

ADDITIONAL REPORTS FOR GREAT GLEMHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 20 MAY 2020

Great Glemham Farms Report

1. GGF Covid Response and Planning

- a. GGF Staff as agricultural workers have continued to come to work, following Covid-adapted safe systems. This has included working away from public spaces and residential properties, focusing on conservation work, machinery maintenance, footpath maintenance and landscape management work.
- b. Farm work and landscape management have been re-focused to allow for greater resilience planning, with particular attention to water resources, revived local food production, ecological enrichment and reduced energy use.

2. Footpaths

- a. Seasonal footpath mowing and maintenance of footpaths is in hand and ongoing.
- b. Repairs have been conducted to : re-install a safety barrier at Hall Farm; replace a partly rotten bridge on a section of GGF private permissive footpath along the eastern edge of Cemetery / Second Church fields.
- c. Spray drift and cutting in on GGF private green tracks from contract farming has been noted and reported to contract farmers, with concern expressed from GGF. We are reviewing management of our footpaths and private tracks along which footpaths run, in order to prevent a repeat of this situation.
- d. In response to Covid-19 a section of private track between the footpath from below Chapel Lane to The Grove lane has been opened and made available for local residents and neighbours to use, to create a new footpath loop.
- e. Please could footpath users to keep the statutory rights of way and private permissive footpaths and not stray off them on to other field edges / woodland areas / open fields; and please could dogs be kept under control on footpaths in general; and on leads at all times on footpaths that go through pastures.
- f. A 'Stick and Flick' policy for dog messes is encouraged for the time being.

3. Contract Farming Agreement

- a. Drilling and crop establishment has been heavily disrupted by a very wet winter, cold northerly winds and a drought. Crops for 2020 include : winter wheats, winter oil seed rape, spring barley, beans, sugar beet and vining peas.

4. Conservation Planning and Open Farm Events

- a. GGF is working towards the end of Higher Level Stewardship. We are exploring a shift in our own internal conservation and environmental management policy that is based on landscape-scale interventions and our water catchment areas. This is framed within a draft new project : The Vale of Great Glemham : An Integrated Water Catchment Area Restoration Plan.
- b. At White House Farm, all physical aspects of the Alde Valley Spring Festival opening were cancelled, but the Festival programme is now open and operating online. A range of virtual arts residencies are ongoing, together with online Open Studios. Workshop spaces at the farm remain hired out and operational or in temporary shutdown. These focus on : bag making; home schooling; basketry research; permaculture gardening and design; soil restoration; natural soaps and herbal preparations; provisions of infrastructure for home-growing of foods. **

** Would GG Parish Council be interested in supporting or circulating a WHF survey to explore interest and support within the community for increased home-growing of food and a land policy that supported re-localised growing of foods within the parish as a farming strategy ?

Jason Gathorne-Hardy : Jason@greatglemhamfarms.co.uk

1. The K6 Phone box Report

The phone box hosted its second micro-poetry festival on the 22nd September.

We were incredibly fortunate to have the well-known poet and broadcaster, Ian McMillan as master of ceremonies.

Poets of all ages came from far and wide to share their poems. They read and recited a tremendous range of poetry, some funny, some poignant, some written especially for the occasion.

The audience, who ranged from seven to seventy plus, spilled out across the road so that passing traffic including horses and cyclists became part of the event with drivers and riders stopping to listen. The sun shone, the phone box sparkled & a good time was had by all.

Nicola Redman



2. Tuesday Teas

Tuesday Teas has seen another year of regular faces with a few new ones dropping in and out throughout the year. We have lost one or two regular faces that have moved on to new pastures, we hope that they will be welcomed with tea and cake where they are now.

We have had a visit from the Rural Coffee caravan and was welcomed by Annette with a lot of different information on a range of subjects from informative phone numbers to information on keeping ourselves safe from scams. This visit was posted around the village and other nearby villages, but was only taken up by our regular attendance of people to Teas. We had a very special tea party for us all to attend back in October as it was Edna's 95th Birthday, the tables were filled with friends and family with lots of conversations of times past. The family treated us all to tea, non-alcoholic Prosecco a wide range of sandwiches and nibbles and of course Birthday Cake. A wonderful afternoon was had by all.

As of the beginning of March we chose to close the Teas due to what might happen with the Covid 19 threat. So at this time we are all missing our Tuesday's of chat and conversations about our family's and loved ones, what we've been up to or got planned for the coming week or even just to chat about the weather. We are all looking forward to when in the future this might be possible again to sit with each other in our community and have a cup of tea and a slice of cake.

Crystal Runnacles

3. Village Hall

There isn't a lot to report from the village hall management committee, in light of Covid 19, other than we have had a very generous donation from the Ecclesiastical Trust, which is very much appreciated.

Rachael Wyartt

4. Church Lands Trust Non-Ecclesiastical Branch

In summary, this charitable organisation was formed in 1923. It has the task of seeing that its clear yearly income is applied for a reasonable public purpose that will reasonably benefit a significant number of the inhabitants of Great Glemham. The organisation presently comprises three trustees: Kerry Ferrar, Diane Minns, and Nicholas Redman.

In recent years, the charitable organisation has supported many local groups:

- The Ladies Club;
- The Village Hall;
- The Table Tennis group; and
- The keep fit group.

At the organisation's annual meeting (May 2020), the trustees agreed unanimously that a grant should be paid to the Village Hall.

The trustees had noted that the Village Hall had significant standing costs: power and heating, repairs and maintenance. The Covid virus meant that the Village Hall had lost revenue. A one-off grant of £500 was agreed.

Nicholas Redman

5. Great Glemham School Trust

The Trust and its work

Great Glemham School closed in June 1972 and was sold in 1977. In 1981 proceeds from the sale were invested to produce an annual income to be distributed, by 'Great Glemham School Trust', to individuals and organisations in the Parish.

Over the years many organisations and individuals have benefited. In the 1990s claims for personal grants decreased and it was decided to encourage all parents to claim for school expenses.

The trust now distributes 'Educational grants' (a standard amount when children start school, move to Secondary School and finish school), 'Individual grants' and 'Community grants'

The Trustees consider all applications in the light of the funds available.

Annual Report for 2019-2020

The trustees were Nicola Redman, Jill Pascoe, and Duncan McIver. The Revd Rachel Cornish Rector of Alde Valley Benefice is Ex Officio.

Grants were awarded to: One child starting Primary school. One child starting High School and one High School leaver.

Four individual educational grants were awarded. There were no requests for community grants. The 2019-2020 Report of Accounts has been presented and examined.

Applying for a Grant

Educational Grants: You are eligible for a cash grant if you have a child starting Nursery School, Primary School or High School for the first time this year, or leaving High School. To claim this grant complete and return the application form by

30th June.

Individual Grants: If you would like to make an application for an Individual Grant towards educational expenses (such as books, equipment, courses or trips) write with a short description of your costs and tell us how you would spend the money. Applications must be made by 30th October.

Community Grants: If you would like to make an application on behalf of an organisation for a Community Grant, write with a short description of the reason for the request and tell us how you would spend the money. Applications must be made by 30th October, and should be made to Nicola Redman, GGST, The Cottage, The Street, Gt Glemham IP17 2DA.

Nicola Redman

6. Biogen Composting Plant at Parham Airfield

There remains nothing new to report since the last GGPC meeting as there has been no meeting of the Liaison Group meeting since December, last, and owing to the COVID19 restrictions the Group's anticipated springtime meeting has been put in abeyance.

I have not been made aware of any announcement by either the operator or the regulating authorities concerning operation of the composting plant during the current situation. There is not even anything about it on the Biogen website. However, it is apparent that operations continue at the plant, even though the East Suffolk DC waste scheme was suspended in March! It is my understanding that resumption of the garden waste collection scheme is planned for Spring Bank Holiday Monday, 25th May.

I will advise you of the date of the next meeting of the Liaison Group when it is settled.

Patrick Wilson

7. Great Glemham Village Information Email

This email distribution list started more or less by accident in 2013, mainly as a means of broadcasting village activities and events (as well as appeals for finding missing pets), although the decision was taken early on that it would not be used for advertising commercial activities or items for sale. Over time, the range of information distributed has grown and now includes all sorts of items of use and potential interest to our residents, particularly with input from the Parish Council.

My goodness how things have changed this year in these extraordinary times! From March 2019 to the end of February this year, 240 emails were sent out to our residents, while so far just since the beginning of March this year 312 have already been sent out.

This is, I think, a reflection of the community spirit in our village, as so many of these emails have been to pass on offers of help and support. The Parish Council and particularly our Clerk, Caroline, have been very proactive in passing on items of note and importance to us all and I have been pleased to act as the conduit for all this information. A team effort indeed!

Lenni Lewis

8. Pot Holes etc

Pot holes etc nothing to report at the moment.

Jenny Beaumont

9. Great Glemham PCC - All Saints' Church report to Parish Council 2020

Gt Glemham is one parish in an eight-parish benefice. Our Rector is Revd Rachel Cornish who lives at Stratford St Andrew.

Although this report usually looks back across last year, I feel the current situation should be spoken of in the first instance. As instructed by church authorities in line with the government's recommendations all churches were locked in March and continue to be so. This brings a great sadness to all those who feel the church building could offer solace at this time of the global epidemic of Covid 19 – but it does seem sensible when a lockdown is in place so that infection does not spread. I am pleased to report that on 23 April the lockdown was eased one small step in that I, as churchwarden, am now allowed to go into the church to generally housekeep and check all is ok. Although the churches are locked, Revd Rachel, Hannah Pemberton (Director of Music), Bill Sokolis (Ordained and Licensed Lay Minister) and the rest of the team have been putting together a service each Sunday for viewing on You Tube. These have proved to be a success with up to 100 or so viewings. If you would like to be included in the circulation for access to this service please let me know.

During 2019 there were two regular services per month in the church: the first Wednesday there is Holy Communion at 11am. This is a said service with refreshments after. The second is a morning praise service at 9.30am on the second Sunday of the month with refreshments after. The average regular attendance is 7. Benefice services are held on the first and third Sunday of the month and travel around the seven churches. Please watch out for the notice board outside the church for information on services – as well as being in the flyer inside Ebb and Flow.

The church is usually open every day throughout the year during daylight hours and folk are welcome to come at any time. There is no charge for entering the building. We mourn the passing of David Creed who used to be key holder and a huge help in the church and he is sorely missed. The churchyard has seats and wonderful views and thanks go to Tony Heffer for maintaining this special space and Mick Salter who helped out when Tony was unable to. The village war memorial is sited in the churchyard and a quote has been given to the Parish Council for cleaning and re-cutting the names which will greatly enhance its condition.

The Church Council are responsible for the upkeep of All Saints Church and the costs of maintenance and repairs to this ancient building, as well as insurance, is expensive. We cannot always carry out what is needed due to lack of funds but we have managed to carry out some essential repairs to one of the Gargoyles on the tower; clear cracks in the outside walls and re-mortar to make water tight; made sure the gutters and downpipes are clear; refurbish the sound system and the five year electrical inspection took place. As has been known for some time there is a problem in the church of damp coming up through the floor and up the walls. We engaged our Architect to investigate the drainage system around the church and his report states that the drains underground are all blocked and the water is unable to run away from the building. He has advised that the system be completely replaced and the estimated cost to be between £30,000-£35,000 for the above and below surface water drainage system and £10,000 for the remainder of the work (repair the inside damage etc) plus professional fees and VAT. The PCC are considering his report and will decide whether it will be possible to take on this project at the next PCC meeting – whenever that may be.

In 2019 this parish had to pay £6,788 to the Diocese towards the cost of a Rector and to support the Diocese in paying for the upkeep of clergy housing, and the necessary administration to support parishes. The money paid by the parish is not used to finance Bishops, Cathedrals, clergy pensions and such like, which are funded entirely separately. For 2019 the general running expenses, including insurance, were £5,253; Utilities cost £1,532 and Benefice/clergy expenses were £851. We achieve these figures by worshippers giving regularly and by fund raising and we would like to thank everyone for their support.

The church does not only serve those in the village. The visitors' book last year had entries from people who live all over the world as well as all over Britain and Suffolk. Some come to visit graves; look up family history in the records; were children in the village and revisit; look at names on the war memorial etc. In 2019 we had one baptism, four funerals with burial in the churchyard, and one funeral with burial at Glemham House.

The current crisis has brought many changes to our lives for many of us, and it has been a time to re-assess what is really important. We have been so fortunate to live in a caring and spacious village – but we are also usually a village that loves socialising – and I am sure we all look forward to the day when the church, village hall and pub can be fully open again.

Jill Pascoe (Churchwarden) on behalf of the PCC: Revd Rachel Cornish (Chair); Rosemary Close-Brooks (Secretary); Emma Cross (Treasurer); Jason Gathorne-Hardy; Tess King; Judy Moore and Jenni Wake-Walker

The following further reports as referred to in the minutes of 20 May 20:

Minute item 9: Speeding Update

Speed Cameras

1. Permission to locate poles adjacent/on land owned by Flagship or GG Farms received in May.
2. Temporary Vehicle Activated Signs (TVAS) requests (similar to the signs seen in Marlesford) submitted to Martin Andrews and Suffolk Road Safe on 5th May.
3. Request was to locate a pole for TVAS in three locations (diagrams available on request)
 - a. Approach along Chapel Lane from Sweffling
 - b. Approach along Low Road near Street Farm
 - c. Approach along New Road from Marlesford
4. Likely Suffolk Road Safe may only approve one site for a TVAS however we are attempting to have them approve and install all three poles due to prohibitive costs of works in highway.
5. If approved suggestion is that GG runs a trial using a TVAS for 9-12 months before considering investment in a Speed Indicator Device (SID) for sole use of GG using Solar funds.
6. Approximately £5k of Solar money should be set aside for purchase and installation (brackets £150, sign £2900, Vat £600 + potential poles and installation £1500 if only one TVAS approved). – *(Note from clerk – we purchased 2 x SIDs in Palgrave at a total cost of £4000 in Dec '19 excl vat which can be reclaimed)*

Entrance Gates

1. Project on hold due to exorbitant installation costs from SCC Highways of £7k per set of entrance gates ie £21k for three sets v £2k using a local contractor.
2. Andrew Reid has confirmed strict regulations that have to be abided by when installing something new onto the highway so our local contractor is not permitted.

3. Awaiting response from Luke Merton (as suggested by Andrew Reid) to see if the community self-help scheme would allow GG to use an accredited local contractor. – See extract from email sent by him 10/3 to clerk and chased again 14/5 for response as follows:-

I'll certainly look into the options available to you! Just to be clear, the proposed location of your gates will heavily influence the cost of their installation, due to the level of traffic management that may be required (e.g. temporary traffic signals). Regardless of whether you choose to pay Suffolk Highways or a private contractor to undertake future works, the price of such safety systems should always be included in the quote you receive. That's assuming the company which provides it plans to work in accordance with the legal guidance contained with Safety at Street Works and Road Works: A Code of Practice and in line with the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991.

I'll get back to you as soon as possible. Kind regards, Luke Merton

Additional Information – Visibility of Traffic Road Signs and Speed Limits

1. Most speed limit signs, direction signs and other signage on approaches and within village are either obscured by foliage or covered in green algae so not available to inform/remind motorists.
2. GG have elected not to train PC members on self-help scheme and therefore require SCC to carryout required maintenance or advise of their plans.

Karen Debenham



Minute item 16: Covid 19 Village Support Group Update May 2020

A support group was set up in Great Glemham by the Parish Council on 17th March when restrictions started to have an impact on normal life and vulnerable told to shield.

The measures GG PC put in place were:-

1. A list of healthy volunteers willing to shop, collect medicines, dog walk etc. was collated and communicated to the village in both electronic and hard copy versions, using a map to indicate who a resident's closest supporter was.
2. In addition the following information was collated and used to create the GG PC Covid 19 response pack available [HERE](#)
 - a. Details of Crown Shop and Takeaway
 - b. Information on mobile services visiting the village and their contacts
 - c. Home schooling support
 - d. Signs to use indicating Covid status Healthy H At Risk R or Isolating I.
3. A page specific to Covid 19 was set up on the village website
4. Hard copy lists were delivered to each household on 21st March ahead of the government lockdown. The pack encouraged residents to also sign up to the village information emails and to check the village website.
5. The pack was made available via website and as google docs with a link to the pack and page contained wider support information from Council and other support groups.
6. An updated pack was distributed hardcopy with Ebb and Flow to all households on 28th/29th March.
7. A check on all supporters was carried out on 24th April to make sure no one inundated, needing PPE to carryout duties etc. and reminding supporters to observe measures to protect themselves if carrying out duties such as using PPE. No issues were found all supporters were coping and happy to continue.

8. A door to door check was carried out on all village addresses (using electoral role information and local knowledge of second homes) by a select group of volunteers over 4th & 5th May. This checked everyone knew who to contact for support and again encouraged sign up to village information emails and use of website.
9. The Crown has done an outstanding job diversifying and supporting village life with a temporary shop and takeaway
10. No issues have been reported, volunteers outweigh requests for support and the village appears to be operating smoothly during the crisis with our elderly and vulnerable well supported.

Karen Debenham

Minute item 17: Dog Poo Strategy – A Messy Business!

A resident has requested that dog poo bins be located within village.

Dog poo bins are costly to provide and maintain. As an alternative the PC could consider promoting the 'Stick and Flick' method where poo is moved by a stick or similar item to dense undergrowth.

PC would need to discuss -

1. Investing in signage on key dog walk routes reminding owners to clear up after their dog
2. Promoting the "Stick and Flick" campaign to villagers and educate.
3. Promoting the 'Stick and Flick' method in areas with hedges or dense undergrowth
 - a. Poo is removed from paths and verges to areas of undergrowth using a stick or other method.
 - b. Poo is not left bagged on routes
 - c. Poo is not left on open ground paths or verges
4. On open areas of tarmac footpaths and roads with no undergrowth owners must be asked to bag and take poo home.

Dog Poo Stick and Flick Countryside Method

Most dog walkers carry a plastic bag to clean up after their dog makes a mess. But, the latest advice is not to bag up dog poo in woodland areas.

STICK AND FLICK DOG POOP:

In fact, even some MPs are debating the 'hot and sticky' subject at Westminster. Some dog walkers are causing a problem by bagging up pet poo in rural countryside areas. The Forestry Commission wants them to use a stick and flick method instead.

The idea is to brush or sweep it into the undergrowth or away from public footpaths. The aim is to reduce the number of plastic bags left and discarded in urban areas.

The MP is campaigning for better signage. Signs placed at the entrance of open rural spaces and parks would guide dog owners in the dog poop stick and flick method.

There is no shortage of dog fouling laws in the United Kingdom. But, hanging poo-filled plastic bags from trees and bushes is now pervasive in many areas. It is clear that we need new initiatives to tackle the problem in many rural areas. Research found local authorities in England and Wales receive around 70,000 complaints a year on dog fouling.

Poo-filled Bags Pollute the Environment

Follow 'The UK Rules' for 2019 Updates!

A Member of Parliament aims to stop people leaving poo-filled bags in the countryside. She says it is '**disgusting and a massive problem**' that is polluting the environment.

Many people like to walk their dog in the fresh air of the rural parks and woodlands. But, reports suggest the problem has worsened in the last few years.

The number of dog poo bags hanging off trees, bushes, and railings has seen a significant increase.



Most dog owners are aware of the litter and refuse laws in the United Kingdom. Thus, they think picking it up and bagging it is the right thing to do. The problem starts when they cannot find any bins to throw away the mess. Some people jettison the poo-bag into the undergrowth. Others will sling it over any nearby garden fence.

That kind of dog mess strategy means animals can eat it. Worse still, small children can pick them up or the canine excrement gets ridden on and spread around by cyclists.

Note: Anyone taking care of horses may know they are attracted to the smell of the cereal content in dog poo. Horse will eat it and it can kill them! Please make sure you take a dog poop bag home or put it in a bin.

Stick and Flick Dog Poop Strategy

Dog owners must '**work with human nature**'. Few will carry a messy dollop of dog poop on a two-hour dog walk - and there are few rubbish bins in country forest regions.

Ministers may press for better signage at entrances to forest areas and parks. The signs would give advice and guidance for proper dog poo disposal.

The Forestry Commission backs the campaign for dog walkers to adopt a 'stick and flick' method. They suggest flicking the mess off pathways and into the undergrowth. Another solution is to cover it with leaves if you cannot find a poopstick.

Karen Debenham

Minute item 18: Footpaths report

NEW ISSUES May 2020

Dog Mess ; A resident has reported issues and suggested provision of dog waste bins

Action: See separate note reference 'Stick and Flick' & provision by PC of suitable signage

Footpath Marker Issues

Reported to GG Farms who advise all signage is Council responsibility . Now being reported to council.

A. Corner of New Road Field Footpath - sign starting to fall over



B. The Grove by Lodge- Sign fallen over, may not be in correct location GG Farms think it should be positioned by kissing gate.

C. Hall Farm Front meadow area -signs starting to fall over



D - Before Hall Farm –Sign starting to lean

E. Chapel Lane Top of Horsefield - Permissive Sign leaning



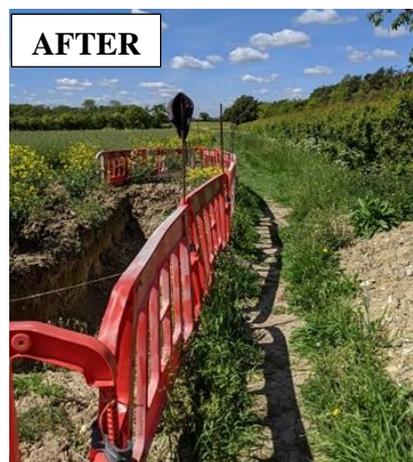
Resolved Issues

In Feb 2020 the following issues were reported to GG Farms and Council– most have now been resolved

A. Hall Farm Path Long Term Works

Barriers regularly blown into the hole over past 6m, presenting a Health and Safety risk

Action Complete:- Barriers now secured and anchored by metal poles thank you



B. Bridge Across towards Low Rd

Becoming unstable, damage to timbers and sunken planks presenting a potential risk

Action Complete: - Bridge has now been replaced with new bridge at GG farms cost, thank you



C. Entrance beside Old School.

Broken Path Map Sign

Action: Permitted path sign cleared away to side thanks – GG farms will replace permissive sign in due course.



D. Exit Church Field

Wear and damage to little bridge in top corner

Action: Still in progress this is Council responsibility, awaiting update



E. Corner of Low Rd Near Bottle Bank

Broken permissive path sign

Action: Damaged sign removed thanks – GG farms will replace permissive sign in due course.



Karen Debenham