

GREATHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Greatham Parish Council held at Greatham Village Hall on Monday 7th January 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr Miss D Buckland (Chairman), Cllr A Bridgman, Cllr R Flack, Cllr D Rudd and Cllr Mrs J Onslow.

Also Present: Mr C Youngs (Locum Clerk)) plus 10 members of the public.

01/08 **Chairman's Announcements**

- a) The Chairman welcomed everyone and identified the fire escapes for the public.
- b) The Chairman told the meeting that the item on correspondence re Mr Joyce should read Mr Lewis.

02/08 **Apologies for absence** - Cllr M Chennell.

03/08 **Declarations of Interest** - None

It was then:

RESOLVED: that the meeting be adjourned for 15 minutes in order for Councillors to discuss topics with members of the public.

Questions were asked about the dates of future meetings and the minutes of previous meetings not on the website. The Chairman replied that the dates would be confirmed at the end of the meeting and she would provide the minutes. To a question on the budget the Chairman replied that the Council would consider another public question time before that item. A question was asked on the Kingshott Cottages planning application why the Council had only responded on trees and access, therefore not representing the many other issues from residents. The Chairman replied that an e mail had been sent after the last Planning Committee.

Standing orders were then reinstated.

04/08 **Convening of Council meetings on 5th November and 15th November**

The Locum Clerk reported that it was brought to his attention that three clear days notice was not given for the convening of the meetings of 5th and 15th November. Consequently he suggested that the resolutions made for the Meeting 5th November 2007 be reconfirmed, but as regards the meeting on 15th November, it will be sufficient to approve the minutes on the agenda. It was consequently:

RESOLVED: to reconfirm the resolutions for the 5th November meeting as follows:

Minute 055/07 Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of Greatham Parish Council held on 1st October be approved and signed as a true and correct record.

Minute 057/07 Resolved that Cllr Bridgman would attend the local branch of NatWest and try to establish what was wrong and needed to be done to get the bank account operational again.

Minute 057/07 Resolved to approve the payments of £47.52 to HM Revenue and Customs and £317.89 to Diane Buckland.

Minute 057/07 Resolved that payment of £150 donation to LUPIN be made as requested.

Minute 057/07 Resolved that the matter of funding for Butser Homestart be deferred until the next meeting of Greatham Parish Council.

Minute 057/07 Resolved that a letter should be written to EHDC that although Greatham Parish Council recognised the need for affordable housing in the area, there was no land to their knowledge for this kind of development.

Minute 061/07 Resolved that the application for Cam Cottage be deferred to a full planning meeting to be called the following week.

05/08 **Approval of 15th November Minutes**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of Greatham Parish Council held on 15th November 2007 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.

06/08 **Approval of 3rd December Minutes**

Cllr Bridgman stated that there were comments missed of minute 074/07 a). The Locum Clerk suggested these comments were contained in the notes of the public question time, but following a suggestion Cllr Bridgman made a proposal which was not seconded and it was:

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of Greatham Parish Council held on 3rd December 2007 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.

07/08 **Reports from County (HCC) and District Councillors (EHDC)**

Cllr J Onslow (EHDC) gave apologies for Cllr M Cartwright (HCC) and she had nothing to report.

Financial Matters**a) Bank reconciliation**

The Locum Clerk distributed a Bank Reconciliation statement. There were no unpresented cheques and the Balance for the Current Account was £252.89 and the Reserve Account £33,364.32. As there were cheques awaiting approval for £677.79 a bank transfer was required.

RESOLVED: To transfer £1,000 from the Reserve account to the Current account.

b) Responsible Financial Officer

The Locum Clerk reported that the Council does not have a Responsible Financial Officer. He reported that it is possible for the Locum Clerk to be given this post, however as it is not known how long he will work for the Parish Council, it is advisable at this meeting to appoint a Councillor to this role and he can continue to administer the day to day finances in consultation with the Responsible Financial Officer. Cllr Bridgman agreed to carry out the role on a temporary basis and it was:

RESOLVED: To appoint Cllr Bridgman as the Council's Responsible Financial Officer

c) Budget Monitoring, Budget and Precept 2008/09

The Locum Clerk reported that he had provided a monitoring statement and some suggestions for a budget and precept for 2008/09. In regards to this year's expenditure he reported that under the administration heading, an expenditure of £1,135 has been incurred for election expenses and it appears that this was not budgeted for.

The Locum Clerk reported that East Hampshire District Council had written to the Council and they required the details of the precept by 11th January and if they did not receive the details by then, they will anticipate the precept as being the highest of the last three years precept and payment will be based on that figure.

It was then:

RESOLVED: that the meeting be adjourned for 5 minutes in order for Councillors to discuss next year's budget and precept with members of the public.

It was suggested by a member of the public that there was no forecast for the net expenditure for the current year, but he had estimated that the Council was on track to meet the budget of £12,000 and he thought there was no need to increase any budget heading by 3% as suggested in the report.

Standing orders were then reinstated.

Following a short discussion it was:

RESOLVED: that the precept be set at £12,000, the payments be set at £12,500 and the receipts at £500.

d) Approval of payment for invoices

RESOLVED: that the following payment be approved:

1. Mr CJ Youngs £325,29

RESOLVED with 5 in favour and 1 abstention: that the following payment is approved:

2. Hedleys Solicitors £352.50

09/08 **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted and some acted upon as follows:

(a) E mail correspondence to and from Mr P Lewis. It was reported that all Councillors had received copies of the correspondence and the Locum Clerk would respond to the recent e mail.

(b) South Downs National Park. Correspondence had been received from the South Downs Campaign, the CPRE and the Petersfield Society.

RESOLVED:

1. To transfer an additional £500 from the Reserve account to the Current account.

2. To award a £250 grant to the CPRE.

3. To award a £100 grant to the South Down Campaign.

(c) Hampshire ALC;

(d) Hants & Isle of Wight re Pre-learner driver courses;

(e) Home-Start Butser. It was agreed not to award a grant;

(f) EHDC guide to Environmental Services;

(g) 101 Stakeholder;

(h) East Hampshire Community Partnership; and

(i) Community Safety Team action

010/08 **Planning Matters**

It was reported that there were no outstanding planning applications and EHDC had deferred its 3rd January South Planning Committee that was to consider the 1 Kingshott Cottages application.

011/08 **Playground Report**

Cllr Evans reported that so far only 1 quote had been received for the drainage project. One company had suggested an alternative route which they were pricing. It was also reported that Hand Made Places had been contacted to remove the zip wire and their supervisor was visiting the site this week.

012/08 Highways and Transport Report

It was reported that the lines outside the School had been corrected and the County would put posts in two places near the Culverts at Church Farm.

It was mentioned that due to parking near the school, verges were being ruined. It was agreed that the Locum Clerk would speak to the County Council. The verges by the old Silver Birch Pub had also been ruined but the County had said these would be reinstated.

013/08 Footpath Report

Cllr Bridgman reported that he had sent an e mail to County to request the repair the stile at Todmore. He was hopeful this would be completed within a month. There was some discussion on disabled access and the responsibilities of the County Council.

014/08 Old Church Representative

Cllr Onslow said she did not go to the last meeting, but at the next meeting they would consider future funding and what was going to be done in the long term. Gail Anderson gave her apologies for not attending this meeting.

015/08 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as being Monday 4th February 2008 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. The dates for the rest of the year were given as follows: 3rd March, 7th April, 12th May, 2nd June, 7th July, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.08pm