

Great Glemham Parish Council

Minutes of the 211th meeting held in the village hall on 28 February 2014

1. PRESENT

Jennifer Beaumont; John Cross; Karen Debenham; (after co-option) Argus Gathorne-Hardy; Elaine Lewis (Chairman); Peter Lincoln; Diane Minns; Duncan McIver; Nicholas Redman (Honorary Clerk); Mark Runnacles.

2. IN ATTENDANCE

Around six electors; Councillor Stephen Burroughes; Mr Tony Eaves of FramBroadband; two members of the public.

3. APOLOGIES

Damian Ferrar (work commitment); Julian Duggan (family commitment); PCSO Mann.

4. CO-OPTION

The Hon Clerk reported that the parish council was free to co-opt a new member, the necessary publicity for the vacancy having been given. Argus Gathorne-Hardy, who was willing to be co-opted and had signed the necessary forms in readiness, was then co-opted as a member of the parish council.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None was declared.

6. REPORTS

6.1 SCC/SCDC

Councillor Burroughes reported that SCC was relieved to see that the Department for Transport's tolling plans for part of the A14 had been dropped. The planned improvements to the A14 would go ahead and be paid for from central government funds. SCC had launched a promotion of apprenticeships so that young people had a valid alternative to academic training. SCC continued to liaise with Norfolk County Council on mergers of some local government functions but was insistent that "front line" services would not be adversely affected. SCC continued to work with BT on bring better broadband to the county: further funding had been supplied. SCC planned to build 10 new care homes and had opened one already (in Bury St Edmunds).

As to SCDC (where Councillor Peck remained unwell), there was a proposed re-drawing of ward boundaries (resulting in a reduction of councillors from 55 to 42). SCDC planned to relocate its HQ but was committed to doing this at no overall cost. Councillors would have local "enabling" budgets allowing them to support local initiatives in their respective wards.

6.2 Police

The Honorary Clerk reported that PCSO Mann had sent him a report stating no crimes had been reported in Great Glemham in the period from 1 December 2013 to 31 January 2014.

6.3 Great Glemham Farms

Argus Gathorne-Hardy reported that the farm was still dealing with the ravages of the wet and windy winter: footpaths were still being cleared of fallen trees and branches; no spraying had been done but the "calendar" was being prepared by the contractors. Under the Higher Level Stewardship, a Farm Classroom had been established at White House Farm and this was used by pupils at primary, secondary and higher levels; in addition, mixed grazing had begun on land surrounding Glemham House. Hedges had been flailed. Coming back to footpaths, some additional way markers were being installed. The Honorary Clerk mentioned that the

steps at either end of the path running alongside the Old School were in a very dilapidated condition. Was repair the responsibility of the farm or the SCC rights of way department? It was agreed that the Honorary Clerk would liaise with Councillor Burroughes with a view to finding this out and then taking appropriate action. **ACTION: Honorary Clerk and Councillor Burroughes to find out the allocation of responsibility - see also action under HIGHWAYS.**

7. BROADBAND

A copy of the Chairman's report is appended. The upshot was that FramBroadband was to go ahead with its Benefice-wide plan regardless of the low amount of interest expressed by electors. June would see the publication of a revised timetable relating to the BT/SCC plan. In the circumstances, the County Broadband plan, which was likely to require either an advance or loan of funds by the parish council, would be dropped. **ACTION: Honorary Clerk to notify County Broadband accordingly. Chairman to keep in touch with Peter Ingram, who was leading the BT/SCC plan.**

8. HIGHWAYS

Jennifer Beaumont reported that grit stocks were either topped up or due to be topped up by SCC. The Honorary Clerk advised all present that SCC operated a scheme under which electors had the benefit of SCC's public liability cover when spreading SCC grit on public roads and paths. All that was needed to enjoy this cover was for volunteers to give their names to him. The following names should be added to the list: Raymond Pascoe; Patrick Wilson; David Lewis; Simon Beaumont; Roger Creed. **ACTION: Honorary Clerk to update the list of volunteers.**

Jennifer Beaumont was also seeking to get SCC to fill in ruts at the side of the road over Parham Airfield. SCC had come to view the road but actually viewed another one which did not have any ruts. **ACTION: JB to liaise with Patrick Wilson, who had the official road designations, and then to follow up with SCC.**

Jennifer Beaumont also pointed out that the footpath sign at the bottom of the drive to Hall Farm had fallen over. **ACTION: See action point under Great Glemham Farms item as to allocation of responsibility for the "infrastructure" relating to footpaths.**

Peter Lincoln reported that the path on Church Road between the junction with New Road and the Crown Inn was now caked in deep mud and so completely impassable by those with wheelchairs or pushchairs. **ACTION: JB to liaise with SCC accordingly.**

9. PLANNING MATTERS

9.1 High Grove Farm Woods

The Honorary Clerk reported that he had been in touch with Ms Danielle Miller of SCDC's planning enforcement team. Ms Miller had outlined the steps that she and her colleague, Cate Buck, had taken. The upshot was that she would be recommending to the planning committee that a formal enforcement notice be served on the owners relating to the following unauthorised works: installation of a mobile home; digging of a borehole; installation of a "portaloo". The Honorary Clerk had also reported to Ms Miller information received from an elector that a septic tank had been installed in the woods.

9.2 Sizewell

John Cross commented that, pending the resolution of outstanding commercial issues relating to Sizewell C, there was nothing to report.

9.3 Framlingham expansion

The Honorary Clerk reported that he had been in contact with David Greenacre who was deputed by Framlingham Town Council to get villages served by Framlingham to contribute

to the Framlingham Neighbourhood Plan. Great Glemham was the first village to contribute by making points listed in the minutes relating to the 210th meeting.

10. SUSTAINABILITY

Julian Duggan would report on this at the 212th meeting.

11. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Honorary Clerk reported that he had approached the SCC portfolio holder for transport, Councillor Graham Newman, for guidance as to whether the proposed survey for a possible bus service linking villages to market towns was appropriate. Would the survey elicit the sort of information that SCC required to consider this matter? It was agreed that the Honorary Clerk would brief Councillor Burroughes with a view to him finding this out from Councillor Newman. **ACTION: Honorary Clerk.**

The Honorary Clerk also reported that the monthly shoppers bus to Woodbridge and Ipswich would, from 8th April 2014, run twice a month (on the first and third Tuesdays). **ACTION: Honorary Clerk and Chairman to see that the service was fully publicised.**

12. FINANCE

The Hon Clerk sought and obtained ratification for payment of £35 to the Information Commissioner for the Parish Council's data licence and approval for the payment for the hire of the hall for this meeting at the going rate. **ACTION: Honorary Clerk.**

13. BUTCHERS FIELD

The Hon Clerk reported that he had commissioned the annual RoSPA survey at economic rates using a scheme set up by SCDC which booked inspectors for several appointments in one area thus lowering travel costs. He acknowledged the efforts of Mark Runnacles and Duncan McIver in dealing with items likely to be raised by the inspector, in particular the fixing of the benches to the ground.

He also reported that the Six Charities Fete was to be held in Butchers Field on 14 June. He had liaised with the Paris Council's insurer, Zurich, and the Farm's insurer, NFU, with a view to seeing that the respective policies for public liability were appropriate and did not leave either a gap or an overlap in cover. The fete organisers would be effecting a risk assessment. The insurers did not require sight of this. The Honorary Clerk had agreed to keep a copy of the assessment for the time required by the insurers.

Duncan McIver pointed out that the fete would include a large marquee which the village hall committee had acquired and was available for hire by residents.

14. SALC/SACRE

John Cross reported that the next SALC meeting was to be held on 17 March. He was unable to go and asked if any other member was willing and able to go in his place.

15. NON-ECCLESIASTICAL CHARITY

The Honorary Clerk reported that this trust, which was set up on the sale of the former workhouse and lands in the parish in 1923, contained provisions in its constitution which did not readily apply to the present day and which reduced the number of activities that it could properly support. The trustees, which included the Honorary Clerk, had met earlier and taken advantage of a recent change in charity law allowing small charities to make modifications to their constitutions. The change was to be sent to the Charity Commission and would be effective after 60 days as long as the Charity Commission had not sent a written objection within that time.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Diane Minns agreed to work with SCDC on the organisation of a litter pick at an appropriate time in the Spring. **ACTION: Diane Minns.**

Argus Gathorne-Hardy dealt with various points relating to the Great Glemham Farms' solar development on Parham raised by a member of the public present. In particular the planned work to establish the sward on the land had been held up by wet weather but was about to start. The same member of the public referred to the works being carried out to extend the World War Two museum on the other side of Parham Airfield and pondered whether this project could be supported by the SCDC enabling budget referred to earlier.

John Cross mentioned the by-pass campaign being led by Marlesford, Little Glemham, Stratford St Andrew and Farnham. There was a possibility that the by-pass might be built as part of the enabling works for Sizewell C. Whilst the idea was supportable in principle many electors would surely resist the by-pass being built in or near to Great Glemham. It was agreed that, for the foreseeable future, Sizewell would be included on the agenda. This would lead to a watch being kept on all Sizewell-related developments that might have a direct effect on the parish. John Cross did acknowledge that, regardless of whether a by-pass was to be built or not, considerable traffic management measures would be required to the A12 and other local roads. **ACTION: Honorary Clerk.**

17. NEXT MEETING

This would constitute both the 2014 annual meeting (at which offices and roles would be re-assigned) and the 212th meeting. It would be held on the village hall on 16 May 2014

Meeting closed at 9:55pm *NA Redman, Honorary Clerk 03/03/14*