

Minutes relating to the 2014 annual meetings and the 212th meeting held in Great Glemham Village Hall at 8:00pm on Friday 16 May 2014

PRESENT: Jennifer Beaumont; John Cross; Karen Debenham; Julian Duggan; Argus-Gathorne-Hardy; Elaine Lewis; Duncan McIver; Diane Minns; Nicholas Redman. **APOLOGIES:** Damian Ferrar (work commitment); Peter Lincoln (pre-booked holiday); Mark Runnacles (family commitment); PCSO 3051 Kevin Mann (work commitment). **IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Burroughes; Mr Patrick Wilson; Mrs Nicola Redman and three electors. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:** After being duly proposed and seconded and there being no other candidates, Elaine Lewis was re-elected by the parish council as chairman for the 2014/15 administrative year. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None was declared for any of the meetings covered in the agenda. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR 2013 ANNUAL MEETINGS:** These were approved and the chairman signed the copy in the minute book. **APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS AND ADVISERS FOR 2014/15:** The following were appointed: **Responsible Financial Officer and Honorary Clerk** - Nicholas Redman; **Internal Auditor** - Hugh Gathorne-Hardy FCA; **Highways Officer** - Jennifer Beaumont; **Transport Officer** - Nicholas Redman; **Village Hall Representative** - Duncan McIver; **SALC/Community Action Suffolk Liaison Officer** - John Cross; **Sizewell C Liaison Officer** - John Cross; **Emergency Preparedness Adviser** - Patrick Wilson; **Non-Ecclesiastical Trust Representative** - Nicholas Redman.

The chairman noted that Mrs Rosemary Lincoln wished to relinquish her responsibilities relating to the website but was willing to train up a willing replacement. The chairman asked that anyone willing to take over from Mrs Lincoln should make contact with the parish council; the chairman suggested that the website could remain untended for two weeks to allow willing parties to come forward. The chairman also felt that it would be useful for there to be a vice-chairman who could use the 2014/15 administrative year working with her with a view to learning what the chairman's role entailed and maybe to becoming chairman in the following year.

REPORTS: The following reports were made:

Chairman's report: This is appended.

Police: The Hon Clerk summarised a report he had received earlier from PCSO 3051 Mann. In the year ending 30 April there had been five reported offences (three thefts and two incidences of criminal damage). In the previous year there had been seven offences. This compared well to other nearby parishes. The Hon Clerk mentioned that he had been approached by the police who wondered whether anyone in Great Glemham wished to be a neighbourhood watch co-ordinator. Anyone who was interested should approach the Hon Clerk.

SCDC and SCC: Councillor Burroughes reported that, in relation to the planned Sizewell C, a "four village by-pass" (covering Marlesford, Little Glemham, Stratford St Andrew and Farnham) was a top priority for SCC. He regarded the developer, EDF, as being "cagey" and he would be urging SCC to get some straight answers from EDF. He was considering forming a group of key people in parishes either directly or indirectly affected by EDF's plans to work with SCC and SCDC so that the views of those parishes could be made clear to EDF. He noted that big questions (such as the accommodation of the work force and the routes to be used by contractors) were still open. He felt that, while EDF was a commercial operator, there was some scope for the development bringing a "legacy" to the area. John Cross raised the point that many contractors and suppliers would reach the site using satnavs and that this may well take them away from designated routes especially if approaching on the A14 from the West. Councillor Burroughes agreed to take this point forward in conjunction with the SCC portfolio holder for transport, Councillor Newman.

Councillor Burroughes also reported on the first of his Divisional Briefing sessions (attended by the Chairman). He pointed out at that briefing that SCC was providing locality funding for appropriate community projects. The parish council agreed to hold one such session in the village hall at its expense in 2014/15.

He was also involved in the scrutiny of the SCC education department and determined to improve Suffolk's educational performance.

As to SCDC, he reported on a proposed relocation of the SCDC headquarters. The sale of the old site in Melton Hill for development would pay for the creation of a new office. SCDC was offering enabling funding for appropriate community projects.

Butchers Field: A report from Mrs Crystal Runnacles and Mrs Di McIver is appended.

Emergency preparedness: Patrick Wilson reported that much useful information was available from the website of the Suffolk Resilience Forum. Fortunately, the bad weather that had affected parts of the south and the west of the country during the 2013/14 winter had not reached Suffolk. As to Sizewell, emergency plans were being updated. Great Glemham was now in the "extended emergency planning zone" though this had no

practical effect on electors here. The de-commissioning of the A station was likely to decrease risks of nuclear incidents.

Sustainability: Julian Duggan reported that he saw sustainability as being achieved through making the community resilient to shocks such as tanker drivers' strikes and adverse weather. He also pondered whether the community might benefit from an "hourbank" system which allowed electors to barter services and so on.

Broadband: The Chairman felt that the option most likely option to help the village was the 2Mbps pledge due to take effect in 2015. However, this would not be up-graded further. She had liaised with those driving forward the SCC/BT plan earlier in the year and they had agreed to keep her in touch with developments (there was a possibility of new funding becoming available and Councillor Burroughes was lobbying hard for this). For the moment, Fram Broadband was getting ready to implement its wireless system once the church authorities had agreed to the use of local churches for siting masts and aerials.

Great Glemham Farms: Argus Gathorne-Hardy gave a quick overview on progress with the Higher Level Stewardship plans. The farm classroom had been set up at White House farm and had been used for primary and secondary lessons as well as by students at Easton and Otley college. The sward at the solar farm site was getting established: the hedging had taken well and there had been some re-planting to deal with damage by hares. Wild bird plots had been re-seeded, as had nectar rich plots. A chart relating to spraying had been prepared by GGF and their contractors, the Watts brothers. This would be finalised with a view to it going on the parish council website.

SALC/Community Action Suffolk/Sizewell C: John Cross made a short report. This covered the Sizewell C forum meetings which focused principally on the immediate environs of the site.

School Trust: Mrs Nicola Redman reported that the trust had made seven educational grants: five for school leavers; one for a high school starter; and one for a primary school starter. Four individual grant and one community grant had also been made. The trust's accounts and application forms for grants would be distributed with the June edition of *Ebb & Flow*.

K6 kiosk: Mrs Nicola Redman reported that a damaged pane had been kindly replaced by Mr David Lewis and Mr David Creed. Currently, a re-stocking was taking place in readiness for a renewed children's bookswap. Good quality children's books would be welcome. There were also plans for the K6 kiosk to have a role in the Open Gardens event to be held in the summer.

Non-ecclesiastical trust: The Hon Clerk reported that the trust had changed its constitution with the approval of the Charity Commission with the aim of making it easier to give grants to support community initiatives. This year, there had been two applicants. The archive group had been given £150 to assist with the cost of making records more accessible (for example, copying and laminating documents). With the centenary of the start of World War One and the 70th anniversary of D-Day looming, the archive group was looking for relevant materials (not just relating to military issues but also to community life at the time). The other applicant was the Keep Fit group which was granted £120 with a view to defraying the cost of hire of the village hall.

MATTERS RAISED BY ELECTORS: Mr Patrick Wilson reported that he had received some complaints from those living close the composting plant on Parham Airfield of unpleasant smells. Indeed, sometimes the odours could be detected in the centre of the village. He sat on the liaison group relating to the plant and would raise the issue with the manager, Mr Ryan, and liaise with the Hon Clerk so that, if necessary, a formal representation could be made by the parish council to the plant's operators, Tamar. Mr Wilson suggested that the parish council be "vigilant" about rumours of Tamar using anaerobic digestion techniques at the site.

Mr Wilson pondered whether the parish council should consider moving its funds from the Co-operative Bank to another clearing bank in the light of rumours of instability and mis-management throughout the Co-operative organisation. It was noted that the government's security scheme did not apply to organisations only individuals.

Mr Wilson also pondered whether something should be done relating to un-tended domestic hedges growing over the highway.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS: These would be held on a date in May 2015 to be arranged.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE 211TH MEETING (28 FEBRUARY 2014): These were approved and the chairman signed the copy in the minute book.

FINANCIAL/AUDIT: The Hon Clerk read out the figures from the draft Audit form. These were approved. He also read out the necessary resolutions and these were all agreed and passed. He obtained approval for payment of the village hall hire fee for all of this evening's meetings. The Hon Clerk reported that William

Debenham was willing to assist in the mowing of Butchers Field (subject to the requirements of his school work). It was agreed that he could do this after a briefing about the mower and the work required from Mark Runnacles. He should be paid a going rate for the work done. This was approved. **ACTION:** Hon Clerk to finalise the audit return and send it to the external auditors, BDO.

PLANNING: The Hon Clerk mentioned that SCDC was to undertake a review of the conservation area appraisal which was last done in 1999. He would relay proposed changes to a future meeting, possibly one convened specially for that purpose. He also reported that SCDC had now served an enforcement notice in relation to the various breaches of planning control at High Grove Woods.

HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY: Jennifer Beaumont reported that two potholes in Workhouse Lane had been repaired by SCC. She had SCC's assurance that the holes at the side of the road crossing Parham Airfield would be repaired. The Hon Clerk reported that he had relayed to SCC's Rights of Way team the damage to the balustrade on the steps leading into Botany Lane. SCC had promised to repair such damage. **ACTION:** JB and Hon Clerk to chase SCC to the extent necessary.

TRANSPORT MATTERS: The Hon Clerk reported that he had given the parish council's support to a proposal by East Suffolk Travellers Association for various improvements to public transport provision in and around Saxmundham. He had also made representations to Mr Andrew Gee of SCC about the re-tendering of local bus services. He referred to the additional shoppers' service now being run by Mr Morse: trips to and from Ipswich ran on the first and third Tuesdays in the month. He had not heard back from Councillor Newman on representations made in relation to a local bus service connecting Framlingham and Saxmundham and serving Great Glemham and other local businesses.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Jennifer Beaumont mentioned that an elector who lived near her had been troubled on many occasions by a next door neighbour's music. The Hon Clerk mentioned a noise service run by SCDC. This intervened in such issues but would first need a "log" of complaints specifying dates, times and so on. It would be entirely proper for a parish councillor to approach those affected by the noise and to note down such details, to collate that information and then to pass it to SCDC which would then deal with the source of the noise (if necessary in conjunction with the police). **ACTION:** JB to work with NR on assembling the necessary information.

NEXT MEETING: The 213th meeting was scheduled for 19th September at 8:00pm

NA Redman, Honorary Clerk

3 June 2014