

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Wednesday 21 March 2018 at 7.30pm

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
District Councillor Bill Smith
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** – A member of the public asked what was happening on the field surrounding the recreation centre. The Chairman advised that no planning application has been lodged and, unless that happens, there is no information available to comment upon.
A resident reported on an item on the recent BBC Countryfile programme which showed that developers are seeking out local authorities that cannot fulfil a 5 year housing land supply, with a view to appealing against planning refusals, in the knowledge that the planning inspector is likely to find in the developer's favour. District Councillor Smith reported that Breckland's local plan is actually further advanced than many other District Council's and it is hoped the plan may be approved by September 2018, meaning that Breckland DC will be in a much stronger position. Councillor Smith also reported that the Breckland lottery began this month. Breckland DC continue to have one of the lowest district council tax charges in the country and an initiative to reduce business rates on retail properties is being considered. It appears that following the recent financial problems at Northamptonshire County Council the matter of Unitary authorities is likely to be considered again.
- 2. To consider apologies for absence** - Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Perkins. County Councillor Jordan also sent his apologies.
- 3. To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda** – None to declare.
- 4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 21 February 2018** – 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 clerk reported that Highways have confirmed that the concrete disc on Hingham Road is a cover slab for a chamber. Highways have scheduled work for the summer for the verge to be rebuilt at that section, which should resolve the problem.
The Chairman confirmed that the letter to residents confirming rights and responsibilities regarding riparian waterways has been prepared and will be delivered shortly.
- 6. Planning applications considered between meetings** – None
- 7. To hear of planning decisions and other information**
 - a) 3PL/2017/1568/F – East of Town Cottage, Town Green – Erection of 1 dwelling** – Approved

- b) **3PL/2018/0060/LB – Old Farmhouse, Hingham Rd – Replacement windows** – Approved
- c) **3PL/2016/1445/VAR – Kerry Foods – Planning Committee – 12 March 2018** – The Chairman reported that a request for a deferral regarding this application was refused. Kerry Foods are a significant employer in the area and the planning committee approved the variation of conditions. A request was included for Kerry Foods to design a plan for community liaison.

8. To consider planning applications:

- a) **3PL/2018/0241/VAR – Development off Long St – Removal of cond. 11 (off site imp. works)**
– Following discussion, Councillors **objected** to this application, on the grounds of highways safety.

9. To hear information regarding the road safety audit at the staggered junction – The full report has been circulated to Councillors. The Chairman read the prepared statement which will be presented at the meeting, chaired by George Freeman MP, on 23 March. The main points include:

- The volume and speed of the traffic
- The forthcoming expansion of Great Ellingham, Attleborough and Watton
- The Snetterton Heath development
- The traffic generated by Kerry Foods
- The Attleborough relief road
- The dangerous proximity of the school, at the junction

The issues were discussed again and Cllr Howe-Li-Rocchi asked that an inclusion be made in the statement to provide a safe crossing point for children trying to cross the road to reach the school. The Chairman reported that it is hoped that some negotiation can be made with Flagship Housing, as part of the phase 2 planning application, to obtain some land to assist with the aim of making the junction safer. The Chairman thanked Councillor Smith for the considerable amount of work he has put in to this issue. A member of the public also thanked the Chairman for his work on the matter.

- 10. To hear a report from the community speed watch team** – A team member was not available. This item will be carried forward to the next meeting.
- 11. To confirm details of the defibrillator training** – The clerk confirmed that Norfolk Accident Rescue Service (NARS) will be providing the defibrillator training. The session is on 27 March between 7 – 9pm. There are still some places available, please let the clerk know if you would like to attend.
- 12. To approve the revised contract for the clerk** – The clerk's contract has been revised, to allow for the increase in hours, effective from 1 January. The Chairman and the clerk both signed the revised contract.
- 13. To consider the condition of verges in the village** – Verges around the village are, generally, in a very poor condition. The bad weather hasn't helped but the problem mostly seems as a result of large vehicles driving over verges. It was also noted that the UKPN contractors working at Town Green have left the area there in a mess. Most planning applications include a requirement to

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ensure that developers make good verges and roadside areas when they are finished so it may be that they need reminding of this point.

- 14. To review the following policies: Asset register, Financial Regulations, Statement of Internal Control** – The policies were reviewed and it was agreed that no changes are necessary. Cllr Mellor confirmed he has made contact with the internal auditor.

- 15. To receive the financial report and consider the following payments:**

The financial report is not currently available as the clerk has not received a bank statement. The report will be circulated as soon as it is available. The following payments were authorised:

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100543	£239.50	A Rayner	March salary
100544	£300.00	NARS	Donation
100545	£397.06	Came & Co	Annual insurance
100546	£130.00	R Ewin	Allotment rent
100547	£130.00	D Ewin	Allotment rent
100548	£130.00	C Ewin	Allotment rent
100549	£ 95.80	HMRC	Q4 tax
100550	£ 24.00	Ceres Solutions	Letter / envelope printing

- 16. To consider items from Councillors**

a) **SNAP** – Cllr May reported that there is currently only one beat officer for Attleborough. The police are aware of the issues with speeding and school parking in the village and will send someone out whenever possible. Hare coursing is on the increase and the police ask that residents remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity.

Cllr Getley reported that he assisted in the apprehension of a person this morning who appeared to be attempting to defraud a neighbour. Thanks to Cllr Getley for his actions.

- 17. To consider correspondence received:**

a) **New Broadband cabinet on verge opposite Rose Farm House, Bow St** – A new communications cabinet will be installed on the grass verge opposite Rose Farm House, Bow Street, to serve residents and businesses in the area. No date for installation is currently available but the Better Broadband for Norfolk (BBfN) programme is due to be completed by March 2020.

b) **Norwich Western Link – Joining NDR to A47** – Norfolk County Council are supporting the development of a Norwich Western Link (NWL) road to connect the NDR from the A1067 to the A47 west of Norwich. County Councillors are asking for views on how a possible road may impact on towns or villages. There is a new website available www.norfolk.gov.uk/nwl and comments can be emailed directly to: norwichwesternlink@norfolk.gov.uk

- 18. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 18 April 2018 to be held at the Recreation Centre commencing immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting, at around 8.30pm.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.