

## MINUTES OF THE 217<sup>th</sup> MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON 25 SEPTEMBER 2015

1. **PRESENT** Jennifer Beaumont; John Cross, Elaine Lewis; Duncan McIver; Diane Minns; Karen Debenham; Argus Gathorne-Hardy (Chairman), from 7:30pm; Nicholas Redman (Honorary Clerk). **IN ATTENDANCE** Councillor Stephen Burroughes; Mr Neil Winship of Quiet Lanes Suffolk; and three electors. **APOLOGIES** The following members were unable to attend: Stephen Kite (family commitment); Peter Lincoln (pre-booked holiday); Mark Runnacles (work commitment). Jason Gathorne-Hardy of Great Glemham Farms was unable to attend due to work commitments.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** The following interests were declared: Jennifer Beaumont (member of village hall committee and friend of Butchers Field); the Chairman (owner of Butchers Field, as a partner in Great Glemham Farms); Duncan McIver, chairman of village hall committee; the Honorary Clerk (friend of Butchers Field). These were noted in the register of interests and the entry was signed (on his arrival) by the Chairman.
3. **MINUTES** The minutes of the 216<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were approved and the copy appended in the minutes book was signed as a true record by Elaine Lewis (as acting Chairman).
4. **REPORTS** Councillor Burroughes gave a report on initiatives and events at Suffolk County Council. The Hon Clerk noted that there had been no reported crimes in the parish between 1 May and 31 August. The Chairman gave a short report on the activities of Great Glemham Farms. As part of the farms' higher level stewardship programme, new wildflower strips had been established. The long grass in Butchers Field would be swiped when other farming commitments and weather allowed. Tractor drivers had been warned to drive more slowly. As to the up-coming sugar beet harvest, most of the crop would be clamped on the Parham Airfield site and so there would be a lot less traffic through the village.
5. **PLANNING** The Hon Clerk reported that the planning authority, SCDC, was taking no further action in relation to breaches of planning control in High Grove Farm Woods as a result of legal advice. **ACTION: The Hon Clerk to contact Councillor Poulter to see if she could find out why SCDC was withdrawing from the case at this late stage.**
6. **VACANCY** The Hon Clerk reported that there was a vacancy on the parish council and asked if anyone knew an elector who was likely to be willing to join the parish council would let him know. **ACTION: All.**
7. **HIGHWAYS** Mr Neil Winship explained the Quiet Lanes initiative. This would require a formal consultation conducted by Suffolk County Council which would involve all residents, the police and emergency services. Other options included: extending the area presently covered by the 30 mph limit; establishing a 20 mph area in the village centre. Quiet Lanes initiatives were generally set up just outside the village envelope. Some members considered that the rural parts of Chapel Lane likely to be suitable for Quiet Lane status. An elector noted an increase in traffic in Workhouse Lane and pondered whether this was caused by drivers following SatNavs: it was a twisty and narrow road not suitable for through traffic (especially large vehicles). Mr Winship said that one objective of the Quiet Lanes initiative was to gather sufficient evidence for SatNav providers to alter their software so that roads like Workhouse Lane were allocated a longer distance. Mr Winship concluded by saying that the key objective of Quiet Lanes was "Expect" and "Respect" on the part of all road users: lorry drivers; farmers and their staff; residents; visitors; cyclists; pedestrians (including those with dogs and/or pushchairs); horse riders. **ACTION: (1) The Honorary Clerk to obtain more information from Mr Winship with a view to seeing how best to take forward a Quiet Lanes initiative in Great Glemham and also to investigate other means of dealing with speeding motorists such as Community Speedwatch. (2) The Honorary Clerk to ask residents of Church Cottages not to park on the pavement as this made the pavement inaccessible to pushchairs and wheelchairs. The hard surfaced area near the church was classified by SCC as part of the highway and so could be used for parking. (3) Jennifer Beaumont to: continue her search for potholes and other defects in publicly maintained roads and paths (this should include the path outside 6 Church Cottages which was crumbling), liaising with Suffolk County Council accordingly; order from SCC more grit for the piles and bins around the village; ask SCC to clear the grips (drainage channels); work with the Honorary Clerk and Councillor Burroughes on highway improvements generally.**
8. **PUBLIC TRANSPORT CATS** (Coastal Accessible Transport Services) was tendering to run the "Link" service, which ran on an "on-demand" basis. An elector reported that the service was of little use for regular travellers such as those going to work or to college because of the prohibition on making more than two bookings a week. **ACTION: Honorary Clerk to lobby SCC's James Finch**

**on this point.**

9. **SIZEWELL** John Cross reported that there was little action at present whilst progress at Hinckley was stalled. However, as and when the Sizewell project was likely to be taken forward, the principal impact on Great Glemham was likely to be transport. So far, planners dealing with Sizewell had used traffic data gathered in relation to the Sizewell B development in the 1980s. Further, they had not yet, it seemed, considered the impact of SatNavs. In addition, whilst they had claimed that the workforce would be recruited “locally”, this meant anyone living with a 90 minute drive time from Sizewell. Little thought had been given to making relatively modest adjustments to the Ipswich-Lowestoft railway line which would allow materials to be carried by train to an area close to the site.
10. **SALC/SACRE** John Cross stated that there was nothing to report.
11. **FINANCE Audit:** The Hon Clerk reported that the external auditors, BDO, had approved the 2014/15 accounts. **Expenditure:** He also sought and obtained approval for the following expenditure: (a) hire of village hall for this meeting at going rates; (b) election costs of £100; (c) insurance premium of £321.29; and (d) grants (PCC, for burial ground maintenance, £125; village hall, £250; £50 for each of CAB, Air Ambulance, CATS, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Disability Advice Service, St Elizabeth’s Hospice). **2016/17 Budget:** As to the extra insurance premium required for the holding of the Six Charities Fete in Butchers Field, John Cross kindly agreed to effect the necessary cover via his insurance underwriting business. The meeting agreed that the budgeted cost for this additional insurance, £115, should be apportioned pro rata between other grantees. The revised figures the 2016/17 budget were: PCC - £140; GGVH - £290; others £60 each. John Cross would advise the Six Charities management team of the terms and conditions of the extra insurance well in advance of the event. Otherwise, the 2016/17 budget was approved. **Standing order for expenditure falling due between meetings:** It was agreed that, normally, four meetings a year would be sufficient to conduct normal business. This would mean that sums were likely to fall due between meetings. The meeting approved the Hon Clerk’s suggestion that he and the Chairman be empowered to make the following payments without convening a meeting: (a) costs which were budgeted, in line with budget and which the Hon Clerk and the Chairman felt should be made promptly; and (b) costs which in the opinion of the Hon Clerk and the Chairman needed to be made in the light of circumstances (such as an emergency). All such expenditure should be ratified at the next meeting. **ACTION: Hon Clerk to make payments; John Cross to procure and explain the extra insurance.**
12. **TRANSPARENCY CODE** Karen Debenham kindly agreed to obtain authorisation to add material passed to her by the Hon Clerk on the website with a view to the parish council meeting its obligations under the code. **ACTION: Karen Debenham and the Hon Clerk.**
13. **BUTCHERS FIELD** The Hon Clerk thanked Simon Beaumont for his hard work on mowing and strimming the site and also for his regular reports on the condition of area and the play equipment.
14. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** The Hon Clerk reported: (1) The parish council was obliged to consider safeguarding issues. As it did not have official dealings with those entitled to be safeguarded, there was no need for a formal policy. **ACTION: All to resolve at a future meeting that no formal policy was required and to reconsider that stance periodically.** (2) The bottle bank had confusing labels and so it was not clear which bin should be used for the differently coloured glass. SCDC presently did not segregate the glass. Sometimes, brown glass fetched a higher price and, if that happened, the bins would be labelled clearly. (3) Contractors for Openreach had marked out the site for a new cabinet to house equipment aimed at bringing fast Broadband to parts of the parish. The cabinet would be sited at the top end of New Road but it would not serve properties at and around Hall Farm.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm

NA Redman, Honorary Clerk