

GREATHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Greatham Parish Council held at Greatham Village Hall on Monday 1st September 2008 at 19.30

Present Cllrs A Bridgman, AJ Ascherl, AJ Booton (Acting Clerk) , PJ Larner, DW Redman and CA Rudd.

Also Present Mrs P Slivkin (temporary clerk) plus 7 Members of the public.

104/08 Apologies for Absence – Cllr A Fellows

105/08 Chairman's Announcements

Cllr Bridgman welcomed everyone and identified the fire escapes for the public and commented on the fact that new fire doors had been installed in the Village Hall.

106/08 Declaration of Interest

Cllr Redman declared an interest in the Greatham Village Hall and Old Church agenda items.

Cllr Booton declared an interest in the Greatham Village Hall agenda items

107/08 Public Question Time

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

- a) Concern was expressed at the state of a stile on the footpath which is unstable. The chairman confirmed that the Hampshire District Council had been advised of the situation 6 weeks ago. He would chase it up.
- b) Several members of the public expressed their concern over the approval of the planning application for building an additional cottage behind No1 Kingshott Cottages. A visit had been made but the Parish Council had not been advised and many felt that this approval would set up a precedent. The chairman would discuss the matter further under item 12 of the agenda.
- c) A member of the public asked for an update on the status of the annual return. The Chairman said that he had tried to contact the internal auditor but without much success. He had advised the HMR&C of the delays due to the resignation of the previous Parish Council. The HALC have recommended an alternative auditor, should the current auditor be unavailable.

Standing Orders were then reinstated

108/08 Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 7th July 2008

RESOLVED: With all in favour, the minutes of the meeting of the Greatham Parish Council held on 7th July 2008 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.

109/08 Matters arising from the minutes

None

110/08 Financial Report to 31st August 2008

Cllr Bridgman as Responsible Financial Officer presented the report.

a) Bank Reconciliation

- Reserve account balance at 31/08/08	£35,349.86
- Old Church account balance at 31/08/08	£11,033.53
- Current account balance at 31/08/08	£ 369.77

b) The following payments were made from the current account from 1st July 2008 to 31st August 2008:

- GPC insurance	£1,187.86
- HAPTC	£ 20.00
- Village Hall donation	£3,500.00
- HMRC	£ 99.38
- Clerk May & June	£ 380.54
- St Johns Church re grass cutting	£ 800.00
- HMRC	£ 65.06
- HMRC	£ 4.26
- EHDC – July Elections	£ 92.00

c) **Resolved** : to approve payment to Hand Made Places of £287.88

d) **Resolved** : no fund would be transferred to the current account

Cllr Laner asked if the VAT refund had been made. Cllr Bridgman said that the refund will be made once all relevant VAT Registration Numbers had been submitted.

Cllr Bridgman confirmed that all councillors were now approved signatories.

111/08 NJH quote for grass cutting

NJH Contractors would cut the grass twice a month from May to October and once a month from November to April at £30.00 per cut. Cllr Larner suggested that this should be put to tender. An advert for the job would be published in the Village magazine in October. In the meantime NJH would continue to cut the grass until such time as a decision had been made. The situation would be reviewed at the Parish Council meeting in November 2008.

Proposed Cllr Larner

Seconded Cllr Booton

All in favour

Cllr Bridgman would write to NJH to advise them of the Parish Council decision.

112/08 Report from County (HCC) & District Councillors (EHDC)

The chairman pointed out that since there were no representatives present there was nothing to report.

113/08 Reports from Representatives:

- a) **Coryton Almshouse** : Cllr Bridgman had informed the Coryton Almshouse of the representatives from the Parish Council, but had had no response.
- b) **Greatham Village Hall** : Cllr Ascherl reported that the Hall had been decorated. New fire exit doors had been installed in the Village Hall and the Nursery school following the successful application for a Grant. The toilets in the Nursery school were being refurbished during the school holidays. The EHDC had arranged a meeting with the Greatham Village Hall Secretary to discuss the approval of a grant from the EHDC in order to build an extension including disabled toilets. In the meantime the GVH were hoping to be able to start work on the disabled path around the hall
- c) **HALC** : Cllr Bridgman confirmed that he had contacted the HALC
- d) **Old Church** : Cllr Bridgman wrote to the Secretary on 08/07/08 to advise them of his appointment as representative but had not received any response
Cllr Booton had contacted a tree surgeon about the Yew tree. He came to look at the tree, and would submit a full report on the condition of the tree and remedial work which may be necessary to ensure the tree survives for another 60 years or more.
- e) **Transport & Highways** : Cllr Booton reported that there is an individual living in a van parked in the lay by in front of the church. The Manor expressed concern and Cllr Booton proposed to speak to the individual and assess the situation. This was seconded by Cllr Bridgman and approved by the Council
- f) **Footpaths & Tree Warden** : Cllr Booton confirmed that Cllr Fellows was arranging for LeBrie to carry out an inspection of the footpaths and trees.
- g) **Playground Committee** : Cllr Booton reported that the equipment was in good working order, except for a broken latch. The rope fencing had been removed by vandals.

Plans to drain playground and playing fields: Cllr Bridgman said that estimates for the drainage of the site had been submitted to the Parish Council in June 2006 to December 2007 and ranged from £5,000.00 to £18,000.00. The Chairman would like this to be achieved and suggested that the playground committee addresses this issue and include Cllrs Booton and Redman in their consultation . Cllrs Rudd and Ascherl expressed interest in this item

Hampshire Playground Association had reviewed the issue and quotes had been obtained. Cllrs Booton, Bridgman, Larner and Redman, will consult. The intention is to solve this problem as soon as possible.

114/08 Correspondence to 1st September 2008

- a) EHDC Community Forum Sept 08
- b) EHDC Electoral Register
- c) HMRC tax changes
- d) Audit Commission office move on 1/08/08
- e) South East Plan
- f) HCC RoW report Aug 08 – noted that Greatham was not mentioned
- g) EHDC South Planning Committee Minutes
- h) EHDC Community Forum Minutes July 2008 – Cllr Larner wanted to go to Code of Conduct Training Course.

115/08 Current Planning Applications

1. The Old Rectory, Petersfield Road - 22067/012
Planning application for adding internal doors
2. Le Court, Selbourne Road – 23298/0158
Four Houses to be build on the site. Parish Council had raised no objections. Cllr Bridgman was to lodge a complaint as he had not been notified that the meeting of the District Council had been bought forward from 28/0 to 22/08.
3. Kingshott Cottage : noted that Parish Council had objected to this planning application. The Inspector did not take into account of the 33 objections submitted. No public enquiry was made. Site inspection was done in July. The Council has a whole was concerned that it had not been advised of planning visit. Cllr Ascherl suggested that the Parish Council write to the EHDC to lodge of complaint and demand to know why the PC has not been involved with the process, and why Mrs Mansey had not been replaced as agreed.

Cllr Bridgman will pass current planning applications to the Planning Application Committee.

116/08 Appoint committee to interview applicants for clerk

A committee has been appointed to interview the 5 applicants for the position of Clerk.

The interviews will take place in September and the committee will report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

The committee is made up of Cllrs Rudd (Chair), Larner and Ascherl.

117/08 Any Other Business

Silver Birch : grass verges to be reinstated

Financial regulations : Cllr Larner had reviewed the current regulations and the recommended NALC Regualtions. He had highlighted the changed which needed to be done.

Cllr Larner proposed that this item should be an item in the next meeting's agenda.

A member of the public expressed concern re the planning application for Mrs Rosch. She will be submitting a planning application to the Planning Committee for approval. Cllr Booton would investigate.

118/08 Date and Place of Next Meeting

Monday 6th October 2008 at 7.30 in Greatham Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm