

**Minutes of a special meeting of Great Glemham Parish Council held in the Village Hall from  
7:00pm on 6 February 2015**

1. **PRESENT:** Jennifer Beaumont; John Cross; Karen Debenham; Julian Duggan; Damian Ferrar; Elaine Lewis (Chairman) Peter Lincoln; Diane Minns; Duncan McIver, Nicholas Redman (Honorary Clerk).
2. **APOLOGIES:** Argus Gathorne-Hardy and Mark Runnacles (both work commitments).
3. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Around 12 electors.
4. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** Jennifer Beaumont, Peter Lincoln and Duncan McIver each declared local non-pecuniary interests as member of the Village Hall Management Committee which was seeking to obtain some of the community benefit money paid by the operators of the solar park on Parham Airfield. Elaine Lewis signed an entry to this effect in the register of interests.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 214<sup>TH</sup> MEETING ON 28 NOVEMBER 2014:** These minutes were approved and Elaine Lewis signed the copy in the minutes book as true record of the meeting.
6. **CHANGE OF DATE OF MAY MEETING:** This was now to be held on 18 May. **ACTION:** All to note.
7. **EXPLANATION OF THE COMMUNITY BENEFIT SCHEME:** Elaine Lewis outlined her proposed means of running the meeting. She also covered scope for grants from Councillor Burroughes' locality fund and the two village charities: the non-ecclesiastical charity which had now secured a formal relaxation of its objects; and the school trust, which presently prioritised the support of those in formal education.

Nicholas Redman explained the wide range of the scheme. The solar park operators, Bay-wa, had no say over the projects and schemes for which the community benefit money could be used: SCDC was a party to the agreement but only so that it could, if necessary, enforce payments by Bay-wa. The first of the 25 annual payments to be made was £5,140.94. The payments were index-linked but also subject to a tapering mechanism (probably to reflect the decline in the efficiency of the solar panels over time). The parish council had to form a "reasonable" opinion about which projects and schemes could be supported using the payments. This was not the same as the "right" opinion but the Chairman recommended that reasons be expressly given to all payments made by the parish council from the community benefit money. Nicholas Redman advised that there was no need for every single payment of community benefit money benefited every single elector. For example, if some volunteers wished to investigate the possibility of taking over the business formerly run from the Crown Inn, the willingness of the parish council to support (for example) the costs of a feasibility study or the fees involved in forming a company would be reasonable even though not every

elector had once enjoyed the offerings of the Crown Inn. However, it would become sensible to review payments made (as well as those discussed but not made) with a view to ensuring that, over time, different groups with different interests had the scope to fund projects and schemes using the community benefit money. So that previous suggestions could be referred to and reviewed at future meetings at which the scheme was to be discussed, a copy of the table prepared by Elaine Lewis referred to below is to be included in the minute book.  
**ACTION:** Nicholas Redman.

8. **DISCUSSION:** Elaine Lewis suggested that, to start with, discussion be focused on a table that she had made of all claims so far made for community benefit money. An adapted and truncated version of the table is set out below to record the projects and schemes that the parish council agreed to support:

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PROJECT/ SCHEME	COMMENT	REASONS
Village Hall	<p>Generally, the village hall holds some reserves but its insurer has now withdrawn cover for flood damage so its plan is to build up those reserves so that it is in a position to self-insure.</p> <p>The village hall shed is in very poor condition and there is a need to find covered storage for the mower used on Butchers Field as well as staging and other equipment. The parish council agreed to contribute one-half of the estimated cost of £2,200 on the basis that the Village Hall committee seeks the remainder of the estimated cost from Councillor Burroughes' Locality budget. <b>ACTION:</b> Nicholas Redman to make contact in first instance with Councillor Burroughes.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Damian Ferrar would consider the feasibility of holding workshops at which residents could acquire skills (noting that attendance at such events hosted as part of the launch of Butchers Field was not high).</p>	<p>The village hall remains the pre-eminent public facility in Great Glemham and is used for an increasing number of purposes. This justifies the contribution to the cost of the shed and other projects and schemes relating to the hall.<sup>1</sup></p>
Community transport	<p>In addition to the shoppers bus, the dial-a-ride service and (shortly) a new weekly scheduled service, the PCC is in the process of compiling a list of those willing to drive residents to medical and other appointments. The parish council could assist with dissemination of the list. As the drivers were</p>	<p>For very little cost, assistance could be made more easily accessible to those without a car or access to a car; such persons were often elderly</p>

	<p>volunteers, it was generally understood that their motor insurance policies would not be prejudiced.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Julian Duggan would investigate how a scheme under which electric bikes could be offered to the community (apparently such a scheme had been set up in Cookley).</p>	<p>or otherwise in need of such assistance.</p>
<b>Church repairs</b>	<p>Repairs were required to the Church. Total costs were £942.</p>	<p>Given the significance of the church building (and its likely importance during flooding given the proximity of the village hall to the Gull/River Glem), support of these repairs to the extent of £500 was thought appropriate.</p>
<b>Butcher's Field</b>	<p>Suggestions included: sports area where team games like rounders, football or tennis can be played without risk to the nature area (perhaps with a fence to protect local properties and small football goals or a tennis net).</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Nicholas Redman would raise with the landowners the possibility of obtaining a longer-term interest in Butchers Field and, <u>in addition</u>, the land to the <u>East-West</u> of it <u>for communal activities to be finalised</u>. He would also raise the possibility of an extension to the network of permissive paths.</p> <p>Provision of services (electricity, water) to Butchers Field so as to facilitate the holding of events there.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Nicholas Redman would investigate this on the basis that the supplies could be separately metered and that access to the socket/tap would be secured.</p>	<p>Given the success of the Butchers Field project (it was now a well-established village asset) and the repeated requests for a goal, it was agreed to support the acquisition of a small (training) goal of a robust nature which could be fixed to the ground (to prevent it being dragged into the fall area near the swings and/or theft) but able to be removed periodically to allow mowing. The details should be agreed with the Butchers Field friends group.</p>
<b>Social event</b>	<p>2015 marked the centenary of the village hall. Many present felt that this should be suitably marked, perhaps with a Hog Roast? <b>ACTION:</b> Nicholas Redman to work with the village hall committee to</p>	<p>The anniversary of this key village building was a highly significant one and it was right and appropriate</p>

	this end.	that it should be marked.
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Meeting closed at 9:15pm.

NA Redman, Honorary Clerk 10 February 2015

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<sup>1</sup> Other village matters discussed comprised:

- **Solar panels (benefit of feed-in tariffs)** Peter Lincoln will arrange for a solar company to advise on whether the scheme/project would be worthwhile given the orientation of the roof. If so, matter will be re-visited. At the same time, the possibility of the parish council using future community benefit payments to widen the availability of solar power in the parish would also be investigated.  
**ACTION:** Peter Lincoln and Julian Duggan.
- **More sensitive thermostat/insulation** Insulation was installed around 13 years ago and so is likely to be efficient. Thermostats will be adjusted and, where necessary, replaced as part of hall maintenance plan.
- **Equipment** Bowls mats, staging, lighting, kitchen equipment: Bowls mats, etc, staging & lighting already exist. Kitchen equipment is presently sound.
- **Village Hall wireless broadband** This was offered free of charge by Fram Broadband.  
**ACTION:** Peter Lincoln to work with Fram Broadband as to the installation.