

Greatham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Greatham Parish Council Old Church Advisory Committee held at St John the Baptist Church on Monday 21st August 2017 at 7.30pm

Present Chairman (Acting) Carole Rudd (CR), Theresa Whelan (TW), David Self (DS), Anne Ballard (ACB), Anna Dale-Harris (ADH), David Rudd (DR), Boopie Cope (BC), Peter Merz (PM)
Clerk to the Council: Jane Ives

1. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed the members to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies from Alan Bridgman and David Redman.

3. Minutes of the Old Church Sub Committee meeting on 30th May 2017

The minutes of the meeting of 30th May 2017 were approved and signed with amendments which were noted in the minute book and agreed.

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the Old Church Sub Committee meeting on 30th May 2017

The Old Church leaflet has not yet been printed because there was an issue with the altar rails being mentioned. CR to circulate amended leaflet as ADH suggested it needs looking at again. This item to be brought forward to the next committee meeting. **Action CR/Clerk**

5. Committee roles

ACB felt that it would be useful for committee roles to be allocated individual roles to save work falling to one or two individuals. ADH thanked ACB for all the work she has done and ACB also wanted to pass on thanks to Sarah Bettin who was extremely helpful in organising the Pimms Party. ACB suggested the Old Church committee in future meet 10 days or so before a Council meeting so that items could be taken forward promptly to the Council for decisions. All agreed that it was important that committee members attend meetings.

TW agreed that she would continue to be responsible for taking items forward to the Council meetings. **Action TW**

All councillors should in future receive minutes from Old Church sub-committee meetings. **Action Clerk**

Roles were agreed as follows:

Anne Ballard	Secretary role (other than clerking meetings) to include noting and sending out thank you letters to supporters.
Boopie Cope & Anne Ballard	Events
Anna Dale-Harris & Boopie Cope	Churchyard
Anna Dale-Harris	Publicity
Peter Merz	Liaison

David Rudd, David Redman (to be confirmed), Peter Merz	Maintenance
Teresa Whelan	Financial/Accounts

Additionally, TW suggested that there were other residents in Greatham who wished to volunteer but did not want to be on the committee. These people could form a 'friends' or 'volunteers' group who could assist the committee for particular events. TW will arrange to put something in the Village Magazine calling for volunteers. **Action TW**

6. Dates for future events

Ride & Stride – 9th September 2017. Drinks and biscuits will be served from the new church.
Carols – 9th December 2017, 6pm.

Pimms Party – 9th June 2018. Check with GVEC if they have any dates booked around that time so there is no clash of dates. **Action Clerk**

The committee should consider posters for the above events or perhaps a large banner/A boards at both ends of the village.

The Tesco's Bags of Help scheme starting on 1st September should be promoted on the village website and the Facebook page Greatham is Great. **Action Clerk**

7. Financial Report – to review current finances.

The Clerk provided an up to date bank account balance but advised the committee that a full reconciliation needed to be carried out in order to ascertain what monies were held in reserve accounts for the Old Church. This would be done for the next committee meeting in November. TW to assist the Clerk with this work. **Action TW/Clerk**

Bank Balance as at 21/08/17

01.04.17	Opening Bank Balance	469.69
----------	----------------------	--------

Expenditure

03.07.17	915 Dr J Paul	Exterior Water Supply for Old Church	119.55
21.07.17		Allplas.co.uk Limited	137.40
			<u>256.95</u>

Income

27.04.17	Donation	70.00
28.04.17	Interest	0.01
09.06.17	Donation	10.00
12.06.17	Donation	80.40
30.06.17	Interest	0.01
28.07.17	Pimms Party	609.05
		<u>769.47</u>

16.08.17	Current balance	982.21
-----------------	------------------------	---------------

TW will in future log who donations come from but this information will only be available to committee members and will not be minuted as donors may not wish to be publicly identified. **Action TW**

ADH requested that money raised for restoration of old church/tomb be kept separate from money allocated by the PC in its budget for maintenance e.g. installation of new tap. The Council need to decide how to manage the Old Church account in terms of money in reserve. Clerk to bring this item to next Council meeting in September. **Action Clerk**

8. Grant requests

The committee discussed the current status of grants applied for.

William Morris – although this has been declined at present, the committee may be able to reapply at a later date once the damp issues are resolved.

Hampshire County Council – no current grant funding available from Cllr Oppenheimer as he is focussing on other projects currently. However, other grant pots are available which may be worth considering.

Tesco's Bags of Help Scheme – this should bring in either £1,000, £2,000 or £4,000.

EHDC – agreed grant of £2,500 and the committee are content with terms for Council to agree in September. However, there are concerns over timing of the work as Torquil is suggesting work is done in January/February and the terms of the grant state that all work needs to be completed and final accounts submitted by 1st March 2018. ADH raised a concern about opening up the tomb and doing the work in Jan/Feb at potentially the wettest time of the year, and the harm this might do to the monument. It was agreed to ask Torquil to confirm that this would not be harmful. ACB to speak to Torquil re timing of work and Clerk to contact EHDC to ascertain whether this date is fixed. **Action ACB/Clerk**

Concerns were expressed by ADH about how the shortfall would be funded if the grant money and donations received did not cover the cost of the work. ADH asked what the PC would do, if the works were started, without having raised the full £7K, and then it was found that full dismantling was required, costing c £20K. TW assured the meeting that the Council have already agreed to help fund the work if necessary until the funding has all been raised by the committee.

The Clerk advised that EHDC District Councillors have access to two different grant pots – the Councillor Community Grant Scheme and the Cabinet Approved Community Grant. The first can grant between £100 and £1,000 and the latter for £1,000 and £25,000. The Clerk to investigate these options. **Action Clerk**

9. Letter to The Leche Trust

TW had received correspondence from Rosemary Ewles at The Leche Trust and had produced a draft response for the committee to consider. She had also spoken to Rosemary Ewles before writing her draft response. Rosemary Ewles had asked to see written confirmation that the proposed work would include making a space between the walls and the tomb and that she had concerns about the green algae and what we are doing about it. TW explained that her response highlights the relevant parts of Torquil's report but ADH was concerned that it focusses too much on the negatives and not enough on the solution. DS agreed that the letter highlights the negative points too much. ACB suggested that Chris Wood's report emphasised that the situation was stable and that he stated that over the last 35 years things had remained the same so this point should go in the letter.

David Self was thanked for his assistance. ADH agreed to draft a response herself and send it round to all committee members by Wednesday 23rd August. **Action ADH**

10. Maintenance and item 11. SPAB list

A plan of the churchyard needs to be drawn up with a plan then of the work that needs to be done. **Action ADH/PM**

Concerns were also raised regarding the issue of falling masonry onto the tomb and whether this needs to be more adequately protected. ADH asked whether listed building consent would be needed for the urgent works to stop the falling masonry. There is great concern that this could damage the fine effigy of Dame Margery. **Action DR**

The next maintenance day needed to be organised and a date agreed of 30th September with a 10am start. If the weather was bad then this would move to 7th October. David Rudd and David Self should lead on the maintenance required. It was agreed that 150mm (8 inches) of soil needed to be removed around the outside below the chancel ground level. Also need to look at drainage and check that there are no French drains within 3ft of chancel wall. PM would see if students at the Manor could assist in this work. **Action DR/DS/PM**

The maintenance day should be promoted in the Village Magazine and organise a poster to be put in Tesco's with a photo of the Old Church. **Action ADH**

A fly sheet should be produced to go out with the parish council newsletter next week detailing the Tesco's Bags of Help scheme and the date of the maintenance day. **Action ADH**

12. Future events - this item was covered in item 6 and the Chairman did not have anything further to add.

13. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 22nd November 2017, 7.30pm

14. Close of meeting – the meeting closed at 9.40pm