

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Wednesday 21 August 2019 at 7.30pm

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
District Councillor Sarah Suggitt
4 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 documentation on the Flagship development decision information, which seemed to indicate that the deadline for marking the new Highway boundary is next Monday (26th August) which is a bank holiday. It was also reported that the field access on Hingham Road is still being used and there also seem to be cars and other vehicles driving around the field late at night. The Chairman confirmed that he would contact Breckland Council regarding both issues. **Action TB.**

A member of the public asked about the roundabout, specifically when the money would be made available. The Chairman confirmed that this would take place after contracts were signed and concluded.

Finally, it was reported that several vehicles have been parked on land near the triangle again. The Chairman confirmed that groundworks including ditches have recently taken place so hopefully the parking issue here was short term.

- 2. To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hadley. County Councillor Connolly also sent his apologies.
- 3. To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda** – None to report.
- 4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 17 July 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** – The clerk reported that there are currently issues with posting documents on the parish council website. NALC are aware of the issue and are liaising with Wordpress to obtain a resolution.

The Chairman reported that, following a query raised at the last meeting, the clerk has enquired as to the possibility of an increased bus route serving the village. The current service provider has confirmed that, once further development begins, including the provision of the roundabout, this is certainly something they will consider. The Chairman also asked about buses using Long Street, despite the 7.5 tonne weight restriction. The bus company confirmed that the weight restriction does not apply to PCVs. The Chairman asked if extra care could be taken on Long Street and Wroo Road due to the lack of pavements and also the presence of staff and residents of Westward Barns. Apparently only three drivers work on this particular route and they will be asked to take extra care in the area.

6. **Planning applications considered between meetings: None**
7. **To hear of planning decisions and other information:**
 - a) **3PL/2019/0665/F – Agrovista, Hingham Rd – Extension & refurbishment of storage and depot – Approved**
 - b) **3PL/2019/0775/VAR – The Cottage, Town Green – Variation of conditions – Approved**
8. **To consider planning applications**
 - a) **3PL/2019/0695/F – 35 Chequers Lane - Proposed erection of single storey detached dwelling with parking with vehicle access from Mill Lane** - Councillors **objected** to this application. As well as concerns regarding the access, the parish council felt this would be a case of compacting, on a very narrow plot, which would have a detrimental impact on the visual amenity of the area. It would also result in a loss of amenity to neighbours.
 - b) **3PL/2019/0467/VAR – Kerry Foods, Rookery Farm – Variation of conditions re hours and noise restrictions (amendment is revised noise report)** – Councillors **objected** to this application. The issues raised by our neighbouring parish council at Little Ellingham were heard and the parish council agreed to give our full support to their concerns. Councillors generally felt that Kerry Foods should abide by the terms of the planning approval given.
 - c) **3PL/2019/0421/F – Land of Watton Rd – revised red line location plan and layout** - The parish council raised **no objections** to this application.
 - d) **3PL/2019/0696/F – The Old Thatched Shop, 32 Church St – Erection of one 2 bed bungalow and conversion of outbuilding to an annexe** – Following discussion, the parish council agreed that they strongly **objected** to this application. They felt the proposal of a new building close to the proximity of a significant Grade II listed building, at a central point in the village, was wholly inappropriate. The planned building would detract from the quality of the landscape and Councillors also raised concerns about the access at a tight point on a narrow road.
9. **To hear updated information re the request from the Methodist Church for a grant –**

Subsequent to the last meeting, the clerk contacted Breckland Council regarding the regulations surrounding grants to Churches. As a result of this information, it was agreed to decline the current request from the Methodist Church but to alert them to the possibility that a grant towards the external area of the Church may well be supported. **Action AR.**
10. **To consider co-option of Councillors** – Hayley Mellor was present at the meeting. Hayley gave some background on her time in the village and her interest in the parish council. Hayley left the room temporarily and Councillors agreed they fully supported her application for the role of Parish Councillor. The paperwork was signed accordingly.
11. **To consider a grant request from St James Church towards grass cutting** – Councillors S & H Mellor did not take part in this discussion. The remainder of the parish council agreed to award a grant of £500 towards the grass cutting at the Church. **Action AR.**
12. **To hear updated information re grant request from the recreation centre** – All possible avenues for grants from Breckland Council have been exhausted. The matter was discussed again, including issues surrounding health and safety at the current provision and the financial commitment surrounding a new village hall, however, it was agreed that the parish council

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would pay for the new flooring in the toilets (to a cost of approximately £2000) and that this would be treated as a donation to the village hall.

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

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100602	£ 252.95	A Rayner	August salary
100603	£ 75.00	Breckland Council	Election fee
100604	£ 20.15	A Partridge	Printer Ink

All payments and the financial report were approved.

14. To consider items from Councillors – None to report

15. To consider correspondence received: None to report

16. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 18 September 2019 to be held at the Recreation Centre commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm.