

GREAT GLEMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk
Suzie Grogan
07507 064052

2023/18

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 12 December 2023

Present: Councillors Argus Gathorne-Hardy, John Cross, Sasha French, John Mercer and Ed Benson

Apologies: Councillors Lyndsay Wright, Mark Lissaman

In attendance: Suzie Grogan, clerk, Vince Langdon-Morris (ESC), Rachel Wyartt (Village Hall), Diane Minns (Village Hall)

1 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted for Councillors Wright and Lissaman

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes 12 September 2023

The minutes for the last meeting of the Council were proposed by Councillor Mercer, seconded by Councillor Cross, unanimously approved and signed.

4 Matters arising

No matters arising.

5 Report from Councillor Langdon-Morris

Councillor Langdon-Morris apologise for needing to leave the meeting early to attend another in Framlingham regarding the flood response, but was keen to update the council on the current position on that subject. Flood relief to individuals of £500 is being distributed swiftly now along with offering a moratorium on council tax. The deadline for applications is 30th December.

Flood claim support information is on the Framlingham Town Council website.

Town Council has approved the figure of £5000 for the employment of a consultant to evaluate the flood response. Cllr Langdon-Morris suggested that the parishes within Framlingham ward take half a day of the consultant's time to ensure the evaluation covers their particular issues.

The Chair asked whether it was possible to use CIL monies for flood relief. Cllr Langdon-Morris to research.

Meeting agreed it was important for East Suffolk to establish a proper resilience fund as it is becoming clear this will not be a 'once in 80 years' event.

Flood response to be discussed later in meeting.

Signed.....

Date.....

2023/19

6. Public Forum

Councillor Cross drew the meeting's attention to an email from Richard Nichols pointing out omission of his suggestions for the capital projects list, i.e. in relation to Butcher's Field and the adoption of a speed limiter 'smiley face' and suggestions for better communication with the village via a leaflet drop.
2023/19

Cllr Gaythorne-Hardy stated that the lease on Butcher's Field has expired and it is now available to the parish on a rolling agreement and goodwill of the landlord. The Council is responsible for the inspection and insurance of the play equipment. It is not for sale but Cllr Gaythorne-Hardy is keen for the current arrangement to continue and will review the legal position and come to the next meeting with a proposal.

Cllrs Debenham and Cross told the meeting that when the previous speed limiter was purchased full costings and reports of effectiveness were undertaken and the best option chosen within the funds available, bearing in mind that research suggested there was little difference in the effectiveness when smiley face was added. The matter will be considered again when the equipment next requires an upgrade.

The use of a leaflet drop was noted and agreed as a way forward.

7. Flood response.

Representation was made and an update given by Rachel Wyartt on behalf of the Village Hall. The building has been condemned and will be out of use for at least a year. Only the Village Hall committee have the new security code for entry.

With thanks to Len Chamberlain who has undertaken some remedial work either free of charge or at a reduced cost. Awaiting a surveyor's report for next steps and will get three quotes for building works.

VH advised to make an application to the Council for a grant from the Solar Fund. Discussed need for preventive measures and meeting agreed to take up Cllr Langdon-Morris's suggestion of requesting half a day of consultant time, first messaging Clerks in Parham and Cransford to ask them to be part of the process. Clerk to action.

Clerk also to message Cllr Langdon-Morris about access to CIL monies and the uses funds can be put to.

Village Hall has £12k in reserves.

Parish Council to leverage match funding where possible.

A flood committee meeting to be convened when survey and quotes received.

To note: floods seriously affected seven properties from Butcher's Piece to Lavender Cottage and Providence Cottage.

Thanks to Charlie and Holly Steed for their valuable assistance.

Diane Minns raised the issue of the bin on Butcher's Field which is increasingly difficult to manage, filling up with water. A new bin was requested and agreed. Diane Minns having difficulties emptying it

Signed.....Date.....

now. Agreed Cllr Benson will order a new bin up to £300 and will be responsible for emptying it from the date of the meeting.

2023/20

8. Planning Matters

Cllr Debenham declared an interest in items a) and b). Meeting agreed no comments need be submitted on those or on c).

9. Finance

Clerk to pay invoice for First Aid training as soon as possible.
Schedule of payments agreed and to be signed. Bank reconciliation also to be signed.
2023/18

Budget for next year not yet agreed. Clerk to confirm to the District Council that there need be no increase in the precept again next year. Meeting proposed confirming confidence in the budget figures indicating that no increase is needed. Proposed by Cllr Mercer and seconded by Cllr French.

Clerk and Cllr Cross to meet to discuss development of new budget and circulate to the group

| Payee | Amount | Reason | Method of payment | Statute |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| S Grogan | 323.20 | Clerk's salary October/November | BACS | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| HMRC | 80.80 | PAYE | BACS | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| SALC | 72.00 | Clerk training | BACS | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| Karen Debenham | 56.58 | Battery charger | BACS | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| D. Tayler | 65.40 | Clerk's Salary | BACS | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| HMRC | 43.60 | PAYE | BACS | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| One Suffolk | 60.00 | Website hosting | BACS | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| ROSPA | 111.00 | Play area inspection | BACS | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| Village Hall | 200.00 | Grant for crafts evening | BACS | LGA 1972 s.111 |
| D Tayler | 200.00 | Clerk's salary | BACS | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| HMRC | 133.20 | PAYE | BACS | LGA 1972 s.112 |
| James Hallam Insurance | 329.49 | Renewal | BACS | LGA 1972 s.111 |

c) bank reconciliation prepared for September to 1st December ready for check and signature process by Cllr Debenham reconciliation.

10. Community issues

a) Suffolk Highways, Speeding and Road Related Issues

Cllr Debenham to prepare and circulate rota for regular moving of the speed indicator.

Cllr Debenham and volunteers to look at footpaths. They are very muddy at present.

2023/21

Cllr Gaythorne Hardy detailed the recent planting of buffer strips of up to 6 metres planted beside footpaths to prevent run off and ensure footpaths are drier.

Clerk to email Village Info and request further volunteers for the list necessary to ensure insurance requirements are met.

b) *Butchers Field (Cllr Benson)*

Signed.....Date.....

Nothing to report. Thanks to Cllr Benson noted. He will trim hedgerows around the last day of February.

c) *Plastic Champions (Cllr Cross)*

2023/21

Owing to loss of Village Hall this project is postponed.

d) *Community Partnerships*

Title of item amended. Councillor Cross confirmed that the priorities remain the same – for example to combat loneliness, support rural transport and support young people. Katch now running between Framlingham and Snape via Wickham Market station.

e) *Footpaths (Cllr Debenham)*

Covered under Highways.

f) *Climate initiative (Cllr Mercer)*

Thermal imaging camera update. Cllr Mercer fully trained and undertaking paperwork. Cameras can be loaned for a minimum of two weeks. A further round robin to householders to be sent by Cllr Mercer to agree on dates and firm up interest. A house must be identified suitable for enabling calibration of camera for accurate readings.

Cllr Cross requested the purchase of a grit bin to be sited at Pound Farm Corner where grit dump is inadequate and danger real. Meeting agreed to the sum of £350 for purchase. Cllr Cross to liaise with clerk for purchase and clerk to inform County Council to be added to the list for filling.

h) *Wild East (Cllr Gathorne-Hardy)*

Nothing to report.

i) *Low Carbon Solar Farm*

Response from Cllr Owen Gray that contact was made with LCS mentioning that the district is keen to reengage and asking them to document what was already agreed. Planning permission was granted but LCS are simply promoters and will sell the idea and permissions on. No indication as to when a scheme will go ahead.

11. Next meetings

The next meeting will be on 27th February at 6.30pm hosted by Cllr Mercer at the Old School House whilst the Village Hall is out of action.

Future dates: 14th May 2024 AGM and Annual Meeting

24th September 2024

10th December 2024