Kelly and Mrs A Smith.

11/45 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2012 were approved and signed as a true record.

11/46 DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations made.

11/47 SIGNING OF DECLARATION

The Chairman welcomed Sarita Sharp to the meeting and she signed her declaration of acceptance of office.

11/48 POLICE MATTERS

PCSOs Paul Hurst and Mike Bowes attended the meeting following a very recent incident where there had been criminal damage, broken windows and antisocial behaviour. A local resident had apprehended the offender along with 2 accomplices and charges had been placed.

A letter had been distributed to over 150 homes informing residents to be extra vigilant and to report any incidents to the police. Additional patrols had also been put in place.

The policing priorities over the next quarter were, speeding, parking at the school and antisocial behaviour. Due to the traffic calming measures that had been put in place some years ago there were not too many issues at the School but the police would be attending at School times to encourage parents to park responsibly.

11/49 HIGHWAY ISSUES

STREET LIGHTING:

Maintenance

The Clerk had written to E-on with regard to whether the parish council was under contract with them for the maintenance of the street lamps.

It appeared that there wasn't a contract as such it had just been normal practice that a maintenance agreement be put in place. The agreement was for the cleaning of the lamps once every three years, the replacement of bulbs and any minor repairs to the lamps that happened. Bigger repairs were invoiced separately. The Clerk had pointed out to E-On that the lamps had not been cleaned for well over 3 years and that it was important that this been done as soon as possible as the lamps were so dirty in some cases the light was almost being obscured. They had promised that they would commence work on cleaning the lamps in April 2012.

Unmetered Electricity Supply

Once again there was no contract for this. The calculations for the cost of the electricity were calculated on information provided by the parish council on an updated inventory that we should supply as requested from E-On. This had seemed to be overlooked and E-On had said they would shortly be requesting an update from us. The current charging rate of 8.24p per kilowatt had not increased since October 2009. The reason for the increases in charges was related to the Climate Change levy charge and the VAT increases.

Following a discussion, Mr Howes, agreed that he would collate an inventory of all the street lamps within the village which would then be updated as and when street lamps were removed or added. Once this had been done, we would then be in a position to speak to other suppliers with our requirements. In the meantime the clerk would contact other parish councils to see who their suppliers were.

Undergrounding of Cables

The Chairman updated the parish council on the situation with the undergrounding of cables.

Work was well underway and nearing completion. Due to the BT lines still needing to remain on the poles some of the poles could not be removed.

There was therefore only a requirement for one pole to be replaced, the clerk had asked Mr Nobles for a quote and he had responded to say he was awaiting figures to enable him to provide this.

It was suggested that when this came through that the clerk email it to all the parish council to see if they were happy with the price and for instructions to be given. If there was any uncertainty this would be dealt with at the April Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman was also asked whether Western Power intended to regravell the pavements and put them back in good order. He clarified

that this appeared to be the case. The work would be completed by the end of March.

GRIT BIN

The clerk reported that the Grit bin had been delivered although the License from the NCC had yet to be received. Mrs Griffith reported that the bin was being stored in the first house in Goodens Lane and that it would be filled with salt and attached, with the permission of the landlord, to the wall of The Stag public house.

11/50 PLANNING

The sub-committee had met to discuss an application for a single storey extension to the kitchen at the Rugby Club. Application WP/2012/0080/F. No objections had been raised.

11/51 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts had been approved:

Glasdon UK Ltd.	
Purchase of Grit Bin	152.34
Mrs C A Mundy	
Salary and accommodation fee Jan, Feb & March	786.90

11/52 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cemetery

The clerk that a grave space had been purchased following the death of Doris Margaret Brown who had formerly lived in John Gray Road.

Bus Timetable

The chairman reported on correspondence that had been received from a local resident who had been writing to Stagecoach about the lack of early morning transport through Great Doddington.

This had previously been discussed by the parish council and Stagecoach had informed the parish council that it could only change services after giving a 5 day notice period.

The clerk would write to Stagecoach and check to see if changes were to be made to the timetable in accordance with the wish of residents and if not why not.

Northamptonshire's Electoral Review

This related to the review of the number of county councillors for the Wellingborough area which included Great Doddington. The proposal was to reduce the numbers from 8 to 6. The current proposal indicated

that Great Doddington would move from the Earls Barton division to the Hemmingwell Division. Members considered that this was not acceptable and asked that a response be made saying that they wished to remain in the Earls Barton division along with other villages who were connected with and to Great Doddington.

The clerk would make representations to the County Council.

Road Closure Order

A copy of a Road Closure Order for byway TB15 and TV15 had been received for the temporary prohibition of equestrian, cyclists and motorised vehicles from using the above for a period of 6 months from 2/3/2012.

Parishes Forum

This would be held on 11/4/2012 items for the agenda would need to be submitted by 23/3/2012 to the Council.

Health and Safety

There were no issues raised.

11/53 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 4 April 2012.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Chairman.....