

GREATHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of the MEETING HELD at GREATHAM VILLAGE HALL on
MONDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY 2004, at 7.00pm.

04.016: PRESENT: Councillors E.Evans (Chairman); J. Lodder; M. Chenell; D.Jerrard; A. Booton; A. Bridgman, and four members of the public.

04.017: OPEN SESSION. A fifteen minute period was provided for questions from the public, during which a request was made that the agenda for Parish Council meetings should be displayed in advance, so that villagers might know which topics were due to be discussed. The Chairman commented that, once the new Parish Clerk was in post, it was intended to display the agenda in the village hall, circulate it to the local press, and possibly include it in the Parish Magazine.

04.018: APOLOGIES for ABSENCE.

All appointed members being present, there were no apologies for absence.

04.019: CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR TO VACANT POSITION: It was proposed by Cllr Jerrard, seconded by Cllr Booton, that Mrs Hilary Rowles be co-opted onto the council. This was unanimously agreed. Mrs Rowles was present, so was welcomed onto the council by the chairman, and invited to sign the necessary forms. It was proposed by Cllr. Jerrard that the "Welcome Pack" for new members be updated and distributed, and this was agreed. **ACTION: CLERK.**

04.020: MINUTES of LAST MEETING. The minutes of the meeting of 5/1/04 were considered. It was proposed by Cllr Jerrard, seconded by Cllr Lodder, that the minutes be accepted as a true record. Agreed unanimously.

04.021: MATTERS ARISING. REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES (04.004) Cllr Jerrard suggested that the "Public Transport" portfolio be extended to include "Highways", since otherwise this important issue was not specifically catered for. Cllr Chenell accepted the additional responsibility, & this was agreed. **BUS SERVICE; (03.118)** It was noted that the plans for the subsidised service had not yet been finalised, so that the day of week and actual route of the service was still unclear. Cllr Chenell pointed out that one minibus service already operates once-weekly on a Wednesday, between Bordon & Petersfield, so there was no point in an additional Wednesday service, and the route should run through Greatham village, not along the A3.

VILLAGE HALL USE: (04.008) Cllr Evans confirmed that no decision had been taken on this issue at the meeting on 12/1/04. Cllr Jerrard suggested that the Parish Council should negotiate the hire of the hall for Planning Committee meetings on an annual basis, and volunteered to prepare a proposal for the next Village Hall Committee meeting on 15/2/04. Agreed. **ACTION: DJ**

APPOINTMENT of NEW CLERK: (04.010) Cllr Chenell reported that the candidate was due to move into the village on 20/2/04, and may be in post by 1/3/04. Noted.

04.022: FINANCIAL MATTERS. A bill for £53.39 was tabled for payment for the locum clerk on 22/12/03. It was proposed by Cllr. Chenell, seconded by Cllr. Booton, that this be paid. **ACTION: EE.**

04.023: PLANNING MATTERS. LE COURT: Cllr. Bridgman reported that, as agreed at the January meeting, he and Cllr. Booton had made a detailed review of the amended Le Court applications, made two site visits, and interviewed at some length residents of Le Court. He emphasised that the applications were made by the Cheshire Foundation; they were not from

speculative developers, and they conformed to currently accepted practice of a landowner financing necessary development by on-site house-building, as approved by EHDC at The Silver Birch & The Queens. Furthermore, the residents were, in the main, keen to end uncertainty, and see the applications approved. Consequently, they now recommended that the Parish Council wholeheartedly support the applications. It was proposed by Cllr. Bridgman, seconded by Cllr Jerrard, that the tabled letter of support (attached) be sent to EHDC. Agreed unanimously. **ACTION: EE.**

It was further agreed that GPC should be represented at the March meeting of the EHDC Planning Committee, which would deal with the issue.

VILLAGE HALL: Copy plans for extensions to the Village Hall had been received late, and were passed to Cllr. Bridgman to deal with. Authority to respond on behalf of the Council was delegated to the Planning Sub-Committee. **WINFIELD, CHURCH LANE:** Cllr. Jerrard confirmed that a letter of support for this application had been sent, as agreed. He and Cllr. Booton would attend the EHDC South Planning Committee on 5/2/04, where the application would be dealt with. **MILL FARM:** Cllr. Booton reported he had visited the site, and consulted with the owner of the neighbouring property, Mr Graves, who raised no objection. He would recommend acceptance to the Planning Sub-Committee, which would meet on 6/2/04.

EHDC LOCAL PLAN: Cllr. Jerrard tabled a letter of 22/1/04 from the Programme Officer for the Local Plan Second Review, pointing out that GPC proof of Evidence should be submitted by 3/2/04. As this had not been done, the only option to express a view with regard to the Settlement Policy Boundary would be to make written comment before 10/2/04, and attend the relevant hearing on 18/3/04. In view of the importance of this issue, authority to respond on behalf of GPC was delegated to the Planning Sub-Committee, by unanimous agreement. **ACTION: PLANNING.**

SILVER BIRCH & QUEENS PUBLIC HOUSES: Cllr. Jerrard reported that EHDC appeared to be taking the view that the developer, Comparo Ltd, could utilise the approval of its first planning application, rather than the second approved mirror application. The crucial difference between them was that the first application bound the developer to reopen the Queens after selling the 10th house on the Silver Birch site, whereas the second application bound them to reopen the Queens before building any houses on the Silver Birch site.

04.024: POLICING LEVELS IN PARISH: Cllr. Bridgman had tabled an exchange of correspondence (attached) between him and the Divisional Police Commander concerning levels of policing in the parish, especially in the light of the proposed merger of Whitehill & Petersfield police sections, which had aroused such widespread antagonism amongst the public. The replies indicated that Greatham was statistically low in crime, and could therefore expect no regular police patrol. It was agreed that this was an unsatisfactory situation, and that GPC should agitate for more frequent police activity in the parish, by means of written request and general publicity. Cllr. Chenell suggested we might also query why police vehicles were only to be seen in Greatham travelling at high speed with blue lights and sirens, despite having the option of use of a motorway standard dual carriageway. **ACTION: ABr.**

04.025: REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR: Cllr. John West reported briefly on the Farmers' Market to be held on the first Sunday of every month at Petersfield, the "Hampshire Now" magazine, the likely Council Tax increase of 4.9% for 2004/5, the fact that Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service would levy a

separate precept for 2004/5, and that Petersfield is likely to receive one extra councillor under revised boundary plans. Cllr. Booton posed questions concerning traffic calming and litter dropping in the village, and was told that these are EHDC responsibilities. Cllr. Evans asked whether police attendance at school drop-off times could be arranged, and was told that this was an operational police matter.

There was no report from the District Councillor.

04.026: REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES.

PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE: Cllr. Evans reported that the installers had so far failed to repair the zip-wire frame, and that a strong letter was now required to secure action. **ACTION:EE, AB.**

GREATHAM OLD CHURCH: Cllr. Bridgman reported back on the Old Church committee meeting of 19/1/04, including the fact that a statement of current funds available for repairs had been requested from GPC. **ACTION: AB**

04.027: CORRESPONDENCE.

Nil.

04.028: ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

WEBSITE: A commercial offer had been received to set up a website for GPC. Agreed to raise the issue for the next meeting. **ACTION: CLERK**

FOOTPATHS: Cllr Booton asked for this to be placed on next agenda. **ACTION: CLERK.**

EHDC CORRESPONDENCE: Cllr Chenell queried why notice of planning applications from EHDC habitually ignored the timescale of GPC meetings, causing great difficulty in complying with response timetables. It was agreed to make representation to EHDC Planning on this issue. **ACTION: CLERK**

04.029: DATE & PLACE of NEXT MEETING.

It was agreed to meet at 7.00pm on Monday, 1st March, 2004, in the Village Hall.

04.030: MEETING DECLARED CLOSED at 8.45pm.

(After the close of the formal meeting, an informal presentation was made to the full council by interested residents as to the activities of the Blackmoor Recycling Facility. In view of the potential importance to Greatham demonstrated by the activities at this site, it was agreed to place the issue on the agenda for the next meeting.) **ACTION:CLERK**