

GREATHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of the MEETING HELD at GREATHAM VILLAGE HALL on
MONDAY, 3rd JULY, 2006, at 7.30pm.

05.196: PRESENT.

Councillors D. Jerrard (Chairman); A. Bridgman; M. Chenell; E. Evans; A. Booton; G. Davis, and 12 members of the public.

05.197: OPEN SESSION.

A fifteen minute period was provided for questions from the public. Cllr Booton answered the first question on grass-cutting of village footpaths, and stated that he had received 59 complaints regarding the lack of mowing of such footpaths. He would pursue the issue.

The second question was from the new landlord of the Greatham Inn, who sought authority to display a Parish Council notice-board inside the public house. Members present saw no reason to object to this request.

The third question was as to the reason that no notice of tonight's meeting had appeared in the Parish Magazine. No direct answer was available.

05.198: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Paul Larner; Teresa Wicking (clerk).

05.199: APPROVAL of MINUTES of LAST MEETING: It was proposed by AB, seconded by AJB, that the minutes be approved, and this was accepted.

05.200: CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS: (1) DJ requested that all councillors speak through the chair. **(2)** DJ showed a copy of "The Good Councillor's Guide", issued by HAPTC, and distributed copies to all councillors. **(3)** DJ stated that no quotes had been received from the Village Hall Committee concerning drainage of the Sports Field. **(4)** DJ proposed that a meeting of the Parish Council take place on 31st July, 2006, and this was agreed by all present.

05.201: MATTERS ARISING from MINUTES: (1) Bus Shelters: DJ reported that TW has not yet received any quotes regarding repair of village bus shelters, though EE stated that at least one quote had been received. **(2) Finance Committee:** GD reported that he had spoken with Peter Goodwin, who would be happy to serve on the Finance Committee. DJ thanked him for arranging this.

05.202: FINANCIAL MATTERS: (1) TW's time sheet for June was circulated, showing a claim for £336.00 salary, and for £68.91 for stationery supplies, totalling £404.91. It was proposed by AJB, seconded by GD, that this claim be approved. Carried. **(2) Bank Mandate:** A new mandate application was signed by all councillors present. It was agreed that 2 councillors should sign to authorise transfers between accounts of the council. **(3) Bank Statements:** It was agreed that statements should be sent directly to the clerk, TW. **(4) Annual Return/Internal Audit:** DJ stated he would discuss this with Internal Auditor Roger Lewis prior to the next meeting on 31st July. **(5) Annual Salary Review for Clerk:** EE pointed out that this review had actually been due in April, 2006. DJ pointed out that he would discuss this point directly with TW on 5/7/06, especially as she was considering opting out of duties as RFO.

05.203: FINANCE COMMITTEE; DJ pointed out that PL had suggested that this would more accurately be named as "Budget Review Committee, but the issue would be deferred until 31st July, along with consideration of PL's memorandum re the Committee. It was agreed that the current memorandum could be provided to Peter Goodwin for his information.

05.204: CORRESPONDENCE: DJ read out an email from Ranger Peermohamed of the South Downs Joint Committee giving notice that the notice board supplied by them to the Parish Council would be withdrawn shortly. He offered to leave the frame if it was required, and it was agreed to retain it.

Action Clerk

Two further letters had been received concerning provision by GPC of bins for deposit of wrapped dog waste, one of these letters also referring to the siting of a litter bin. AJB agreed to check boundaries of the areas referred to. It was further agreed that AJB and MC would together carry out a survey of the village to see where bins were presently sited and where more might be provided. **Action AJB/MC.** Arrangements for collection of rubbish/dog litter also to be checked. **Action Clerk**

05.205: COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: Cllr Cartwright apologised for having no directly relevant information to report, and answered a question from AJB concerning the maintenance of highway signs in Greatham.

05.206: PLANNING: AJB reported on the Planning Committee meeting of June, 2006, and stated that the application in respect of Farm Cottage, Greatham Moor, had been passed by EHDC, despite observations made by GPC Planning Committee. He stated that he and DJ and AB had attended a South Downs conference, which had been most informative.

05.207: GREATHAM ALLOTMENT CHARITY; Nil report given.

05.208: PLAYGROUND: EE stated that the Village Hall committee was unable to design a suitable drainage plan for the Village playing field. DJ stated he would enquire of the Village Hall committee. DJ reported that he proposed to arrange a ROSPA Inspection for £190 + VAT. This was agreed unanimously. EE stated that he had personally checked the playground equipment for safety every week for the last two years, and that the inspection in 2005 had been carried out a cheaper price by people involved in the original inspection and had then gone independent. DJ asked that EE should give the names of those involved for future reference. The election of a Playground Committee was deferred to the next meeting.

05.209: VILLAGE HALL DONATION: MC queried what plans existed for the Parish Council to make a donation to the Village Hall. DJ answered that no specific request for a grant had yet been received. EE stated that in his view the Village Hall Committee was unaware of the actual costs involved in updating the hall. MC referred to a letter from Linda Carr requesting a grant, but DJ pointed out that the letter contained no figure for the grant requested, or estimates for the work to be carried out. EE suggested that AJB assist Mrs Coffin to make enquiry of Richard Hoare regarding drainage plans for the playground. Agreed.

05.210: OLD CHURCH; AJB reported that the drainage installed by him at the Old Church was working perfectly, but that the church interior still smelt damp, as a result of modern cement having been used wrongly on the brickwork.

05.211: ANY OTHER BUSINESS; EE reminded the committee that the Parish Council had an agreement to pay £1000 per year to the Village Hall, for hire of meeting room throughout the year, and that this sum is now overdue. DJ agreed to ask the Treasurer of the Village Hall to send an invoice to the Council. **Action DJ**

05.212: DATE OF NEXT MEETING: July 31st at 7.30pm.