

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Thursday 7 April 2016 at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Cllr T Betts (Chairman) Cllr T Getley, Cllr S Banks, Cllr D Howe-Li-Rocchi, Cllr J May, Cllr D Simpson, Cllr G Snelling

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
District Councillor Bill Smith
County Councillor Cliff Jordan
5 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** – District Councillor Bill Smith confirmed that he recently met with George Freeman MP. During the meeting Mr Freeman confirmed he would be writing a letter to the parish council, in respect of the Orbit Homes appeal. The Chairman confirmed receipt of this.
- 2. To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Mellor and Perkins.
- 3. To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda** – None to declare.
- 4. To review and agree the parish council's submission in relation to the Orbit Homes planning appeal** – The Chairman confirmed that the final date for submission of comments to the planning inspector is 13 April 2016. The date of the enquiry hearing has not yet been confirmed, nor the location, although District Councillor Smith confirmed that the Local Authority make the arrangements as to where the enquiry will be held.

The Chairman advised that a proposed submission to the planning inspector, on behalf of the parish council, was circulated prior to the meeting, both to parish councillors and to other interested parties in the village, in order that due consideration could be given to the document before the meeting. Parish Councillors unanimously voiced their approval of the document and the Chairman therefore agreed to take further comments and suggestions from members of the public.

A period of discussion relating to several aspects of the plans and appeal including highways issues, public transport information and infrastructure issues took place. Following this, another member of the public suggested that he supported development, due to the need for affordable housing in the village. The Chairman advised that the parish council is not against development but is against this particular development, due to the many issues already discussed and detailed in submissions to Breckland District Council.

District Councillor Smith talked briefly about the possibility of the devolution issue, which would put a new mayor in place. It is reported that the mayor would take responsibility for housing and as there is currently a chronic shortage of housing, it is possible that much more development could take place nationally. County Councillor Cliff Jordan spoke of his concern that development in Attleborough may start to encroach upon Great Ellingham, giving concern that the gap between the town and the village is eroded.

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Thursday 7 April 2016 at 7.30pm

The Chairman, in summary, advised that, taking into account the points raised by members of the public and during the discussion, he would amend the statement for submission to the planning inspector and circulate it again. It will be submitted by the Chairman in time for the 13 April deadline.

The Chairman also read the letter of support from George Freeman MP and a copy of his response, on behalf of the parish council. The Chairman will contact Mr Freeman to ask that his letter of support be submitted to the planning inspector within the deadline.

5. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 20 April 2016 to be held at the Recreation Centre, commencing immediately after the annual parish meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.