

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Wednesday 18 September 2019 at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Cllr T Betts (Chairman), Cllr S Mellor, Cllr A Partridge, Cllr M Hadley, Cllr W Smith, Cllr P Ewin, Cllr H Mellor

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
3 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 reported that some changes at Ellingham Hospital seem to be having an adverse effect on the security at the hospital. The Chairman confirmed that he will write to the hospital. **Action TB.**

It was also reported that the developer of the land at the triangle appears to have fenced off two large trees, seemingly indicating that they are not part of the site. Should the trees prove to be in poor condition, or need work in the future, this will present a question of who is responsible for them. The Chairman confirmed that he will speak to the developer regarding this matter. **Action TB.**

A resident raised the issue of problems at the Flagship site, including use of an access point on Hingham Road and lorries unloading materials at unsociable hours. The Chairman acknowledged the issues, however, there has been some issue over the question of when the development can be classed as officially beginning but it was agreed that a meeting with the project manager would be worthwhile. Due to the lack of enforcement officers at Breckland, this process can take a very long time, so the Chairman remains hopeful that maintaining a good relationship with the site manager will be a more effective way of dealing with any issues that may crop up during the development period. The resident in question suggested that the parish council go through the S106 agreement, ensuring that the terms included therein are met. **Action TB.**
- 2. To consider apologies for absence** – County Councillor Ed Connolly and District Councillor Sarah Suggitt sent their apologies.
- 3. To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda** – Councillors S and H Mellor declared a pecuniary interest in item 8a on the agenda.
- 4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 21 August 2019** – Since the last meeting a question has been asked relating to the grant awarded for flooring at the village hall, as to whether this grant was instead of or in addition to the usual annual £1500 grant to the village hall, should it be requested. Councillors agreed that the intention was for the flooring to be an additional award. 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 indicated that the concrete discs on Hingham Road have been dealt with. Councillors confirmed this is not the case, they have just been covered with some bitumen and are still protruding into the road in the same way. **Action AR.** The clerk also reported that HSBC have been written to regarding the un-presented cheques.

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The Chairman reported that the netting visible at the Flagship site is newt fencing. Any newts trapped will be moved to safety. It should also be noted that Flagship have not completed the purchase of all the land as yet, only the land initially allocated for Phase one of the build. Enforcement officers from Breckland have made contact with the developer of the land at Melton Meadow to resolve the issues there.

For a considerable amount of time, the parish council has been in discussion with Highways regarding the possibility of resurfacing Attleborough Road, in order to get rid of the dips in the road and repair damage left following works to the sewerage system. Highways have indicated that this will not take place imminently as the surface is not in bad enough condition to warrant the works and it is feared that further damage would be carried out during the housing development due to take place. However, the parish council has been assured that the road will be inspected every six weeks, to monitor deterioration.

Finally, the speedwatch team have recorded enough people speeding to trigger attendance by the police.

6. Planning applications considered between meetings: None

7. To hear of planning decisions and other information:

- a) **3PL/2019/0467/VAR – Kerry Foods, 1 Rookery Farm – Variation of conditions relating to hours and noise restrictions – Approved**
- b) **3PL/2019/0441/F – The Firs, Swamp Lane – Erection of dwelling – Approved**

8. To consider planning applications

- a) **3PL/2019/0386/O – Mellor Metals, Attleborough Rd – Development of up to 75 dwellings –** Before Councillors S and H Mellor left the room, the Chairman asked about the level of affordable housing on the site. Councillor S Mellor confirmed that this had not changed from the previous application and remained at approximately 5%, which is the only amount to make the site viable. Both Councillors left the room. Following discussion, Councillors agreed that they did not object to the application and had no further comments to add to their previous submission. Councillors S and H Mellor re-joined the meeting.
- b) **3PL/2019/0932/F – Archers Lodge, Long St – Erection of one two storey, 4 bed dwelling with associated workshop –** Following discussion, the parish council agreed to **object** to this application on the grounds of concerns over the access and highways safety. There is inadequate information regarding the disposal of sewerage, it is outside the settlement boundary and the plans indicate that this would be an intrusion into the open countryside. It would also be a case of overdevelopment at the site.
- c) **3PL/2019/0960/VAR – Thornwood, Stalland Common – Variation of conditions relating to 3PN/2017/0033/UC –** The parish council had **no objections** to this application.
- d) **3PL/2019/0949/HOU – White House Farm, 97 Long St – Linked triple carport / garage and formation of new independent access drive –** The parish council had **no objections** to this application.
- e) **3PL/2019/1089/F – Land adjoining 21 Hingham Rd – Erection of two storey dwelling –** The parish council **objected** to this application, mainly over concerns relating to Highways safety, particularly that there seems to be no space for turning a vehicle. Councillors also raised concerns relating to over development and loss of privacy and light for neighbours.
- f) **3PL/2019/0699/F –** Notification of this application did not make the agenda and not all Councillors were aware of it. It was therefore agreed that Councillors would consider the

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application and submit comments to the clerk by e-mail, for onward submission to Breckland Council.

NB – the outcome of the consideration by Councillors was an **objection**, on the grounds that the site is outside the settlement boundary.

9. **Co-option** – Nesha Wilkins was present at the meeting and has previously indicated an interest in serving as a parish Councillor. As co-option has been widely advertised, with very little response, and as there is still one more vacancy for a Councillor, the parish council agreed to proceed with co-option. Nesha gave a little background on her time in the village and her interest in the parish council, which was well received. The clerk will forward the necessary documentation on. **Action AR.**

10. **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
100605	£ 252.95	A Rayner	September salary
100606	VOID		
100607	£2052.30	J K Flooring	Flooring at village hall (grant)
100608	£ 500.00	Gt. Ellingham PCC	Grass cutting (grant)

11. **To consider items from Councillors** – Councillor S Mellor asked about progress relating to tree works at Deopham memorial. The Chairman confirmed that he will arrange to meet an arborist at site. **Action TB.**

Councillor Mellor also raised the issue of the unpleasant odour in the village over recent days, it does not seem to be the usual odour relating to muck spreading and several residents have reported the need to keep windows and doors closed, for several days. If this persists, it may be necessary to contact the District Council and / or the Environment Agency.

12. **To consider correspondence received:**

a) **NALC – Community, Well-being & Environment initiative** - This new initiative is asking for a range of parish councillors from throughout the County to take part in projects relating to four main aspects: Housing, Loneliness and community care, electricity and trees, hedges and open spaces. Councillors asked if volunteers can be put forward specifically relating to one of those areas of interest. The clerk will find out and report back. **Action AR.**

13. **To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 16 October 2019 to be held at the Recreation Centre commencing at 7.30pm.**

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