

# Greatham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Greatham Parish Council held at  
Greatham Village Hall on Monday 6 December 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

**Present** Cllrs A Bridgman (chairman), A J Booton, D Jerrard, C Rudd, and D Rudd;  
Also present Mrs T Whelan (clerk)

The meeting was declared open at 7.30 p.m

## **150/10 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Fellows, Cllr Redman, and District Councillor J Onslow.

## **151/10 Chairman's Announcements**

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

## **152/1 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Bridgman reminded those present of their obligations in this respect. No declarations were made at this stage.

## **153/10 Public Question Time**

Mrs Cheesman suggested that the signs re trees and logs for sale were excessive and obstructed the roundabout at the A325 end of the village. Councillor Clarke stated that this was illegal and that it was a matter for highways as they were a distraction to motorists. Cllr Bridgman said that we shall report the matter to Highways. **CLERK**

Mrs Cheesman also stated that the chairman had not reminded people to sign in in his announcements. Cllr Bridgman asked that if anyone had not yet signed in please could they do so.

## **154/12 Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 1 November 2010**

Cllr Jerrard asked that in future the minutes should be circulated as soon as possible after the meeting has taken place. This is so that councillors can see what items need their attention. Cllr Carole Rudd suggested that there could also be an action column included preferably in red.

**CLERK**

Cllr D Rudd asked that items 143/10c be amended to insert the word 'proposed' before 'to be installed'

Cllr Jerrard requested to know what happened with regards to the planning for the game shop and suggested that this had not been correctly handled. He also queried whether the parish council could consider the planning application for Bauhinia. Cllr Bridgman suggested that this should be considered when the planning items are discussed.

Mrs Cheesman said she wished to make a formal complaint in that the Agenda given to the councillors was not the same as that advertising the Meeting. The clerk explained that the reason was that the Councillors had requested full details of correspondence received to be included on the Agenda. Cllr Bridgman asked the clerk to ensure that in future the full Agenda should be on public display so that the public and the councillors could have three full working days to read and consider the points before arriving at the meeting. **CLERK**

He then asked if there were any other items regarding the Minutes. The Minutes were Proposed by Cllr Rudd and Seconded by Cllr Booton.

## **155/10 Matters arising from the Minutes**

The clerk said that she had received a telephone call from Sergeant Bromell to the effect that he agreed with the Parish council's proposals and the PCSO Max Preston will in future keep a regular eye on the school and that Simon Poulton will carry out possibly monthly surgeries in Greatham. The first of these will probably be in conjunction with the nursery school.

Cllr Jerrard asked if the clerk has followed Mrs Cheesman's advice regarding insertion of the Parish Plan notice into the Village magazine. She confirmed that she had and Cllr Bridgman read out the article in the current magazine which had been distributed this morning.

Cllr Jerrard asked if the clerk had followed up 148/10. She confirmed that there was nothing yet on the easthants website regarding the proposed Harris appeal. Cllr Bridgman said that he would watch the site and notify the council when he gets the papers. **ABR**

#### **156/12 Report from County Councillor**

Councillor Clarke said that he was glad to see the 30mph limit was now in place in Selborne Road.

Regarding Ham Barn, there will be a meeting between the District Council and Highways and he suggested they should be contacted to get a parish council representative at the meeting. The problem is that any scheme cannot be over £10m (for example a flyover) which is why the cheaper options must be considered. He said that they must be prevented from sealing off that junction.

Regarding the gritting, HCC have used 2000 tons a day which was bought from Egypt at £45 per ton. Last year costs escalated from £20 to £80 per ton and they wished to have a firm commitment on price.

Concessionary Fares are now being administered by the County Council and they have asked the District Council to continue to Administer it. They had to have the scheme finalised by 1<sup>st</sup> December before knowing how much money the government would contribute. At present this costs £15m to include say the Gosport Ferry. The Concessionary Farfes will now be free bus pass after 9.30. Disabled cases being able to get passes before 9.30 and travel tokens. There will also be concessionary transport with ½ price fares. This will cost £13.27million which has now been agreed. Cllr Bridgman thank Councillor Clarke for his report.

#### **157/12 Reports of Representative**

##### **(a) Coryton Almshouses**

Cllr Booton reported that everything is fine. They had had a meeting and they are fully occupied.

##### **(b) Village Hall**

Cllr Redman left a report that everything is going well. The Quiz Night made around £450 profit. The Notice Board has arrived but is not yet up. Mrs cheesman said that this will be done once the ground is not frozen and the Village Hall Committee need to know where the Parish Council would like the board to go. Cllr Bridgman said that he will attend to this. **ABR**

##### **(c) Old Church**

Cllr Bridgman confirmed that there will be a carol service on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30pm with mulled wine and carols sung. All Parishioners are welcome. Cllr Booton thanked the clerk for the advertisement in the Herald.

##### **(d) Transport and Highways**

Cllr Booton said that the new 30 mph sign has made quite a difference.

##### **(e) Footpath and Tree Warden**

Cllr Bridgman reminded that Cllr Fellows confirmed at the last meeting that the paths were being frequently walked.

##### **(f) Planning Committee**

Cllr Booton reported that the turf centre are looking for more space. Goleigh Farm application seems no different than before. He went on to say that he is very heavily committed at present and would be unable to chair the meetings for at least a month. It was agreed that, for the time being, the Planning Committee would appoint a chairman for each meeting as necessary.

**32723/014 Greatham Mill – velux window.** Cllr Bridgman said this is a listed building and sees nothing to object to as this is not a thoroughfare. Cllr Jerrard suggested that the only reason that planning was required is because it is a listed building and therefore the only question for the Parish council is if there have been any comments. Cllr D Rudd said that a velux window is not in keeping with a listed building. Cllr Bridgman said no plans were available. Cllr Jerrard said that he does not see how he can make a comment without them. Cllrs Booton and Bridgman have visited the premises and have seen the

plans. The velux window will be in the roof and completely out of sight unless someone is standing in the property. And that they see no grounds for objection. Cllr Booton said that the Greatham Mill is a dead end and the window is around the corner where no one can see. Cllr Bridgman said that we need to talk to the applicant and to point out to the district council that it is a listed building and that no one has easy access past the premises therefore we have no reason to object. Cllr Jerrard suggested that we should make no comment at all as they know it is listed. It was agreed that the clerk would not comment.

**53066 Bauhinia, Petersfield Rd – new conservatory, garage conversion**

It was agreed not to consider this application as too many of the councillors present had a Personal and/or Prejudicial Interest because of their association with ex councillor Lerner and therefore the meeting would not be quorate.

**53075 6 Woolmer Terr, Benhams Lane– 2 storey extn**

This needs a site visit and it was agreed that Cllrs Bridgman, C Rudd and Jerrard would carry this out next week and report to the clerk to write to the district council

**ABR/CR/DJ**

**West Fork.** Cllr Bridgman was asked if he would be prepared to help with the appeal. It is expected around Christmas time. The clerk to check if the appeal is in yet. **CLERK**

**Goleigh Farmhouse.**

The revised plans were available. Cllr Jerrard said that if this is only a minor variation then this is fine but if a major one then we should reconsider. The council were reminded that no objections had been raised before. It seems this is limited to solar panels on the south facing roof. It was agreed to make no further comments.

**(g) Playground Committee**

The playground is in good condition other than the awaited repair to the dragonfly unit.

**ABR.**

**158/12 RFO report to 31/10**

Cllr Bridgman read out the RFO report and the balances on accounts on 1<sup>st</sup> December are as follows:

Bank reserve	£ 32,024.51
Current	£ 180.82
Old church	£ 1313.45

**Schedule of payments**

Payments to be made this month:

Clerk's salary Nov	£ 206.00
Clerk's expenses Nov	£ 18.79
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 224.79</b>

It was proposed that the schedule of payments be made and that £200.00 was to be transferred to the current account from the reserve account. **PROPOSED** by Cllr C Rudd **SECONDED** by Cllr D Rudd. The clerk will send the signed transfer request to the bank.

Cllr Jerrard questioned the current budget process and precept setting. No work has been done yet on these. He believes the steps should be

1. Budget prepared
2. Budget discussion
3. Proposed precept in relation to the budget and discuss

He believes this needs to be done by 31 January in which case we do not appear to have enough time. Cllr Bridgman said that this would be handled by the end of February. Cllr Jerrard said that the understood there were new guidelines as part of the audit process regarding setting of budgets and the precept. The clerk will check out this point. Cllr Bridgman said that this issue would be discussed at the January meeting and that he does not see a need to increase the budget, but it will need to be looked at and expedited. Cllr Jerrard commented that a discussion is needed as to what should be done with the profits. He also noted that we may have to pay for a parish council election next year. Cllr Bridgman said that the precept has been at £12,000 for a few years and we have a good reserve. He

also remarked that HM Government will be passing duties to parish level which may require further expenditure. Cllr Bridgman said that if we prepare the figures and circulate them in advance of the January meeting he sees no reason why the Precept cannot be set following discussion at that meeting. It was commented that we do have larger than normal reserves and if we are not saving for a particular expenditure then perhaps we could consider reducing the precept in view of the the current adverse financial conditions. Cllr Bridgman said that we are all keen to save money and this would be discussed at the January meeting. **CLERK**

#### **159/12 Liss and Greatham Poor Fund**

Cllr Jerrard said that he had not had time to read all the papers and asked that this item should be carried forward to the next meeting.

#### **160/12 Ham Barn roundabout**

Cllr Bridgman said we must be ready to make our views known to the Highways Department. The current options under consideration are  
remove the roundabout  
install traffic lights

These would have the same effect on Greatham despite the fact that we have traffic calming and a traffic order for no HGV. We must have plans in place to ensure they do not re-route traffic through the village. As they are unlikely to build a Selborne bypass they will either do nothing or install traffic lights. The clerk suggested that the current exit south bound, and entry and exit northbound could be retained whilst traffic needing to cross the A 3 could go north and use the Longmoor roundabout to go back south. Traffic travelling south on A3 could use the West Liss exit to to cross over to get to Selborne by going back up the A3 and taking the current exit. This type of arrangement is in place elsewhere including the A32 junction with the M27 where you cannot turn right onto the M27 but have to go east, off at the Fareham junction and back down west along the M27. Cllr D Rudd said traffic needs to be kept away otherwise there will be more accidents. Cllr Bridgman said that Highways will have to wait until they have had practical experience of what is happening and if there is a problem with the A3 we need to defend the points of Greatham. Cllr Jerrard suggested this should be an item at every future meeting and if not resolved make it a discussion item for the Annual Parish Meeting.

#### **161/12 Land Registry Plans**

The Land Registry is reminding us that they accept plans largely hand drawn which means that property boundaries shown may not be accurate. Cllr Jerrard confirmed that 'old deeds' are often not accurate. Cllr Bridgman said that there was a parishioner who wished to speak to the verification issue but was unable to attend so this item will be deferred to the January meeting.

#### **162/12 Correspondence**

1. Journal of Local Planning drawing attention to the first edition specially for local councils which may be of interest to those concerned with local planning.
  2. HALC update drawing attention to the new national planning framework published in 2012 to put communities in charge of planning. A result of the Localism Bill of November to be followed up in 2011 for further legislation as necessary and funding to be in place by April 2011.
- Also, that the appropriate sum under section 137(4) for 2012 is £6.44 per head of parishioners that may be spent by the Parish council in furtherance of its aims.
3. Hampshire Roads are drawing attention to the introduction of Parish Pages on its website with dedicated information for parish councils.
  4. HALC – Neighbourhood planning s of electoral wards and parish councils will no longer be defined as they are a natural unit in rural areas. Abolition of local plans and reports does not mean there is not a role for inspectors in establishing compliance with national policy but we are not trying to prescribe much beyond that. Cllr Bridgman said we can look forward to changes
  5. HCC sustainability meeting on tomorrow at 9.30-3pm at the discovery centre in Winchester. An interactive even to discuss issues such as what sustainability means to the rural communities and what they can do for themselves..

6. A thank you email from Steve Shaw regarding the response to the sustainable communities Act proposals. Proposals under the Act will be dealt with by end Jan 2011.
7. Economic Development update. Business East Hants is to lead the development, improvement and promotion of economic growth in East Hants. A skills and training report is available on the easthants website. Local enterprise Partnership – Hampshire has submitted 3 bids to DCLG and the Business Department which are awaiting decision
8. South Downs National Park are looking for our views on a range of issues.
9. South Downs Focus newsletter is now available.
10. A letter from Damien Hinds to say he wants to limit the opportunities for retrospective planning applications. He fully shares the frustration and anger that has been expressed in the debate about how those applications can be manipulated in such cases. The Localism Bill will be taking a fresh look at planning legislation and will include specific provisions about that. He hopes that we will find this commitment reassuring and that they can begin to rebuild confidence in this aspect of the planning system.
11. A letter to the clerk regarding a survey on the role of political parties in parish and town councils.
12. Joint Practitioners Advisory Group have issued a draft for new paragraphs 3.29 and 3.64 of the Practitioners guide for local councils. Closing date for the consultation is 7 January 2011.

#### **163/10 Any Other business for the next Meeting**

Cllr Jerrard suggested that we set a schedule for the next calendar year before the end of the current year. He also suggested that we should check the date for the proposed elections next year and hold the Annual Parish Meeting BEFORE the election. This will be Agenda item for Jan meeting

**CLERK**

Cllr D Rudd asked for the parish council's view regarding use of the playing fields for a local football team. Someone is interested and will be prepared to do all the drainage necessary but before talking to the Village Hall Trustees he wanted a view from the parish council. Cllr C Rudd suggested that this person should come to the next parish council meeting. This was supported by Cllr Jerrard

#### **164/10 Date and place of next meeting:**

The next full Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.17 p.m.