

GREAT GRANSDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 4th February 2019

Those present were:

Andrew Pett Chairman

Giles Scott Vice Chairman

Diane Taylor Clerk

James Catmur Parish Councillor

Michael Capps Parish Councillor

District Councillor Richard West, County Councillor Julie Wisson

and 2 members of the public

Jeff Gorton Parish Councillor

Nigel Day Parish Councillor

Nick Ginn Parish Councillor

Peter King Parish Councillor

1. The meeting was opened at 7.30 pm with a silent prayer

2. Apologies. There were no apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of Interest.

Planning:

15.1. 21 Sand Road. Michael Capps declared a pecuniary interest.

15.3. Land adjacent to the North West of Mill Road. Nigel Day declared a pecuniary interest.

4. Minutes of the previous monthly meetings held on 7th and 23rd January 2019, which had been circulated, were approved and accordingly signed by the chairman.

5. OPEN FORUM. The meeting was closed for seven minutes. County Councillor Julie Wisson spoke about the County Council's forthcoming budget meeting where there will be a 2.99% increase on the precept plus a 2% increase for adult social care resulting, in a 4.99% increase for the county council portion of the council tax. District Councillor Richard West spoke about waste collection and the recent problems experienced by some Meadow Road residents whose bins had not been collected in December. He had discussed the matter with a member of the operations team at HDC, suggesting a pilot scheme to pass on details of missed collections or any other problems relating to bin collections with a view to improving the service. He also spoke about the East West Rail, having received assurances that no route has been decided. The A428 route announcement has been delayed until the spring. A resident spoke about waste collection and the speed the bin lorry reverses at a time when children are going to school.

6. Matters Arising: 6.1. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). Andrew Pett reported that the committee had met in January. Cambridgeshire County Council had offered to attend a meeting to explain school admissions and how these are managed. There will be a workshop on 12th February to advise the steering group on how to write up the evidence collected so far. James Catmur reported that the public consultation event held on 18th January had been well attended.

6.2. Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA). Peter King reported that one of the conditions of the planning permission requires the submission of a tree protection strategy in accordance with BS5837. The cost of preparing such a report is £290 plus vat. A report compiled by Peter King has been submitted and he will be speaking to the planning officer to see if this report will be sufficient to comply with BS5837. The outcome is dependent upon discussions between the planning officer and the Tree Officer. If a more formal report is requested, councillors unanimously agreed to instruct OMC Associates to prepare the BS5837 compliant report at a cost of £290 plus vat.

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7. Grass Cutting Contracts 2018/19.

Cemetery – the present contractor had re-tendered for the cemetery grass cutting contract for 2019. Councillors unanimously agreed to renew the contract with DP Garden Works & Grounds Maintenance at a cost of £105 per cut, a 5% increase on last year's price. Proposed Jeff Gorton, seconded Andrew Pett. Councillors noted the contractor provides a competitively priced and good service.

Sportsfield – the present contractor had been invited to re-tender for the sportsfield grass cutting contract for 2019. There was a 3% increase on last year's price. Councillors unanimously agreed to renew the contract with Buchans Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance at a cost of £81.37 per cut with an associated increase of 3% on the cost of strimming the surrounds, behind the tennis court, weed spraying of the car park and litter pick prior to each grass cut. Proposed Nick Ginn, seconded Michael Capps.

8. Village Litter Bins. The 2 bins located at the sportsfield are owned by the Parish Council but were, until recently, being emptied by the District Council. The annual cost to the Parish Council if HDC were to empty them each week is £252.64 per bin. The bins are often full and are cumbersome and unpleasant to empty. Councillors proposed meeting the cost of emptying one bin with the three remaining users - Playgroup, Nursery and Football Club – each being asked to contribute £85 towards the cost of emptying the second bin. Proposed Giles Scott, seconded Jeff Gorton and carried unanimously.

9. Waste Collection. Councillors considered the proposed pilot scheme as outlined by Councillor Richard West during open forum which would involve having a parish council contact for residents to report missed bin collections or other problems relating to waste collections. Councillors agreed, note to be put in Roundabout confirming the procedure for reporting missed collections and once reported residents to notify the parish council who will be able to keep a log to monitor the situation. District Councillor West will then follow up.

10. Financial Statement for January 2019. The sheet filed as Appendix No. 1 had been circulated. Clarification was sought on the payment to HM Revenue and Customs, representing the clerk's tax liability. The statement was unanimously approved and signed by the chairman. Councillors also noted the budget review as at the end of January 2019. The budget review showed a deficit for the Reading Room. This is an anomaly as the Reading Room has paid the cost of the maintenance work. The clerk will look into recording the item to reflect the true position.

11. Cheques for approval. The following payments were approved:

Proposed Andrew Pett, seconded Giles Scott.

Clerk's salary for January 2019	£496.23
Clerk's expenses for January 2019	£2.68
Mrs D Taylor for planning fee for reserved matters (Muga)	£78.00
Robert & Margie Mcintosh for Garden of Remembrance	£7.50
D Pearce for design and supply of materials (NDP)	£40.00
Stephanie Beaumont for stationery & refreshments (NDP event)	£48.28

12. East West Rail. Councillors noted the consultation events. There are 5 route options, all of which go into the south of Cambridge. Locally, St Neots and Cambourne should be included in the routes. Great Gransden lies within the corridor of all the proposed routes and could lead to more development. Councillors agreed to formulate a response during the coming weeks and to consider a formal response to the consultation at the March meeting.

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13. Highways. The West Street light is still not connected although the sub-contractors had told Balfour Beatty that the connection was complete. The latest information is that the connection should be completed mid-February although a more accurate date is being sought. The Hardwicke Road sign is still awaiting repair, although has been reported to the District Council. There is a pothole on the edge of Little Lane, bordering the school site. Clerk to check the exact location before reporting as the pothole may be on private property.

14. Correspondence. 14.1. Councillors noted the invitation to the AGM of the Hunts Forum.

14.2. OMC Associates had quoted £290 plus vat and travel for the cost of a follow up report on the village trees. Councillors unanimously agreed to accept the quote and ask OMC Associates to re-inspect in the summer to allow any further work to be carried out in the winter.

14.3. Jeff Gorton reported that a commemorative tree guard, which was provided by the District Council, was no longer needed for a tree on the allotment site. Councillors agreed to utilise the guard for one of the village trees.

14.4. Councillors noted HDC's invitation to the seminar on transport, energy and place-making topics on 5th March.

14.5. Michael Capps proposed that Great Gransden's share of the rebate from Agricole Oil should go to the windmill. Seconded by Giles Scott and carried unanimously.

15. Planning. 15.1. 1. 18/02545/HHFUL Single storey side and rear extensions plus the conversion of the loft area to habitable accommodation following the demolition of the existing lean-to extension, 21 Sand Road. Michael Capps, having declared a pecuniary interest left the hall. Councillors noted the observations that had been made by the owner of a neighbouring property. It was noted that the proposed single storey side extension will impinge on number 19, leaving a width of only 1.2m from the boundary; the whole width of the plot is being used and there is a privacy issue. Jeff Gorton proposed '**Refusal**' on the grounds (1) it is an overdevelopment of the site, (2) it reduces the privacy of number 19 and (3) it will be detrimental to the existing street scene on Sand Road. Seconded by Peter King and carried with 3 votes in favour and 4 abstentions.

15.2. Reading Room Cottage. Jason Dixon has provided the elevation and floor plans and validation of the planning application is now awaited.

15.3. Erection of dwelling (planning in principle) land adjacent to the North West of 43 Mill Road. This was a matter for report only. Andrew Pett had attended the Development Management Committee which had refused the application 7 votes to 5 with 1 abstention. This went against the planning officer's recommendation who had mentioned 'Tilted Balance' being engaged although the officer's report had included a reference to the December 2018 Annual Monitoring Review which demonstrates that the District Council has a 5-year housing land supply.

The Next Meeting has been arranged for Monday 4th March 2019

This meeting closed at 9.10pm.