

GREAT GLEMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE 230th MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL Held on Monday 2nd September 2019 in the Village Hall at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllr Gathorne-Hardy, Cllr Beaumont, Cllr Lissaman, and Cllr Cross.

Also in attendance: County Cllr Burroughes and District Cllr Cook for some of the meeting. There was one member of the public and one invited speaker.

Note some agenda items were moved forward in order to meet people's needs to attend further meetings the same night but the minutes will be presented in the agenda order for the sake of uniformity.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed everyone. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr French, Cllr Debenham and Cllr Runnacles. Cllr Benson was also absent from the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

2.1 Members were reminded of their obligations under the Suffolk Code of Conduct including the Nolan Principles of Public Office

2.2 There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests and to consider any requests for dispensations. Cllr Runnacles was unable to sign his Declaration of Office due to his absence.

3. Public Forum

3.1 The report from County Cllr Burroughes had been issued to all prior to the meeting and is available as a separate report. He highlighted the problems with school transport and catchment areas, both issues he is working on to resolve. Pupils are now allocated the nearest school although in practice it is not always feasible as a footpath that may be accessible in the spring and summer months may be impassable in the winter months. He reiterated the problem with Suffolk Highways in that he has been badgering them since 2013 to reinstate the white lines on the village roads. Highways do not have a protocol to clear outstanding reports that have been on the list for several years. This was considered as very unsatisfactory and he was asked to obtain clarity on the matter. Members felt that a report that had been listed for over 5 years, as in the white lines repainting, should be given some urgency in terms of getting the work done. He was also asked about the poor state of many of the Highways signs which were covered in algae or vegetation and were barely legible. Current Highways requirements under their Self-Help Scheme are that volunteers have to attend a day's training course before carrying out such work. Volunteers do not wish to engage with this time consuming and costly procedure. He was asked if Highways could instead host an online computer course which would be easier for volunteers to agree to. **Action:** *County Cllr Burroughes to raise our objection with Highways that reported issues can remain on the list indefinitely without resolution and obtain clarity how the protocol could be change so that 5+ year old Highways reports can be resolved; County Cllr Burroughes to seek answers re possible online computer course re Self Help scheme*

District Cllr Cook was welcomed and reviewed his report. Regular detailed monthly reports are being received and are issued as a separate report. The transition from two councils into one super council (East Suffolk) was going well. He stressed the need to apply to him for grants from his locality budget but added that he would not usually fully fund a project, his preference was to match fund or co-fund projects. He is passionate about green issues and the environment. The lack of local buses is a big concern. He reminded everyone present that the national political agenda can affect local issues as well - the civil parking enforcement bill still has to go through parliament but may be delayed with the current situation. The Chair commented that any developments with local transport will be very welcome due to the complete lack of facilities in Great Glemham and any contribution to traffic calming measures to turn roads back into safer streets would be gratefully received.

Action: *Clerk to write to Dist. Cllr Cook thanking him for his attendance and offer of match funding for traffic calming measures*

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The Chair gave a brief update on Great Glemham Farms (GGF) – the harvest was complete. The next event was the Plomesgate Fair at White House Farm from 14th September for a two-week period.

3.2 There were no matters for the attention of the Parish Council from members of the public.

4. Minutes of last meeting

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of 20 May were approved and signed.

4.2 The following matters are o/s from those minutes:

Setting up of Skype with County Cllr Burroughes. As Cllr Burroughes had left the premises, the clerk will expedite this with him. *Action: Clerk to expedite Skype for meetings*

5. Vacancies and number of elected Councillors

There are 8 elected members with 4 vacancies. Clerk confirmed request acknowledged by East Suffolk Council to reduce the number of Councillors to 10. Note they have 12 months from the date of the request to carry out a Community Governance Review (CGR). It was agreed Councillors would talk to potential Councillors face to face to try and encourage new blood onto the Parish Council. There should be a Parish Councillor on the Village Hall Committee. *Action: Councillors to liaise with the village hall committee*

6. Suffolk Highways, Speeding and Road Related Issues

6.1 The Chair reported on the proposed SID locations and the option of village entry gates. It was agreed there were two suitable options – downhill into Chapel Lane and downhill into the Street as you approach the pub coming from Parham Airfield. The Chair to confirm the locations to Cllr Debenham for her to pursue with Highways. It was concluded there was no suitable location at this time for village entry gates bearing in mind the cost involved.

6.2 Suffolk Highways lack of protocol was discussed with County Cllr Burroughes under minute item 3.1 above.

7. Sizewell C Update

Peter Wilkinson, chair of TASC (Take Action Against Sizewell) was welcomed and addressed the room as follows:- He gave a resume of his experience of being involved since 2003 on a Government Committee about radioactive waste and of being involved in nuclear power stations (n.p.s) since then. TASC has been in existence for approx. 7 years. Sizewell B is due to operate until 2036 with Sizewell C and D being projected. These are large developments on a very small cramped site. There are seven energy projects along the coast from Friston to Sizewell, on what is an eroding coastline. The lead time for a n.p.s. is 12 – 15 years. There are only a couple of percentage points difference between a n.p.s. and a conventional power station once you take into consideration all the background work and the transport requirements to build a nuclear one in terms of the burning of the uranium fuel rods and then the disposal of waste plutonium. There are lots of problems associated with building n.p.s. including basic language considerations with French and Chinese speaking personnel. There are ominous links between a n.p.s. and nuclear weapons. He stated that electricity demand is falling, a reduction of 16% over the last 10 years. Projections are that once Hinckley and Sizewell come on stream, the demand for electricity will have fallen further, renewable energy will have increased so we could effectively have a white elephant on a crumbling coastline. Disposal of the waste takes tens of thousands of years and is a huge long-winded process. New build waste brings its own problems; it is far hotter and more radioactive and will go on for generations to come. There are health issues involved. In a village near Sellafeld, there was a 10-fold increase in leukaemia cases. A German survey reported a 1.6 to 2-fold increase in cases.

Our local roads will not support a mass evacuation in the event of a problem at Sizewell. The emergency plan simply will not work. Accidents may be low risk but they have very high consequences in the event of something happening. We cannot legislate against unforeseen incidents. Finance – we were told it had to be self-funding but now EDF are adding a levy to each and every householders' bills. Sizewell will be an island due to coastal erosion within approx. 100 years according to the environment agency. He quoted "A tea cup size of high-level waste in the middle of a football pitch would leave everyone dead before they left the centre circle."

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He added that France was 75% dependant on nuclear energy but are reluctant to build any more new stations with one currently late and well over budget. Germany are not building any new nuclear reactors. Countries are turning their backs on nuclear power.

The Chair thanked him for his informative presentation giving us a lot of data to take to our parishioners summarised as follows: congested site, impact on AONB, waste management, timescales and decommissioning of A and B, transport strategy, evacuation process, and coastal erosion management. Our response to Sizewell C must be lodged by 27th September. Our submission can only reflect on the areas within the consultation documents. **Action:** Clerk to prepare response. Chair & Vice Chair to review

8. **Parham Composting Plant Update** – No report available as volunteer currently on holiday.
Action: Clerk to ensure he is invited to the next meeting
9. **Butchers Field Update** – The report dated 21 July concerned everyone with incidents of vandalism in the Field including the willow structures. These have since been rectified and the latest report shows all is in good order with an official play inspection due this month. Our volunteer feels the time has come to hand the baton over to someone else but will carry on till the end of January when he would like to hand over to a new volunteer. The Chair thanked him for his tremendous work and dedication over the past few years.
10. **Parish Notice Board update** – various designs were reviewed and the general consensus was that a wall mounted one may be the best use of space. Whatever design is finally chosen, it needs to look presentable and the cheapest option is not the most visually attractive one. **Action:** Clerk to write to the Village Hall Committee stating our wishes to erect a stand-alone Parish Council board as the current board is too limiting in terms of space and the amount of literature we have to communicate to parishioners. Options are a new one adjacent to the existing one or a wall mounted one on the side of the village hall
11. **Planning**
- 11.1 There were no planning applications to consider
- 11.2 There were no planning determinations to note
- 11.3 It was noted that DC/19/2798/COU re Dumgoyne planning application was still awaiting a final decision. Note the Parish Council did not comment on this application at the time as it fell outside of set meeting dates and was not seen to be contentious in any way.
A Guidance for Planning Decisions document distributed to each Councillor for future reference.
The Clerk reported that she had received confirmation that the mobile home and portable toilet in High Grove Woods had been removed, the offenders had paid approx. £9K in costs, and the case was now closed.
12. **General Governance including General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**
- 12.1 The following outstanding policies were approved and adopted:
- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Publication Scheme | Information Available |
| Data Protection Policy (v2 from Cllr Cross) | Powers delegated to the Clerk/RFO |
- Document re Completion of Roles and Responsibilities to be finalised by the clerk after input from members at this meeting ensuring all groups with monies held by the Parish Council are included in the document. It was noted that we do not have any Committees as such under the authority of the Parish Council as they would require their own terms of reference. We can have working parties for specific projects but these cannot make decisions, they can only recommend them.
- 12.2 Meetings Calendar distributed to all for the forthcoming year with planned quarterly tasks.
- 12.3 Note some emails to Councillors going into spam therefore please add the clerk's email address to your safe senders list. **Action:** All Councillors to ensure this is done
- 12.4 Councillor briefings attended in June by 3 Councillors. Cllr Lissaman to consider training dates in order to complete his Councillor training course and let clerk know of chosen dates so she can book on his behalf. Note we have 2 Good Councillor Guides. Clerk to order another 6 from SALC so every potential Councillor has their own copy to refer to. **Action:** Cllr Lissaman to advise dates to clerk and clerk to order books
- 12.5 To note Draft ICO Data Sharing of Practice for information only. Note the following link:-
<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news/entry/1247-nalc-to-respond-to-new%20consultation-on-the-data-sharing-code-of-practice>

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13. Insurance Renewal

It was agreed to accept the new Parish Protect Policy offered by Community Action Suffolk which gave a clearer indication of cover for volunteers acting on the Council's behalf. Payment information listed under minute item 17 below.

14. Rural Coffee Caravan – Outcome noted and report read from Tuesday Teas. Clerk to ask if they would be supportive of the Rural Coffee Caravan visiting once a quarter or thereabouts to coincide with Tuesday Teas. Would need to advertise more to attract people. **Action:** Clerk to contact Tuesday Teas

15. East Suffolk Local Plan – Cllr Cross had attended the workshop. There was no appetite for a parish plan in the past. Clerk to submit comments stating Parish Council generally supportive of the plan. However no co-ordination in regard to local transport with no regular trains or buses, and no investment in local transport. We recognise we are a small village with the ability to grow with appropriate development within the scope of the plan. We support small infill as we have always done in the village.

16. To note accessibility laws re websites and update on new website – the Clerk flagged up the requirement to comply by September 2020. We have a new site, although already published on the web, it is not fully up and running, kindly operated by Cllr Lissaman. It was agreed a new website launch is required. The current One Suffolk website is maintained by Cllr Debenham and the Clerk. The Clerk and Cllrs Lissaman and Debenham to meet to discuss changeover to new site including all necessary documentation. Note midweek term time is best for Cllr Lissaman excluding Wednesdays. **Action:** Clerk to coordinate meeting

17. Financial Matters

17.1 The following payments were approved:

Amount	Payee	Details	Cheque No.
£12.79	S.A.L.C.	1/3 training costs re planning course	200277
£87.04	East Suffolk Council	Uncontested election costs	200278
£22.40	S Beaumont	Village lawnmower petrol for Butchers Field	200279
£732.80	Caroline Emeny	Clerks remuneration including Sept 2019	200280
£61.79	Caroline Emeny	Clerks expenses	200280
£38.20	H M R C	PAYE	200281
£257.49	Community Action Suffolk	To pay agreed provider in agenda item 13 above	200282

The following payment has been made not minuted since the last meeting:-

10/7/19 £58.70 Chq. No. 200276 to SALC – payment of Councillor briefing training and literature

17.2 There were no receipts to note.

17.3 Councillors were given the current budget document in order to review before the December meeting when they will be issued with an up to date financial statement showing any variances to date.

18. Correspondence – The following items of correspondence were noted and any actions agreed as stated:

Date	Detail	Actions if any
30/8/19	Councillor Training slides sent by email	For Councillors to review
30/8/19	East Suffolk Planning presentation slides	For Councillors to review
14/6/19	Plastic Action Champions – note on website	To note
1/7/19	Ipswich Northern Route	To note
17/7/19	Suffolk's Green Access Strategy	To note
Various Community Action and SALC newsletters		

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19. Matters to be advised (at the Chairman's discretion)

The Solar Farm had been omitted. No report available as volunteer on holiday. A last-minute request had been received today from the Village Hall requesting funds from the Solar Farm budget. It was agreed to donate £1000.00 from the Solar Funds to the village hall to pay for the replacement chairs and heating as requested by them in March 2018 but never acted upon. Cheque no, 200283 refers.

A donation of a piano has been offered to the village hall but comes with associated costs. Clerk to query with Cllr French regarding the costs and condition before any commitment to funding those costs from the Solar Fund is agreed. There were no other urgent matters brought by the Chairman, Councillors or Clerk.

20. Date of next meeting – The date of the next Parish Council meeting is 9th December 2019 at 7pm

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm