

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council of Great Doddington held on 4th November 2009 at the United Reformed Church Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington.

Mr I Bowers, (Chairman), Mr J Sharp (Vice-Chairman) Mr J Crisp, Mr C Davies, Mrs J Griffith, Mr K Howes, Mrs K McLester , Mr D Kelly and Mr I Ross

Also present Mrs C A Mundy – Clerk.

09/49 Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2009 were approved as a true record.

09/50 Declarations of Interest

Mr I Bowers declared a personal interest relating to the item on affordable Homes.

09/51 Matters Arising

Engineering Bricks, Church Lane

These had been repaired.

Primrose Lining at the School

It was with great delight that the Chairman reported that the lining had at last been complete.

09/52 Police Matters

Two police officers were in attendance and they informed the meeting of recent crime figures. Allotment sheds had been targeted across rural areas and the police suggested extra vigilance.

There had been a theft of a motor cycle which had been found in Wilby Lane with slight damage.

Parking issues were also raised, particularly on Saturday mornings, the Police would visit to advise those parking inconsiderately of the potential danger they were causing. There had also been a number of complaints of people parking on the pavements around the village. One in Lower Street was particularly offence and the police would call and speak to the owner of the vehicle. Another car was often on the pavement on the corner of Earls Barton Road and Wilby Lane. Whilst the pavement was wide this did obscure the vision of cars turning right into Earls Barton Road and was deemed to be an obstruction. This should be reported when it is seen and the police would call and speak with the owners.

09/53 HIGHWAY ISSUES

Central Networks

The Chairman reported that the works had been started but that there would be a slight delay as a closure notice was required for the slope and the Borough Council would need to approve the works.

A meeting between Mr Bowers and Mr Millard from e-on had taken place to discuss the requirement for lamps and these were on order.

Parish Enhancement Gangs

The following items were suggested for the parish enhancement gangs to work on:

- Signs at the Earls Barton end of the village;
- The land opposite The Stag needed cutting back and clearing;
- Earls Barton Road (Glenfield Road side), the footpath was uneven;
- Clearance of gully in Earls Barton road near to the bus shelter;
- Graffiti clearing at bus shelter in High Street
- Lime trees in Earls Barton Road;
- Stone work on the village green in High Street;
- Amenity garden - the top step needs a new slab;
- Cutting back of foliage around signs in Earls Barton Road;
- General clearance of rubbish from drains.

Salt Bins

The salt bins had been replaced and refilled.

Speeding in Lower Street

It was reported that drivers were using Lower Street as a 'rat run' to get through to the other end particularly in the evenings because of the parked cars near to the shop and volume of traffic.

This was of concern as the road was very narrow and not built to take the volume and speed of the traffic using it. The clerk would speak with Steve Barber at the NCC to see if anything could be done to help with this problem.

09/54 PLANNING

WP 2009 0370 High Street Great Doddington

Following a lengthy discussion the Parish Council decided to raise an objection to the planning application as submitted.

It considered this to be an over-development of the site which is within the village conservation area. The development would erode the open views of the valley and the construction of the garages to the front of the development would affect the street scene. It also considered that there would be insufficient off-road parking and the potential additional traffic movement at

this point in the High Street would present particular concern . A site viewing was also requested.

WP 2009 0387 - Wall in High Street Great Doddington.

It was felt that as this application was linked to the previous one it was deemed that approval of the application would not be necessary.

John Gray Road application

Mr Ross reported that he had attended a site viewing meeting and that the Borough Council Planning Committee was meeting to discuss the application.

09/55 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Borough Council of Wellingborough	
Grounds Maintenance	825.13
Great Doddington United Reformed Church	
Meetings	110.00
Chiropody	120.00
E-On Lighting	821.33
C A Mundy	
Salary and Accommodation fee	787.60
Mr M Kerlin	
Grasscutting etc.	205.00
Mrs J Crisp	
Pensioners Lunch (donation under S.137) S137 funding)	100.00

09/56 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Heritage Weekend

This had been a great success and a vote of thanks was registered for the hardwork of Barbara Tomkins and Roger Gibson and Mr and Mrs King for the use of Manor House.

Gardening Team

Mrs Newsome had contact the Chairman and Clerk regarding the creation of a compost area on the site of the old church hall. It was agreed that there be no objection to this and any expenditure could be taken for the annual allowance to the gardening team.

Affordable Housing

Joanne Richardson of the Borough Council had offered to attend the February meeting to do a presentation and respond to any questions.

Following discussion it was thought that it would be better if she could attend in March. The clerk would ask if this was possible and it was suggested that

the meeting be brought forward to 6.30 pm to accommodate the presentation and question time.

Pensioners Lunch

It was agreed that a £100 donation be given towards the Pensioners lunch.

Standards Committee of the Borough Council

A request had been received from the Borough Council for a volunteer to sit on the Standards Committee. Agreed that nobody wished to volunteer for this role.

Cold Calling

It was reported that some villages had a policy of having no 'cold calling'. It was suggested that this be put into the village news in the spring and ask parishioners whether they wanted this in Great Doddington.

09/57 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm.

Chairman