

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held remotely on Wednesday 16 December 2020 at 7.30pm.

In Attendance: Cllr T Betts (Chairman), Cllr S Mellor, Cllr A Partridge, Cllr M Hadley, Cllr P Ewin, Cllr N Wilkins, Cllr M Barron

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
District Councillor Sarah Suggitt
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 applicable** – A member of the public asked if there were any plans to manage the mess created in the village generally but especially on the roads, as a result of the housing development works. Vehicles parked on grass spots and verges and dangerously muddy roads were particularly mentioned. Councillor Mellor mentioned that the mud on the roads isn't necessarily all due to building works, farm vehicles are also contributing to the situation. The Chairman wrote to one of the developers in question soon after the last meeting but agreed it was a situation that needs to be kept on top of.
County Councillor Ed Connolly could not attend the meeting but sent a report which included the following information:
Norfolk County Council and Norwich's micromobility provider Beryl have bolstered and extended their free ride initiative to keep the city moving during the pandemic. Norfolk County Council and Beryl offer pedal bikes and 15 minutes free on the Beryl e-Bikes between 7.30-9.30am as well as 3-4.30pm. The extension of this initiative will allow students and essential workers to continue traveling in a safe and sustainable way.
Household hazardous waste drop off events during September and October across Norfolk - A series of free drop off days took place to allow people to dispose of hazardous waste at some of Norfolk's recycling centres.
Search for creative names launched as seven new high-tech gritters prepare to keep Norfolk's roads safe this winter - Seven new high-tech gritting vehicles will be helping keep Norfolk's roads safe this winter, and Norfolk County Council has launched a competition to find seven creative names from Norfolk school children.
District Councillor Sarah Suggitt reported that it is quite quiet at Breckland District Council at the moment, with some staff taking the opportunity to take some annual leave after what has been an exceptionally busy year. With regard to the flooding issue on Penhill Rd, it is possible that when some works were undertaken by Anglian Water a few years back a pipe was used which has proven to be too small for the job but this is being investigated and all relevant information has been passed on to County Councillor Connolly. Councillor Suggitt passed on her thanks to everyone for adapting and continuing to support local communities and hoped for better times in 2021 for everyone.
- 2. To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor H Mellor.
- 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 18 November 2020** – 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 Covid helpline was re-opened by Gail Dorrington but only received one call, so has been mothballed again. Hopefully this means that people are being supported within the community but if anyone knows of residents needing help, please notify the Chairman in the first instance. A resident has been in touch with George Freeman MP regarding the very poor condition of the surface of the A11 between Wymondham and Attleborough. This is budgeted for repair by 2025 but Highways England have confirmed that they plan to carry out the works in 2021. The Chairman reported that NCC Highways have recently been in touch regarding the draft plans for the roundabout and the issues it gives regarding the replacement of the Jubilee oak tree and the village sign. A new oak will be planted on the new corner at Hingham Rd / Watton Rd. The plans show the village sign relocated in the verge on the roundabout but Councillors were concerned that this site is too close to the road. Councillor Partridge suggested the sign be moved to the space available by the bus shelter. The Chairman agreed to propose this to Highways. Councillor Hadley asked if the noticeboard will also need to be moved but it seems it is possible this may be able to stay where it is. Councillor Hadley mentioned that the perspex is very cloudy. The clerk will look into this. **(Action AR)**. The Chairman also reported on discussions with the Scout Group leader regarding the possibility of fencing to shield the Scout area from the new All Saints development. This may form part of wider discussions surrounding a lease agreement, possibly similar to that agreed with the Petanque club. The Recreation Committee have someone in place to assist with the finances but Councillors agreed that the parish council will need to have confidence in how the finances are being managed before further grants are awarded. Councillor Partridge confirmed that the un-presented cheque from February (cheque no 100616) has been misplaced. Councillors agreed that a replacement cheque can be issued. **(Action AR)**. Councillor Hadley asked about the installation of the village gates. The Chairman confirmed Highways are aware that they need to be installed again but we do not have a date for this as yet.
6. **Planning applications considered between meetings: None**
7. **To hear of planning decisions and other information:**
- a) **3PL/2020/1144/VAR – White House Farm, Long St – Change to proposed materials – Approved**
 - b) **3PL/2020/1143/F – The Hollies, Swamp Lane – Erection of 2 bedroomed bungalow – Refused**
8. **To consider planning applications:**
- a) **3PL/2020/1036/D – Land to the south east of Church Street / West of Attleborough Rd – Reserved matters pursuant to outline planning permission 3PL/2017/0265/ O (relating to scale, layout, appearance and landscaping) – Following discussion, Councillors agreed that they had no objections to this application.**
 - b) **3PL/2020/1344/F – Great Ellingham CP School, Hingham Rd – Repositioning of existing boundary wall as part of highway improvements – There were no objections to this application.**

- c) **3PL/2020/1363/VAR – The Old Thatched Shop, 32 Church Street – Variation of Condition – Minor amendments to fenestration** – There were **no objections** to this application.

9. **To consider the parish councillor vacancy** – There is still one vacancy for a parish councillor and this position can be co-opted. Please contact the clerk if you are interested.
10. **To approve the appointment of an internal auditor for 2020 / 21 year** – The internal auditor used by the parish council in recent years has decided to retire. The clerk recommended the appointment of Anne Barnes for the next internal audit, a very experienced auditor and parish clerk of many years. Councillors accepted the recommendation and the clerk will send the appointment letter. **Action AR.**
11. **To receive the financial report and consider the following payments:**

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100651	£263.70	A Rayner	December salary
100652	£241.75	GE Recreation Centre	Replacement 100616

The financial report, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved. Both payments were unanimously approved.

12. **To consider items from Councillors** – Councillor Mellor reported that the Church clock may have been damaged as a result of falling debris from the Church into the clock mechanism. Michlmayr's are coming to carry out an inspection on 5 January 2021.
Councillor Hadley confirmed that he has not received any traffic reports.
13. **To consider correspondence received – None to report**
14. **To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 20 January 2021 to be held remotely via Zoom, commencing at 7.30pm.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm