

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Wednesday 21 December 2016 at 7.30pm.

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
14 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 about the poor condition of the verge near the school. The Chairman confirmed he is in discussions with Highways about this and has photographed the area today to send in and ask for possible solutions. Highways will not consider a barrier and there is no possibility of filling the gap in the yellow zig-zag lines. Another member of the public asked about the possibility of upgrading the junction near the school and the Chairman confirmed he is speaking to Highways about concerns relating to the Attleborough link road and the impact this may have on certain roads in the village, including the school junction. The erosion of the verge opposite the Breckland Roofing development was also mentioned and the Chairman confirmed he will visit the site and report the situation, if necessary. **Action TB.** It was mentioned that the school 20mph sign seems to be working at erratic hours. The Chairman confirmed the sign is managed by the school crossing patrol and this will be mentioned to him. **Action TB.** A member of the public reported damage to her car as result of a sharp finish around a drain in the Hingham Road, the Chairman will take a look at this and the clerk will send a link for a claim form for the cost of repairs to be met by Norfolk County Council. Finally, another member of the public mentioned that several near-neighbours of the Mill Farm fisheries planning application seemed to be unaware of the application. Other people present voiced their concern that, according to the plans, it appears they are to lose some of their front gardens to allow for a footpath but it was noted that, the area which residents sometimes understand to form part of their front gardens does actually belong to Highways. A mapping service is available on the Norfolk County Council website to clarify these areas. The clerk will write to Breckland to confirm their policy regarding neighbour consultations. **Action AR.**

2. To consider apologies for absence – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Perkins and Snelling.

3. To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda – Councillor May declared an interest in item 7f on the agenda.

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 16 November 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 Mr & Mrs Price propose to make a £2000 donation to the parish council, instead of the area of open space previously discussed. This amount is to be used to the benefit of the village. Discussions are still taking place with Highways concerning the possibility of a section of trod path on Long Street. The Chairman has written to the General Manager of Kerry Foods concerning their Travel & Transport Plans, asking that staff and other drivers are not directed to use the exit to Great Ellingham from the Breckland Lodge roundabout. It has been agreed that the defibrillator will be placed on the

outside wall of the Methodist chapel. A tree preservation order has been placed on some trees at the plot on the corner of Hingham Road and Bow Street. Finally, the Chairman stressed to all Councillors that, although the parish council has adopted a policy of not supporting any further development in the village, they must still consider each case on its merits and must also propose valid planning reasons, if they are mindful to object to the application. Breckland Council will expect valid reasons for objections.

6. To hear of planning decisions and other information

- a) 3PL/2016/1093/VAR – Hollytree House – Revised scheme 5 dwellings – Approved**
- b) 3PL/2016/1166/HOU – Old Queens Head – two bay cart lodge – Refused**

7. To consider planning applications, including:

- a) 3PL/2016/1330/F – Land north of White House Farm, 97 Long St – 2 x 3 bed dwellings –**
Following discussion, Councillors agreed to **object** to this application, on the grounds that it is outside the settlement boundary.
- b) 3PL/2016/1386/F – Land south of White House Farm – 97 Long St – 1 x 5 bed dwelling –**
Following discussion, Councillors agreed to **object** to this application, on the grounds that it is outside the settlement boundary.
- c) 3PL/2016/1357/F – Land corner of Bow St/Hingham Rd – 4 x 4 bed dwellings –** Following discussion, Councillors agreed to **object** to this application, as it is outside the settlement boundary and there are concerns regarding highways and access safety.
- d) 3PL/2016/1356/F – Hingham Rd Industrial Estate – Erection of industrial unit –** Councillors had **no objections** to this application.
- e) 3PL/2016/1392/O – Sunny View, Hingham Rd – New dwelling & garage –** Councillors **objected** to this application on the grounds that it is outside the settlement boundary, it is backfill and additional traffic would add to concerns for an area already considered to be unsafe.
- f) 3PL/2016/1190/O – Mill Farm Fisheries, Church Street – Residential development –**
Councillor May remained in the room but took no part in the discussion and did not comment. This is outline permission for eight properties, a reduction from the sixteen in the original application. Councillors **objected** to this application on the grounds of overdevelopment, backfill, loss of amenity, loss of commercial enterprise, drainage concerns and concerns regarding loss of privacy for neighbouring properties.

Following the discussion of the main planning applications, Councillor Mellor stated that he felt Councillors should consider that, if planning applications from longstanding residents are submitted, with a view to providing housing for family members or other local people, Councillors should give careful consideration to these applications. If they are refused, it is always a consideration that the land may be sold to a developer - who could be successful in obtaining planning permission from Breckland for larger scale developments.

A further application received after publication of the agenda required consideration:

3PL/2016/1477/F – 6 Floodlights at the petanque terrain on Gt Ellingham recreation ground –
Councillors generally did not object to this application on the understanding that the Astronomical Society are satisfied with the terms of the application. A member of the public raised concerns that the lights in the application did not appear to be shielded, they seemed to be of a higher wattage than the recommended level (6300, which generates the “blue light” glow in the night sky) and also that the application didn’t seem to show any timing restrictions. The

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Wednesday 21 December 2016 at 7.30pm.

Chairman confirmed that timing restrictions are included in the lease arrangement between the petanque club and the recreation centre. The Chairman will raise the other issues with the Astronomical Society and the applicant before the parish council's comments are submitted.

Discussed between the meeting as an extension to the time limit was not granted by Breckland District Council – No objections were raised to any of the following applications:

3PL/2016/1350/HOU – 87 Long St – side & two storey extension

3PL/2016/1163/VAR – Long Street – variation of condition 2 3PL/2015/0441/F

3PN/2016/0084/UC – Thornwood – change of use agricultural building to business use

3PN/2016/0085/UC – Thornwood – change of use agricultural building to dwelling house

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

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100500	£152.88	A Rayner	December 2016 salary
100501	£114.40	Post Office Ltd	Clerk Q3 tax

9. To hear a report from the finance working party meeting and agree the budget and precept – The Chairman reported on the budget recommendations agreed by the finance working party. The budget was approved and it was also proposed to increase the precept to £7293 for the 17/18 year. Councillors unanimously agreed to the level of precept. The clerk will submit the application to Breckland DC. **Action AR.**

10. To agree the clerk's salary increment from January 2017 – In line with her contract, the clerk is due an increment from 1 January 2016. This will increase the annual salary from £2290.56 to £2357.86. Councillors agreed that the increase to scale point 23 should proceed.

11. To consider correspondence, including:

a) UKPN Power Cut Priority Support – Information has been received from UK Power Networks about ensuring vulnerable people can be identified quickly in the event of a power cut. Further details about this and how to register will be included in the Pump and will be on the parish council website.

b) Avian Influenza Prevention Zone declaration – A 30 day order is in force, requesting that all poultry is immediately housed and also asking for members of the public to report dead swans, geese, ducks or gulls or 5 or more dead wild birds of other species to the Defra helpline on 03459 33 55 77. The order came into force on 6 December and further information is on the parish council website.

12. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 18 January 2017 to be held at the Recreation Centre commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm.