

GREAT GRANSDEN PARISH COUNCIL.
Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting,
held on Monday 17th August 2020
at 7:30pm.

Those present were:

Andrew Pett, Chairman;

Catherine Fox, Clerk;

Nigel Day, Parish Councillor;

Lisbeth Ricciardi, Parish Councillor;

Peter King, Parish Councillor;

James Catmur, Parish Councillor;

Michael Capps, Parish Councillor;

Jeff Gorton, Parish Councillor;

And 3 members of the public.

1. The meeting was opened at 7:30pm with a silent prayer.

2. **Apologies.** Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Nick Ginn.

3. **Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest.

4. **OPEN FORUM.** Cllr Pett introduced Mrs Michelle Downes as head teacher of Barnabas Oley Primary School. It was noted that any points requiring further clarity may be passed back to her. No additional points were raised and so Cllr Pett declared open forum closed after 3 minutes.

5. Proposed Temporary closure of Middle Street, Little Lane, Great Gransden; School Lane, Alconbury & Mayfields Crescent, Huntingdon.

Councillors expressed concerns around the closure of Middle Street, which had been proposed to ensure and promote social distancing around the school during the period of time where children were being dropped off and collected. This closure would take place between 08:30 – 09:30am and 14:45 – 15:30pm (Mon – Fri) for 18 months commencing Monday 7th September 2020.

The Parish Council strongly felt that the closure of the road would not deliver the objectives that it set out to achieve and would increase risks to people elsewhere in the village.

During discussions, the main points of concern raised were:

- The proposed diversion routes through Fox St/East St/Caxton Rd are unsuitable and will create dangerous and hazardous conditions around already busy junctions and narrow roads.
- It is likely that road users will not follow the diversion routes and will instead use Church St/Sand Road. This would cause increased pressure on surrounding areas, exacerbated by the temporary traffic lights in use at the junction of Sand Road/East Street/Church Street.
- The proposed barrier locations mean that in theory, it would be possible for large vehicles to be made to perform dangerous manoeuvres to turn around. This could potentially be mitigated by barriers at both ends of Middle Street to prevent entry rather than half way down.
- It was felt that risk was being transferred to other groups and that this is unacceptable. The positive impact of the road closure would be far outweighed by the negative impacts on safety in other parts of the village.

- Councillors noted that access and egress to properties in Middle Street would not be affected but felt that overall, the closure of the road would not achieve anything that organised and considered parking would not.

The Parish Council wish to object to the closure of Middle Street for the time specified for the reasons listed above. However, if after full consideration of the above points the County Council still wish to proceed, the Parish Council request *in the strongest possible way* that risks are mitigated as far as possible by implementation of the following measures:

- The use of clear and comprehensive signage; (ideally from as far out as Collings Brothers /Sand Road) to warn drivers and in particular HGV drivers of the road closures.
- The introduction of 20mph speed limits on the diversion routes.
- Adequate HGV Diversion orders taking into account the restraints and limitations of other roads in the village.

If the closure goes ahead, the Parish Council will make information available through Touchbase and Roundabout to ensure that as many people as possible are aware.

2. PARISH COUNCIL CONSULTATION – TREE APPLICATION REF. 20/01408/TREE.

T1 Horse chestnut height 15m: reduce to previous pruning points, approximately 3.0m.

General ongoing maintenance to minimise future damage to listed building.

T2 Beech (TPO-L/TPO/200) height 20m: reduce by 4-5m and shape laterals accordingly. General ongoing maintenance to minimise future damage to listed building.

T3 Sycamore (TPO-L/TPO/200) height 20m: reduce by 4-5m and shape laterals accordingly. General ongoing maintenance to minimise future damage to listed building.

T4 Sycamore height 20m: reduce by 4-5 m and shape laterals accordingly. General ongoing maintenance to minimise future damage to listed building.

33 Meadow Road Great Gransden Sandy SG19 3BD

Councillors unanimously agreed ‘*Approval*’ of the aforementioned tree works on the grounds that it was required ongoing maintenance. This was proposed by Cllr Capps, seconded by Cllr Pett and unanimously approved.

6. Date of Next Meeting. The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 7th September 2020 at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8pm.