

GREATHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of the MEETING HELD at GREATHAM VILLAGE HALL on
MONDAY, 4th JULY 2005 at 7pm

05.78 PRESENT: Councillors E. Evans (Chairman); D.Jerrard; A Bridgman; A. Booton; H Rowles; M Chennell and Mrs T. Wicking (Clerk to the Council) were present, together with ten members of the public also attended the meeting, including the Deputy Leader of EHDC Councillor Sam James and District Councillor Mrs Anna James.

OPEN SESSION:

05.79 APOLOGIES for ABSENCE: Apologies were received from County Cllr Cartwright.

05.80 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR: The Chairman reported that although a few people had been approached and were interested there had been no written applications. It was proposed and agreed unanimously that this item be adjourned to the next meeting.

05.81 MINUTES of LAST MEETING: The minutes of the meeting of 06/05/05 were approved, with amendment to date to read 06/05/05 instead of 09/05/05. Proposed by Cllr Booton, and seconded by Cllr Rowles. All agreed that the minutes be accepted as a true record.

05.82 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no announcements.

05.83 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: The Chairman reminded members of their obligation to make any declarations of interest.

05.84 MATTERS ARISING: Cllr Bridgman asked Cllr Jerrard if he had contacted EHDC re section 106 agreement with regard to pub car park. Cllr Jerrard replied that he was hoping to arrange a meeting at EHDC shortly where this will be discussed.

5.85: FINANCIAL MATTERS: The schedule of payments was circulated to the Council and agreed for payment Proposed Cllr Bridgman and seconded Cllr Jerrard. The accounts for year end 2004/05, having been audited were signed by the Chairman.

05.86 CORRESPONDENCE: The Chairman handed over to Cllr Jerrard for this item. Cllr Jerrard informed the public that all correspondence had been circulated to all councillors. With regard to format for dealing with letters received (letter from Mrs Flack), Cllr Jerrard informed the Council that the NALC guidelines (Standing Orders & Chairmanship for Local Councils 1999, paragraph 28 section b) recommends that letters should not be read out in full as this can cause misunderstanding.

However it was the customary practice for the Chairman of any Greatham Parish Council meeting to ask any writer attending a meeting if he or she would like his or her letter to be read out to the meeting, and, if so to do so.

a) Letter from Mrs Dale-Harris: In answer to this letter Cllr Jerrard suggested to the Council that a letter should be written in reply to the effect that as public question time at the beginning of the meeting is not actually part of the Council meeting it is, therefore, not included the Minutes and confirming that as the Chairman said it was a personal matter and not a Parish Council matter. All Councillors agreed.

ACTION: DJ/CLERK

b) Letter from Mrs Jenkinson: With Mrs Jenkinson's agreement, Cllr Jerrard read out the letter. Cllr Jerrard said that the second part of the letter, being the same as the previous letter, had already been answered. The first part of the letter regarding the Allotment Charity – Cllr Jerrard explained that following Mrs Jenkinson's resignation, as per the Standing Orders, the Chairman called an Extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council, at which Mr Bridgman was appointed. The Council had felt that it was important there should be a replacement Trustee for Mrs Jenkinson at the earliest opportunity so that the full body of Trustees could meet as soon as possible. There then followed a lengthy discussion between the Council, Mrs Jenkinson and other members of the public on the implications of her resignation. Cllr Jerrard confirmed that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting had been approved at the meeting of 06/05/05. Mrs Jenkinson reiterated that it would have been a good idea to have specifically mentioned this at the meeting, and Cllr Jerrard agreed. Cllr Jerrard suggested that the Council should write replying to Mrs Jenkinson's letter and explaining its position. All Councillors agreed.

ACTION:

DJ/CLERK

c) Letter from Mrs Flack: Mrs Flack agreed to have her letter read out. In answer to the letter, Cllr Jerrard stated that the second part had been dealt with at the beginning of the meeting and the first part required the same answer as Mrs Dale-Harris.

Cllr Booton asked if all these letters (a,b and c) had been written together, since they seemed to say the same thing. Mrs Jenkinson replied that they had not.

There then followed a discussion on the procedures for the Annual Parish Assembly. It was confirmed that the Annual Parish Assembly is not a meeting of the Parish Council.

d) Letter from Mrs Gail Anderson re the Old Church: Cllrs Booton and Bridgman confirmed that they have not been contacted with regard to a meeting. Cllr Jerrard stated that the matter seemed to be an example of lack of communication and suggested that perhaps in

future it would be better for the Clerk to send notice to all members of the sub-committee in order to avoid any further misunderstanding. All Councillors agreed.

ACTION: CLERK

With regard to the second part of the letter, Cllr Booton suggested that the whole matter was getting somewhat out of hand. He had followed the instructions for the French drain given by Dr Livingstone, who now seems to be contradicting his own instructions. However, the French drain is working. Cllr Booton also stated his annoyance at having supplied all the materials and arranged for the work to be done as per instructions, and then now being criticised. The Council agreed that this matter should be discussed at the next meeting of the sub-committee, which has yet to be arranged. Cllr Jerrard suggested that he and Cllr Booton should draft a letter replying with Clerk.

ACTION: DJ/CLERK

05 87 PLANNING MATTERS:

a) Minutes of meeting of 21/6/05: No comments.

b) New planning application: A new application has been received for a conservatory at 6 Todmore. It was agreed to deal with this application at the next planning meeting.

05.88 REPORTS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS:

There was no report from the District Councillor. County Councillor, Mr Cartwright passed on a message that the situation with the bollards was on-going.

05.89: REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES;

a) Coryton Almshouses: nothing to report.

b) HAPTC: nothing to report.

c) Village Hall: Awaiting prices from architects for refurbishments.

d) Old Church: nothing further to add to earlier discussion

e) Transport & Highways: Cllr Chennell reported that the drain covers have been rectified, except the one by D. Redman's hedge which is still open and someone has fallen through. The new bus service will be starting on 7/7/05 and timetables are available in the village shop. Cllr Chennell stated that he felt that notification should have been given in writing to the Parish Council.

f) Footpaths: re the footpath at Pooks Cottage. Cllr Booton reported that agreement has been reached between all parties that the path should be at least 6-foot wide. Rubbish has been dumped on the path from Bakersfield to the road; Cllr Booton will find out who is responsible and ask them to remove it. **ACTION: AJB**

g) Le Court: Nothing to report.

h) Blackmoor Recycling: Nothing to report.

05.90: ANY OTHER BUSINESS: TCllr Chennell stated that it was quite difficult to hear what was being said all the time. The Chairman confirmed that in future the sound system would be used. **ACTION: EE**

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 5th September in the Village Hall at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.