

Greatham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Greatham Parish Council held at Greatham Church Hall on Monday 7th December 2009 at 7.30 p.m.

Present Cllrs A Bridgman, A J Booton, A Ascherl, D Curry, A Fellows and C Rudd
Also present Mrs T Whelan (clerk)

The meeting was declared open at 7.30 p.m

169/09 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Redman

170/09 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman pointed out the fire escapes in the event of a fire.

171/09 Village Hall Representative

Councillor Fellows was elected as the Village Hall representative but after further discussion this has been changed to Cllr Curry who has already attended a meeting. Details to follow in 9b.

172/09 Declarations of Interest

None

173/09 Public Question Time

A member said he wished to ask Councillor Clarke for feedback later.

174/09 Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 2nd November 2009

These contain a full report on the visit of Inspector White including the questions put to him with the answers. **PROPOSED** by Cllr Booton and **SECONDED** by Cllr Rudd, with all in favour. The minutes were then signed

175/09 Matters arising from the Minutes

No matters arising.

176/09 Reports from County and District Councillors

Cllr Onslow sent her apologies.

Cllr Clarke reported that he had attended the County Council meeting regarding the 30MPH speed limit for the Selborne road and given his full support. He also reported that East Hants have put aside £100,000 for a gypsy site.

177/09 Reports of Representatives

(a) Coryton Almshouses

Cllr Booton said there had been a meeting and everything is fine.

(b) Village Hall

Cllr Curry reported from the meeting that they were very keen and getting a lot done. They have decided to go ahead with the porch. The Accounts are in good shape and they are updating the hire charges under two categories, Local and Commercial. The floor in the main hall is lifting, possibly because the heating was off. Quotes are being obtained to see if it needs repair. The re-opening date depends on the floor but it will be before Christmas.

(c) Old Church

Cllr Bridgman reported that there had been a carol service on Saturday 5 December which was attended by around 40 people and that there were guitars, violin and fine singing with mince pies and mulled wine. £42 was raised and will be paid into the old church account. The grounds are being maintained courtesy of L'Abri for which we thank them. Cllr Booton agreed to do a write up for the village magazine.

(d) **Transport and Highways**

Cllr Booton reported that he had received a map and proposal for the 30MPH speed limit the other side of Mrs Coffyns and Manor Cottage (the thatched house) We need to reply. There has been one serious accident and several other minor ones. Cllr Bridgman said he had attended the transport committee's meeting this week when this item was on the agenda and approved.

(e) **Footpath and Tree Warden**

Cllr Fellows asked what are the restrictions and was informed that as long as the footpath is clear it can be cleared up and cuttings removed. Cllr Booton reported that Liss forest wish to put a footbridge on the Greatham footpath and that he would pass Cllr Fellows the details.

(f) **Planning Committee**

Cllr Booton reported regarding the applications for No 6 Bakers field and No 5 which has been resubmitted. No 6 has been visited together with Cllr Bridgman and they wish to convert the coal shed on the side into a wash room and generally tidy up and he sees no objections and will write a letter to say it is OK. No 5 is more contentious in that they wish to knock it down and put two homes on the site. He has not yet seen the new plans so a site visit will take place once these have been received.

For any queries regarding Fern Farm the committee will receive any complaints. Mr Shea declined the invitation to address the parish council. Cllr Bridgman said that he understood the neighbours were to write to the council and ask the EHDC what they intend to do about the witnessed breaches to the conditions attached to the permission. The parish council has no power in making a complaint but are aware of parishioners witnessed breaches and are in support of their complaints. Mrs Cheesman asked that the district councillor address the meeting and explain her attitude. Cllr Bridgman replied that she had voted against the permission. Mrs Cheesman asked if a request to conservative HQ might be appropriate. Cllr Bridgman was not sure if we could do that and asked the other councillors if her attendance was requested. Cllr Booton reported that he had spoken with her and that she was reasonably responsive and puts the problems back to the county council and the government. She is informed including Fern Farm and always ends' there is nothing I can do' . Cllr Curry felt it would be good to get her along and it was agreed that he should talk her.

(g) **Playground Committee**

Cllr Bridgman confirmed that it is in good order and well drained. Cllr Booton said that it was working well. Mrs Carr offered congratulations as it is really working.

178/09 RFO report to 30/11/09

The Clerk read out the RFO report and the balances on accounts on 1st November are as follows:

Bank reserve	£27,410.50
Current	£ 243.73
Old church	£ 1,184.98

Schedule of payments

Payments to be made this month:

Clerk's salary November 31 hours	£310.00
Clerk's expenses November	£21.83
Audit Commission	£155.25
Blackwell Press – printer and stationery	£219.42

The clerk highlighted the cost of dial up internet and requested that broadband should be installed. The monthly cost would be £12 per month after the initial three months at a reduced rate. This was unanimously agreed.

It was proposed that the schedule of payments be made and that £500.00 was to be transferred to the current account from the reserve account. **PROPOSED** by Cllr Booton and **SECONDED** by Cllr Rudd. The clerk will send the signed transfer request to the bank.

179/09 NALC Membership

Cllr Bridgman There is a movement at National level to split off the local associations. East Hants Association will complete a short survey before Christmas and is looking for a response by 1 February 2010. We cannot do anything until we receive the survey.

180/09 SDNP elections

Cllr Bridgman reported that there is planned to be a 29 member board of the new SDNP and we have received an application form for a nomination to the South Downs management. Cllr Booton said he would be happy to be nominated. PROPOSED by Cllr Bridgman and SECONDED by Cllr Fellows. The papers were signed and passed to Cllr Booton for completion.

181/09 Correspondence

1. Correspondence has been received from EHDC regarding the core strategy for Whitehill and Bordon. Cllr Bridgman said that we had previously decided the Greatham parish council view – Greatham will remain as it is. We have no reason to change.
2. We have received a notification of a tree preservation order at Le Court regarding two trees near the staff cottages..
3. We have received the latest Register or Electors.
4. We have received a number of meeting notifications and invitations.
8 December and 17 December Joint Community Forum Petersfield Liss and surrounding villages – notice will be left out at the back.
14 December Special community forum – Petersfield 6.30pm Penns Place
8 December Transport meeting Cllr Bridgman will attend
5. Parish Precept. They would like notification by 18 January. Mrs Carr asked if we were expecting any contributions from the builders to come in. Cllr Bridgman said he was not expecting anything as he believed the two sites were linked and all the properties had to be sold before they were due to pay anything. Cllr Booton agreed that we need to keep an eye on this. Cllr Bridgman confirmed that the precept was to remain the same as last year.
6. The Audit Commission have now sent the completion certificate for 2008/9. This will be displayed at the village hall. Mrs Carr asked if a notice board was wanted. It was agreed that Cllr Curry would discuss with the village hall committee,

182/09 Any Other Business

Cllr Curry said that he was asked to ask about a grant application for the village hall. The clerk agreed to speak with Mr Dale Harris about this.

Mr Shea asked if the parish council had received a solicitor's letter regarding the conduct of one of the committee and asked if the council were going to brush it under the carpet. Cllr Bridgman said that the council brush nothing under the carpet. He went on to say that the final report had not yet been received and that until then he could not speak publicly or to the press. Mr Shea said that he would talk to the press and the district council and that Cllr Bridgman seemed to know what he was talking about. Cllr Bridgman confirmed that it was his job to know and that a report will go to the district council before they issue their final report.

183/09 Any Other Business for next meeting

The village hall would probably be ready for the next meeting. The Agenda and notice boards will confirm the location.

184/09 Date and place of next meeting

The next full Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 4th January 2010 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, subject to confirmation.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.