

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Wednesday 20 February 2019 at 7.30pm.

In Attendance: Cllr T Betts (Chairman), Cllr S Banks, Cllr D Howe-Li-Rocchi, Cllr S Mellor, Cllr N Perkins, Cllr M Hadley

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
District Councillor Bill Smith
County Councillor Ed Connolly
13 members of the public

- 1. Open Forum – An opportunity for any parishioner to speak on parish matters and to hear reports from County and District Councillors, if available** – A member of the public asked what happened at the recent planning committee meeting held at Breckland District Council. The Chairman confirmed that the Flagship and the All Saints applications were approved and the amendment to the Mellor Metals application was also approved.

A resident reported that she had been contacted by at least 30 people unhappy about the development planned for the village and that those people felt they had not been represented appropriately. The Chairman gave a brief history of the recent planning activity, summarising that both the original Orbit homes application and the 'asparagus field' application had not been supported by the parish council and both applications had been turned down by Breckland. However, in both cases, the developer appealed to the planning inspector and the appeals were won, mainly on the grounds that Breckland District Council do not have a five year housing land supply, nor do they have a Local Plan in place. The parish council were then left with a choice of the same thing happening with the next two applications or opening a dialogue with the developers in the hope of obtaining some planning gains for the village. As Breckland still cannot prove a five year housing land supply and there is still not a Local Plan in place, the parish council is aware that if they go to appeal, a developer would almost certainly be successful. The Chairman acknowledged that, whilst it was far from an ideal situation, at least several planning gains had been obtained and the alternative would be that the village would still get the housing but with no contribution from the developers. A resident asked why parishioners had not been individually notified by post. The Chairman advised that it is the District Council's responsibility to make interested parties aware of planning applications, which they do so via their website, via notices displayed near to planning sites and by letter to directly affected properties. In addition to this, the parish council publish the details of all planning applications to be discussed on their website and on the three noticeboards in the village.

A public consultation is now underway to gather people's views on proposed changes to Breckland Council's draft Local Plan. When adopted, the plan will act as a blueprint for the district's growth through to 2036. The documents can be seen on the Council's website www.breckland.gov.uk or at the Council's offices in Dereham. Comments can be submitted via the website.

A member of the public asked if a 'welcome pack' could be delivered to new properties and residents in the village. Councillors felt that most local useful information was included in The Pump magazine but the Chairman made a note of the request, for consideration.

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2. **To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors May and Partridge.
3. **To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda** – Councillor Mellor declared an interest in items 10a and 10d on the agenda.
4. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 16 January 2019** – 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** – Nothing further to add.
6. **Recreation Centre report** – Nothing to report.
7. **To hear from a representative of the Teddy Bear Festival committee** – Committee members Stephanie Hauck, Caroline Henning and Sandra Roberts were present at the meeting. Stephanie gave a summary of the events planned for the teddy bear festival this year. Stephanie referred to the success of the Golden Jubilee street party and said the committee hoped to recreate something similar, with a view to applying for a road closure directly in front of St James Church (after consultation with impacted residents and the pub). The committee asked for support from the parish council relating to both this and their plans for a bear trail winner, which include a cash prize for the 'People's vote' bear, with the funds to be spent on a project in the community. Councillors were happy to give their support
8. **Planning applications considered between meetings: None**
9. **To hear of planning decisions and other information:**
 - a) 3PL/2018/1529/HOU – The Bungalow, Church St – Alterations to garage – Approved
 - b) 3PL/2018/1190/VAR – 18 Long St – Removal of conditions (holiday let & annexe) – Refused
 - c) 3PL/2018/1537/HOU – 36 Willow Ridge Lodge, Long St – incorporation of annexe into extension – Approved
10. **To consider planning applications**
 - a) 3PL/2019/0003/UC – Low Common Barn, Portwood Farm, Deopham Rd – Conversion 1 barn to form 1 x house – The parish council raised **no objections** to this application.
 - b) 3PL/2019/0026/HOU – 1 Rookery Cottages – Proposed two storey rear extension & porch - The parish council raised **no objections** to this application.
 - c) 3PL/2018/0712/D – Development site at Attleborough Rd – Reserved matters of 9 dwellings – parking and garages, road design & soft landscaping – There were no objections to the reserved matters.
 - d) 3PL/2018/1471/F – Aldercarr House, Attleborough Rd – New residential dwelling in position of demolished outbuilding – The parish council **objected** to this application on the grounds of highways safety.
 - e) 3PL/2019/0090/F – Hollytree House, 80 Long St – Proposed single dwelling - The parish council raised **no objections** to this application.

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- 11. To consider a grant request from Great Ellingham Cricket Club** – The cricket club are currently fundraising to reach a target of £3000 to help them to purchase a machine to tow a set of gang mowers, a mower for the wicket and a strimmer. The club have requested a grant of £500 from the parish council towards this total. The grant was approved.
- 12. To consider a request to contribute towards repairs to the bridge, following vandalism** – The allotment bridge has recently been repaired by the Allotment Society at a cost of £50.54. The parish council agreed to pay the full amount of £50.54.
- 13. To review the following policies: Complaints procedure, Grievance policy, Training policy** – All three policies were reviewed and it was agreed that no changes were necessary.
- 14. To hear information regarding the District & Parish elections on 2 May 2019** – The timetable for the district and parish elections is as follows: The Notice of Election will be published on **Wednesday 20 March**. Nominations will be accepted from this date, between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.00 pm Monday – Friday only and the deadline for receipt of nominations is **Wednesday 3 April**. The statement of persons nominated will be published on **Thursday 4 April** and the election(s) will be held on **Thursday 2 May**.
- 15. To receive the financial report and consider the following payments:**
The financial report was approved and both payments were authorised.

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100575	£ 236.49	A Rayner	Feb salary
100576	£ 247.00	Gt Ellingham Rec Centre	Hall Hire

- 16. To consider items from Councillors** – Councillor Mellor reported that the Church clock has been repaired.
- 17. To consider correspondence**
- a) **Removal of hedges at Deopham Airfield** – The clerk received a complaint from a member of the public regarding the removal of hedgerows at the airfield. The matter was referred to Breckland District Council. The Council's tree officer was satisfied that the vegetation removed was primarily multi stem willow, which would not require a hedgerow removal notice.
- 18. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 20 March 2019 to be held at the Recreation Centre commencing at 7.30pm.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.