

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Wednesday 19 October 2016 at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Cllr T Betts (Chairman) Cllr T Getley, Cllr S Banks, Cllr J May, Cllr S Mellor, Cllr N Perkins, Cllr D Simpson, Cllr G Snelling

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
District Councillor Bill Smith
16 members of the public

1. Open Forum – An opportunity for any parishioner to speak on parish matters and to hear reports from District and County Councillors, if available – A member of the public asked if the parish council intended to arrange for the Pyghtle to be dredged. The Chairman confirmed that options relating to the condition and the safety of the Pyghtle were being considered, in conjunction with advice from NCC Highways.

Another member of the public asked about the yellow zig zag lines outside the school, which appear to leave a small gap, between the end of the lines and a gap for parking access. The Chairman confirmed ideas for Highways safety would be considered under item 14.

District Councillor Smith reported that Breckland DC may be participating in a joint project with Norfolk County Council, the police, and the NHS to combine some land and office assets, putting service teams all in one location. Breckland District Council are also considering becoming a housing authority again, as well as possibly bringing planning and ICT services back in house. Breckland DC will begin considering their budget next month.

2. To consider apologies for absence – None to report.

3. To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda – Cllr May declared an interest in item 7c on the agenda and Cllr Mellor in item 7d.

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 21 September 2016 – The minutes were approved without alteration and signed as correct by the Chairman.

5. To report matters arising not on the agenda and hear the Chairman's report – The Chairman reported that the external audit has been successfully completed and there is no fee payable to the auditors. The Chairman met with NCC Highways Officer earlier during the week and discussed the possibility of trod paths in Long Street and concerns about the affect of the Attleborough link road. The Chairman voiced concerns on behalf of the parish council and local residents that the road will greatly impact on Great Ellingham, especially Long Street, Chequers Lane and Hingham Road. It is felt likely that a higher volume of traffic, with some drivers showing a lack of consideration will make the situation for everyone, especially cyclists and pedestrians, unsafe. The Chairman also confirmed the Local Plan response submission to Breckland DC. Points to note are as follows: Plot 20 – Orbit Homes planning consultant confirmed to the Inspector during the planning appeal that phase 2 of the housing application had been abandoned. The Chairman has a copy of the plans on which phase 2 no longer appears. Plot 19 – this was the preferred site, potentially for 20 houses. This was the site supported by the parish council. Plot 15 – Church land next to Glebe Meadow – this was also supported by the parish council.

6. To hear of planning decisions and other information

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- a) **The Bungalow, Church Street – Cart lodge – approved**
- b) **Breckland Roofing, 21 Long St – 8 dwellings – approved**
- c) **Land adjoining the Bungalow – erect pair of semi detached dwellings – approved**
- d) **Planning appeal – Alder Carr House – 7 new dwellings**

Extensions to No's 5 & 6 Watton Road have also received approval.

7. To consider planning applications, including:

- a) **3PL/2016/1147/HOU – 40 Chequers Lane – Porch** – Councillors raised **no objections** to this application.
- b) **3PL/2016/1166/HOU & 1168/LB – Old Queens Head, Attleborough Rd – 2 bay cart lodge** – subject to the support of the Historic Buildings Officer, Councillors had **no objections** to this application.
- c) **3PL/2016/1190/O – Mill Farm Fisheries, Church St – Residential development** – Cllr May left the room. The Chairman invited comments from members of the public. Concerns included: drainage issues, filling in of ponds, absence of ditches, loss of habitat, backfill, loss of a business and the tourists it attracts, with those visitors using other facilities in the village, inadequate footpaths and bus service. Councillors discussed the plans at some length. The Chairman confirmed he had discussed boundary issues with the architect and understands that, as a result of this, revised plans will be submitted. Councillors agreed that the plans could **not be supported**, mainly on the grounds of overdevelopment. Cllr May returned.
- d) **3PL/2016/1169/F – Land south of the Old Queens Head – three self build dwellings** – Cllr Mellor remained in the room but took no part in the discussion and did not vote. Following discussion, Councillors agreed this application would **not be supported**, due to the plot position outside of the building line.
- e) **3PL/2016/1093/VAR – 80 Long Street – Erection of 5 detached houses – variation of conds** – Following discussion, it was agreed that Councillors had **no objections** to these plans.
- f) **3PL/2016/1163/VAR – Long Street – Variation of condition 2 (minor material amendments)** – Councillors raised **no objections** to these plans.

8. To receive the financial report and consider the following payments:

The financial report, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved. The following payments were unanimously approved.

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100496	£152.68	A Rayner	October 2016 salary
100497	£ 59.56	A Rayner	Clerks expenses May – Sep 2016

9. To consider and note correspondence received – A resident has written to the parish council to highlight the poor condition of the footpath near the school on Hingham Road, following recent works there undertaken by Highways. The Chairman confirmed he will contact Highways. **Action TB.**

10. To discuss the design of the Open Space to be donated to the village by Melton Farms – Councillors agreed that the design submitted as part of the planning application would be acceptable. It was also agreed that it would be published on the parish council's website.

- 11. To agree a finance working party meeting to consider the 2017/18 budget and precept** – It was agreed that Cllrs Betts, Getley, Simpson, and May and the clerk would attend a finance working party meeting, in order to fully consider the budget and level of precept. Date to be agreed. **Action AR.**
- 12. To review the parish council's village planning policy** – Issues relating to the current planning policy and various alternatives were discussed at some length. Members of the public voiced some concerns about the number of potential new houses within the village. District Councillor Bill Smith also spoke to confirm that a change in policy from central Government left Breckland District Council without the required 5 year land supply, leaving it vulnerable to increased applications from developers. Cllr Smith also talked about some villages which no longer have a settlement boundary, meaning that the concentration of new houses in the centre of the village is less likely to occur. After fully considering all options, Councillors resolved that no further development in the village would be supported. The Chairman stressed that this would not mean that applications will cease to be submitted and also that Breckland District Council make the final decision.
- 13. To agree the procedure for providing wi-fi at the village hall** – It was agreed that Councillor Snelling will further investigate the installation of wi-fi at the village hall and the parish council will deduct the installation cost and running costs from the grant given to the recreation committee every year.
- 14. To consider possible projects for the parish partnership scheme** – Options for consideration are: SAM2 (speed awareness machine), trod path on Long Street, village gateways, replacement of the two "30 mph signs". The clerk confirmed that the SAM2 machines need up to 6 locations approved by Highways. The machines are battery operated and are generally moved every four weeks, although the battery life is approximately two weeks. The machine connects data broken down into hourly slots, in speeding increments of 5mph. The approximate cost is £4000, with 50% of the money payable from the parish council. Village gateways were also discussed, with the cost of these estimated at £500 per gate. Finally, the possibility of a trod path on Long Street was discussed, with a very approximate quote given from highways of £50 - £100 per linear metre, depending on preparation of the carriageway, kerb requirements and surface requirements. It was agreed that the SAM2 machine and the Long Street trod path would potentially be supported, with further information to be obtained before bids are submitted. The Chairman also confirmed he would investigate the issue of the yellow zig zag lines by the school.
Action AR & TB.
- 15. To consider items from Councillors**
- a) Provision of a burial ground** – The Chairman reported that the PCC have confirmed that they have obtained faculty from the diocese meaning that burials can begin on the South side of St James Church.
 - b) To consider a trod footpath connecting the new builds at the south end of Long Street up to existing path** – It was agreed that this may prove difficult, due to the sheer distance and logistics relating to ditches and encroachment but the Chairman agreed he would ask for a quote from Highways. **Action TB.**
- 16. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 16 November 2016 to be held at the Recreation Centre commencing at 7.30pm.**
There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.55pm.