

GREAT DODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting of Great Doddington Parish Council held on 7th September 2011 in the Chapel Rooms, Chapel Lane, Great Doddington

Present: Mr I Bowers, Mr J Crisp, Mr C Davies, Mrs J Griffiths, Mr D Kelly, Mr I Ross Mr J Sharp and Mrs A Smith.

Also present, Mrs C A Mundy (Clerk)

An apology was received from Mr K Howes.

10/89 Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2011 and 24 August 2011(planning) were approved and signed as a true record.

Reference had been made in the minutes of 24 August 2011 to an item relating to a potential development at Wilby Way. The Chairman asked that it be noted that this item was confidential and that to date the borough council had not received a planning application for processing.

10/90 Declarations

Mr Sharp declared a personal interest on item 10/96 in relation to the procurement of grasscutting and left the room during discussion.

10/91 Matters arising

Telegraph Pole

The pole had not yet been moved but British Telecom had confirmed that action would be taken shortly to relocate this pole.

10/92 Police Issues

It was reported that across the rural area anti social behaviour had increased. Other major issues were speeding and parking obstruction, particularly near to schools. Police priorities for the next 3 months were speeding and anti social behaviour.

10/93 Highway Issues

Hardwater Road Crossroads

The chairman had received correspondence from a resident who considered that the crossroad at Hardwater was particularly dangerous and who had asked for consideration to be given to the installation of a roundabout. This was noted but this observation had been suggested on a number of previous occasions to the highway authority who had

rejected the suggestion. The Chairman would respond accordingly and suggest that the resident pursue with the Highway Authority.

Hardwater Bridge

The Chairman had also received correspondence from the NCC about the replacement of the Hardwater Bridge over the main river. The road alignments would not be changed, although the Chairman wondered if re-alignment may be considered whilst the work was being carried out.

Speed Activation Sign

The sign had not been working for some weeks. This had been reported to the street dwas not working. This had been reported to Street Doctor. The clerk would also ask Outdoor Lighting to take a look at it as they were visiting to repair a lamp nearby (outside 39 The Ridge).

Potholes in Glenfield Drive

Mr Kelly reported that the potholes were now becoming a serious issue in the older part of Glenfield Drive . Twenty residents and the clerk had reported this to the NCC's Street Doctor service. This had also be raised with County Councillor Blackwell who had been asked for his assistance to get this matter resolved. This would be pursued again with the county council.

Tree in Wilby Lane

A large tree in Wilby Lane was obscuring the light from the lamp. It was considered that the tree was now too large for the position it was in and that it needed to be cut back. When reference had been made to this previously residents had not wanted the tree to be removed but as complaints had now come from the residents the Chairman would consult with them to see if they would be happy for the tree to be removed and a more suitable tree planted in its place if desired.

Earls Barton Road – Trees

There was serious concern about the growth of the trees along Earls Barton Road. These had been reported as needing cutting back three years ago to the County Council who said they would be added to their programme of works. The clerk would write to the NCC again and also to Mrs Webber at the Borough Council to see if she could give any support to the request.

10/94 PLANNING

16 Goodens Lane

It was reported that an application for a rear extension and conversion had been received.

The application was to convert a bungalow into a house with a small extension to the rear.

Notification of planning applications from the Borough Council

Mr Ross reported that notification of applications was normally received each Monday via email. Detailed plans relating to planning applications were also sent to parish councils.

The Borough Council had informed Mr Ross that notification would no longer be sent via email and that plans would not automatically be sent either, due to the severe financial constraints that the council was facing. The Parish Council considered that this was not acceptable.

The clerk would write formally to the Borough Council to express concern that this service was to stop. Mr Ross had also shared his concern with the officers and with Borough Councillor Graves who agreed that it was not acceptable.

10/95 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The clerk reported on the year end accounts' internal audit comments and governance review and the recommendations made therein which were considered and agreed by the meeting.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

E-On Electricity 1 4 11 to 30 6 11	1819.58
Mr M Kerlin Grasscutting July and August	470.00
Auditing Solutions Internal Audit	336.00
Accounting Solutions Year end accounts	282.00

10/96 ANY OTHER ITEMS

Tennis Nets

It had been reported that the key to the tennis net store could not be located and nobody was sure where the nets were.

Mr Crisp thought that tennis nets were in the secure store and that the key was located at the shop. Mr Crisp would make enquiries and report back to the next meeting. He would enquire at the hairdressers to see if they would consider being the key holder.

Village Sign

Mr Crisp reported that the repair work was nearly complete and the sign would then shortly be replaced.

Diamond Jubilee

Celebrations for the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations were to be held in June 2012. If the village wished to hold a celebration work would need to commence on the organisation of such an event.

A committee, independent of the Parish Council, would need to be set up to deal with this if there was any interest. Mr Ross had a list of the organisations who had expressed an interest and said that a David Smith had expressed a desire to be involved in setting up a committee. Mr Ross would liaise with Mr Smith and provide him with the contacts.

Enhancement Gangs

The clerk was asked if the enhancement gang had attended to carry out any highway work yet and if not when they would be in the village.

The clerk had not been informed that they had attended but would make enquiries and report to the next meeting.

Bus Service

Changes to the bus service timetable had been made by stagecoach. The new timetable was not satisfactory as the service was not adequate to enable people to get in or out of the village. Stagecoach was aware that this was a mistake and that changes needed to and would be made to the timetable but legally were unable to do so until a period of 56 days had elapsed.

Local residents had written to Stagecoach to complain; he clerk would also write and express the urgent need for the timetable to be changed.

Kale Lane Notice board

The old notice board in Kale Lane needed to be removed as it was in a very poor state of repair. The chairman confirmed that he would make arrangements to dispose of the notice board as soon as he could.

Procurement of grasscutting

(Mr Sharp left the room during discussion on this item).
An alternative quote had been received for the grasscutting contract from 1/4/2012. This was discussed and it was agreed that a notice inviting tenders would be placed on the village notice board in late October/early November. The chairman would liaise with Mr Sharp regarding the specifications to enable the notice to be drawn up.

10/97 Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.
The next meeting would be held on 5/10/2011 at 7.30pm.

Chairman.....