

**GREAT GRANSDEN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

Those present were:

Stephanie Beaumont Chairman	
Graham Coulson Vice Chairman	Celia Chignell Parish Councillor
Diane Taylor Clerk	Ann Cosgrave Parish Councillor
Michael Capps Parish Councillor	George Craze Parish Councillor
Phil Taylor Parish Councillor	Jeff Gorton Parish Councillor
Alex Castle Parish Councillor	
District Councillor Barbara Boddington	
District Councillor Richard West	

1. The meeting was opened at 7.30 pm with a silent prayer.
2. **Apologies.** Apologies were received from County Councillor Julie Wisson.

**3. Declarations of Interest.**

**Matters Arising:**

6.6. Allotment Fence. Jeff Gorton declared a pecuniary interest as an allotment plot holder but has a dispensation.

**Cheques for Approval:**

Celia Chignell declared an interest for approval of the cheque to Value Products Ltd for the replacement tennis court bench.

4. **Minutes** of the previous monthly meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014, which had been circulated, were approved and accordingly signed by the Chairman.

**5. OPEN FORUM.** The meeting was closed for fifteen minutes. Councillor Boddington had attended the presentation of a cheque for £300 from Ameycespa to Barnabas Oley School for recycling. She also spoke about the winter gritting which has been saved from the cuts for now and the proposed boundary changes which will place Great Gransden with Loves Farm, putting rural communities with urban areas which have different needs. Michael Capps asked about any safeguards put in place when the District Council housing stock was transferred to Luminus. Barbara Boddington advised that there are councillors on the Luminus panel. He also asked if the cuts have affected the pre-planning advice of the planning department and was advised that pre-application advice should be better as it is chargeable. Councillor West spoke about the Local Plan 2036 and would be attending one of the consultation seminars.

**6. Matters Arising: 6.1. Defibrillators.** The defibrillator has been delivered and arrangements will be made for its installation by an electrician. Councillors noted the email from planning advising how the cabinet should be fixed to the wall of the Reading Room. A custodian is required for the defibrillator and Stephanie Beaumont agreed to ask the caretakers, David and Jenny Brown

**6.2. Webbs Meadow.** Following Councillor West's intervention, Luminus has now responded advising of the action taken and a schedule for resolving the problems of parking and untidiness. A neighbouring resident had also written to Luminus highlighting the problems.

**6.3. Gransden Windmill.** The Chairman reported CCC will keep the Parish Council informed about the works of repair having omitted to do so previously.

**6.4. Cemetery Regulations.** The council's regulations do not permit kerbing and footstones on graves. One grave has a surrounding kerb and clerk to write to the family reinforcing the regulations.

**Matters Arising – continued:**

**6.5. Playing Field Safety Report.** All the play equipment passed the inspection by Sportsafe UK in June 2014. A further inspection had been carried out in September 2014 and highlighted repairs needed to the safety surface of the climbing frame and slide, repairs to the wooden train roof and replacement of two swing seats. The train roof needs treating and the clerk will arrange for this to be done in the spring when the work to re- varnish the village benches is carried out. Repairs to the safety surface had already been identified by councillors and will also be carried out in the spring. Councillors had not noted any sharp edges to the swing seats requiring the seats to be replaced but councillors will inspect and report back at the next meeting.

**6.6. Allotment Fence.** Email from Deb Greenland advising that the Allotment Society will create its own secure boundary as the neighbour, Greenwood Hire has failed to erect a fence following removal of the original boundary hedge. Hedging plants and trees have been offered by HDC.

**6.7. Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire.** Councillors considered the potential problems arising from Great Gransden being included with Loves Farm, an urban community. Clerk to write objecting to the grouping of urban and rural communities.

**6.8. Outdoor Keep Fit Sessions.** The clerk confirmed that the organiser of the proposed sessions had been given permission to use the playing field.

**7. Neighbourhood Watch.** There was nothing to report.

**8. Cheques for approval.** Councillors approved for payment the six invoices as listed on the sheet and filed as Appendix No. 1.

**9. Financial Statement** for December 2014. The sheet filed as Appendix No.2 had been circulated. The statement was unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman. Councillors also noted the budget review as at the end of December 2014.

**10. Highways.** Celia Chignell reported that although the salt bins are full, the salt is solid making it impossible for volunteers to spread. The clerk will ask for the bins to be emptied and refilled with the correct type of salt. The East Street footpath is breaking up with tree roots growing from adjacent gardens. Clerk to enquire who is responsible for repairs.

Ann Cosgrave reported the ruts along Meadow Road caused by vehicles driving along the narrowed section of road while work was being carried out. Anglian Water should be responsible as the work was to replace the main water pipe.

Jeff Gorton reported the Crow Street footpath which could be dangerous in slippery conditions.

George Craze reported that the drain outside the shop is still flooding. Also Waresley Road is flooding because the drains have not been sucked clean to allow the water to reach the brook.

Michael Capps commented that at the recent Flood Forum, a question was asked about gully cleaning. These will be emptied once a year from October to March and Parishes will have early sight of the programme. Another parish council asked for drainage plans and Great Gransden will also request plans as there has been confusion in the past.

Alex Castle commented that the pot holes in the lay-by adjacent Mill Weir have been repaired. Highways will not continue to maintain the area and suggest marker posts are erected to prevent cars parking. Some councillors wanted cars kept off the lay-by to protect children when fishing the pond. The majority view was to retain the area as

**Highways – continued:**

a lay-by as it was safer for cars to be off the main road.

Phil Taylor commented that work has been undertaken to install new green pillars at the corners of East Street and Crow Tree Street in preparation for faster broadband. Barbara Boddington left.

Councillor West offered to speak to Anthony King, Highways about the salt bins, the programme for cleaning the gullies and the ruts along Meadow Road as he already has a meeting arranged for the following day.

Ann Cosgrave commented that during the recent rain fall, the Church Street gully did not flood although often the drain is unable to cope with the amount of water running from Sand Road and across the junction.

Stephanie Beaumont commented that during the recent foggy weather, driving from Fullers Hill at night was difficult as there were no white lines on the road. This will be the same for Meadow Road.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE. 11.1.** Desmond Merrill had asked about the surfacing of the Sportsfield car park as the pot holes had reappeared. The cost of resurfacing with tarmac is £30,000. Last year there had been unsuccessful grant applications. Councillors will revisit this again following any further deterioration.

**11.2.** Schedule of CAPALC's training sessions. The chairman expressed an interest in attending a further session.

**11.3.** Email from CCC encouraging online fault reporting of Highways issues.

Councillors commented on the standard of the trenching work in Middle Street as the edges were not sealed and the edges are already breaking away. Councillors agreed that the online method of reporting should be used in addition to emailing.

**11.4.** Councillors noted that Cambridge Rambling Club has £800 to improve access for people with mobility problems. Councillors suggested the footpath running along the boundary of Berry Close Studios which has a steep bank at one end, making it impossible to use.

**11.5.** Councillors noted Cambridge Northern Fringe Area Action Plan.

**11.6.** Councillors noted the letter from Nalc and the changes to the Quality Council Scheme.

**11.7.** Stephanie Beaumont agreed to attend the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 consultation seminar.

**12. Planning. 1. 1402146FUL and 1402149LBC Replacement, rebuilding and repairs to boundary wall, 6 Church Street.** George Craze proposed 'Approval' on the ground that it is a dangerous wall in need of urgent repair. Seconded by Ann Cosgrave and carried unanimously.

**2. 1402099FUL Replacement roof, installation of 2 dormer windows following removal of existing single dormer to SE roof pitch. Relocation of velux roof lights, installation of external staircase, alterations to entrance joinery and internal alternations to newer element of dwelling, Hall Farm House, 32 Meadow Road.** No letters had been received from neighbours. Michael Capps proposed 'Approval' on the ground that the minor changes do not detract from the original building. Seconded by George Craze and carried with 8 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

**The Next Meeting has been arranged for Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015**

This meeting closed at 9pm