

Minutes of the 224th meeting of the Great Glemham Parish Council held from 7pm on 29th September 2017

PRESENT: Jennifer Beaumont; Edward Benson; Karen Debenham; Argus Gathorne-Hardy (Chairman); Elaine Lewis; Peter Lincoln; Duncan McIver; Diane Minns; Nicholas Redman (Honorary Clerk). **APOLOGIES:** John Cross, Mark Runnacles (both due to family illness); County Councillor Stephen Burroughes. **VACANCY:** one.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None, though this was on the basis that the item relating to Suffolk Coastal District Council's "*Issues and Options*" would comprise only discussion and not a decision. This would allow the council to be briefed by Argus Gathorne-Hardy, who was an architect practising in the Suffolk Coastal area but also the owner of land in the parish of Great Glemham that featured in the "*Issues and Options*" document. The Honorary Clerk felt that any decisions relating to "Issues and Options" should be taken at a later meeting at which Argus Gathorne-Hardy would not be present.

PLANNING AND SUFFOLK COASTAL'S "ISSUES AND OPTIONS": This document was the latest stage of a process which would eventually culminate in the adoption by Suffolk Coastal of its development strategy for the period to 2036. Suffolk Coastal already categorised Great Glemham as an "unsustainable settlement" or an "other village" which meant that our village would be used to support only a "minimal" proportion of the housing growth that Suffolk Coastal planned in that period. Presently, Suffolk Coastal's Strategic Policy 28 would allow new housing in Great Glemham only in "exceptional circumstances" with "demonstrated community support". Suffolk Coastal was now consulting on three options (another three consulted upon earlier were not now being pursued):

- "option 4", a continuation of the present policy which would allocate just 1% of the district's housing growth to "unsustainable settlements" or "other villages";
- "option 5" which would allocate 12% of the district's housing growth to "unsustainable settlements" or "other villages"; and
- "option 6" which would allocate 13% of the district's housing growth to "unsustainable settlements" or "other villages" (this also would create an "A12 transport corridor" and a "dispersed rural focus".

"Option 4" was not dissimilar to Strategic Policy 28. Planning gain/section 106 payments had now been replaced by Community Infrastructure Levy, a tax on development which reflected the local need for infrastructure. This was likely to be higher in rural areas. **ACTION:** Meet on \$\$th October (without Argus Gathorne-Hardy for the reasons set out above) to consider our response.

THE SUFFOLK ENERGY GATEWAY PROPOSAL: This was aimed at creating an A12 by-pass of Marlesford, Little Glemham, Stratford St Andrew and Farnham. There were three options: do nothing other than minor improvements to the existing A12; build a single carriageway to the East of the original A12; build a dual carriageway. After discussion, it was decided to support the dual carriageway option given the likely increase in traffic to the Sizewell C site; there should be signage encouraging drivers going through the four villages listed to use the by-pass and to deter others. **ACTION:** Honorary Clerk to make a response on these lines.

REPORTS: Councillor Burroughes had kindly sent the Honorary Clerk a report. Copies were circulated to all present.

Jason Gathorne-Hardy had compiled a short report on the activities and concerns of Great Glemham Farms. Hedge trimming was underway and the footpaths had been mowed. Residents should stick to public footpaths on Parham Airfield and should not go near (or in!) the ponds. The harvests of potatoes and sugar beet were taking place a bit earlier in the year than usual with a view to avoiding the worst frosts.

The Honorary Clerk stated that the police website indicated that no crimes had been reported since the 223rd meeting. However, there had been some damage to an outlying property though it was difficult to determine whether the damage had been caused by vandals or by a driver not having full control of

his/her car. In addition, an elector had contacted PCSO Hassler regarding speeding and noisy motorbikes. PCSO Hassler had disciplined the young men concerned and undertaken to visit them later to see that they had reinstalled silencers to their machines. The Honorary Clerk had learned of a scheme under which householders could affix stickers stating "30mph" in a red official looking disc. He stated that he seen such stickers on dustbins (apparently on the basis that permanent signs are commonly overlooked by drivers). **ACTION:** Honorary Clerk to access stickers.

VACANCY: The Honorary Clerk reminded members that one vacancy remained. Sasha French of Crown Cottage was said to be interested. **ACTION:** Honorary Clerk to approach Ms French.

DATA PROTECTION RULES: The Honorary Clerk outlined the up-coming introduction of tougher rules. He said that sticking to our existing practice would be very likely to achieve compliance: Lenni Lewis maintained a parish council e-mail mailing list; the addressees had all given consent to be on the list and to receive parish council related emails; these were sent in a way that one addressee could not find out details of any other addressee; a request to be taken off the list would need be acted on promptly; a request to be removed from the list would need be acted on promptly; (perish the thought) anyone on the list who died must be removed from the list promptly. The Honorary Clerk had some briefings that he would send to Lenni Lewis. **ACTION:** Lenni Lewis, Honorary Clerk.

FINANCE:

Audit for 2016/2017: The Honorary Clerk reported that the auditors, BDO, had approved the accounts which meant there was no charge. The following expenditure was approved:

- **expenditure** -village hall hire for this meeting at going rates; £314 for insurance with Zurich (which was a fixed, five-year deal brokered by Community Action Suffolk); £47.30 for reimbursement of mower-related expenses; £7.50 for replacement statements (the Honorary Clerk apologised for allowing the statements to get wet);
- **grants** - £260 for the village hall; £50 to each of Suffolk Wildlife Trust, the Air Ambulance, St Elizabeth's Hospice, the CAB, the Disability Advice Service and Coastal Accessible Transport;
- **budget for 2018/19** - the Honorary Clerk suggestions laid out in the agenda were agreed.

BUTCHERS FIELD: Simon Beaumont was thanked for his routine (and, critically) recorded inspections. Matters requiring attention: more sand in the sandpit; need of a swipe of the long grass; a medlar tree had died. The Honorary Clerk pointed out that the Non-Ecclesiastical Charity had awarded the parish council £100 for the planting of trees in publically accessible areas within the village. The Chairman wondered if his father, Lord Cranbrook, might be able to source or graft a tree. **ACTION:** Honorary Clerk, Chairman.

SUMA and local services: Edward Benson reported that there was a core of users of SUMA's services. It was agreed that a flyer would be added to copies of Ebb & Flow delivered in the parish. **ACTION:** Edward Benson, Honorary Clerk.

NON-ECCLESIASTICAL CHARITY: The Honorary Clerk reported that, following the retirement of Mrs Jill Wilson from the charity after 23 years' service, Mrs Kerry Ferrar had agreed to take over. The Honorary Clerk agreed to assist with the formalities (which will do doubt include money laundering checks).

EMERGENCIES AND PREPARATION FOR WINTER: The Honorary Clerk would arrange for spare leaflets printed by Suffolk County Council to be left in public places in the village. A full distribution had been done last year.

TRANSPARENCY: The Honorary Clerk requested that the website showed the minutes of the May meeting as "approved" and the minute of this meeting, the 224th, once it is made ready, as "draft". **ACTION:** Karen Debenham

Meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Nicholas Redman, Honorary Clerk