

Great Ellingham Parish Council  
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council  
held remotely via Zoom on Wednesday 18 November 2020 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 N Wilkins

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner  
District Councillor Sarah Suggitt  
County Councillor Ed Connolly  
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 why the SAM2 had been in the same location on Long St for ten weeks. The Chairman advised that due to a broken bracket at one location and nearby building works at another, it had not been possible to move the SAM2 for a few weeks but it will be moved as soon as circumstances allow. It was noted that the tree at the end of Home Close has not been cut down as yet. The Chairman reported that this will be done as part of the works relating to installation of the roundabout, so probably next Summer some time. A resident reported seeing activity on the site known as the 'asparagus field' and asked if the timings of other works will be taken into consideration when a start date is planned as there is already significant building work and disruption going on in the village. The Chairman confirmed that no full planning application has been submitted for this site, as yet, so this was likely just a surveyor having an initial look at the site. Another resident asked if the extra land for the roundabout had been gifted to NCC or did they have to buy it? The Chairman confirmed this was gifted.

County Councillor Ed Connolly confirmed that he does not have any remaining ward members' budget to contribute to Great Ellingham's parish partnership bid but, should he be elected again in May 2021, he will be happy to contribute from his 2022/23 budget.

District Councillor Suggitt asked if the parish council were receiving regular updates from Breckland DC and also the Police Community Engagement Officer. The clerk was able to confirm receipt. Councillor Suggitt advised that there was little else to report at the moment as the District Council is dealing with the repercussions of the second wave of Covid.

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** – Councillor Ewin declared an interest in item 8a on the agenda.
4. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 21 October 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 Chairman reported that there has been some flooding to some back gardens of houses in Long Street, it seems to be surface water run off and it is hoped that steps can be taken to prevent it happening

again. Food parcels have been delivered to some residences in the village, thanks to Kerry Foods. If anyone knows of any resident who may be in need of support in this way, please let the Chairman know. Any request will be dealt with confidentially. The Covid support telephone line has re-opened.

Norfolk County Council are dealing with a planning application for which the parish council has not been consulted. It relates to the Anglia Demolition site on West Carr Road. Given the potential impact on the village and the deadline for comments, the Chairman submitted an appropriate response, which has been circulated to all Councillors.

A recent incident of aggressive and reckless driving on Long Street, near to West Carr Barns, has been reported to the police. The driver has been identified.

**6. Planning applications considered between meetings: None**

**7. To hear of planning decisions and other information:**

- a) **3PL/2020 / 0935/VAR – The Old Thatched Shop, 32 Church Street – Variation of condition – Approved**
- b) **3PL/2020/0787/LB – Manor Farmhouse, Hingham Road – Formation of porch structure – Approved**
- c) **3OB/2020/0022/OB – Land at Hingham Rd / Attleborough Rd – Agreement submission of open space scheme alongside ecological strip (relating to permission 3PL/2018/1021/F) – Refused**

**8. To consider planning applications:**

- a) **3PL/2020/1169/F – Land to the north of Rookery Farm – Change of use from agricultural to 5 pitch glamping site** – Councillor Ewin did not participate in the discussion. Councillors agreed that they had no objections to the application.
- b) **3PL/2020/1249/HOU – Fir Tree Farm, 83 Long Street – Two storey extension to side to extend lounge, new play rooms and two bedrooms above with carport and integrated garage** – The parish council raised no objections to this application. It was noted that Councillors felt, for purely aesthetic reasons, it may be preferable to have the open work area at the rear of the site, rather than the front.

**9. To consider the two parish councillor vacancies** – Michelle Barron joined the meeting remotely and briefly explained her interest in the role of parish councillor and the village community. Councillors were unanimously happy to accept Michelle's application and she was duly co-opted on to the parish council. The paperwork will be completed accordingly.

**10. To consider grant applications** – Councillors were reminded that community groups in the village can apply for a grant from the parish council. The clerk will circulate the grants policy, as a reminder of the terms. It was noted that the recreation centre has not applied for their annual grant this year, as yet. **Action AR.**

**11. To consider the purchase of additional defibrillators** – Given the ongoing expansion of the village, Councillors were asked if they would support the purchase of additional defibrillators. Following discussion, Councillors agreed that the village could possibly benefit from another two

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defibrillators, at locations to be agreed. The clerk will investigate costs and also look into whether any grants are available. **Action AR.**

- 12. To consider the 2021 / 22 budget proposals** – Councillor S Mellor, Councillor N Wilkins, the Chairman and the clerk held a remote budget working party meeting earlier in the month. Some of the main points noted were; The precept for Great Ellingham is very modest compared to other villages of similar sizes, the village is about to undergo a period of significant expansion, prior to recent increases the precept remained stagnant for several years and the ongoing possibility of a 2% cap on precept increases remains. It was also noted that, due to the increase in the tax base, a 4% increase to the precept could be achieved without any impact on the bill of the average Band D council tax payer. The parish council therefore agreed to increase the precept by 4% for the 2021/22 financial year. The Chairman also appealed for ideas to support and improve the community. Whilst the expansion of the village will certainly bring increased financial commitments for the parish council, this is probably a year or two in the future. Councillor Ewin mentioned the possibility of a community orchard for the village. This was generally well received but issues such as the maintenance of the land would need to be agreed. The Chairman agreed to bear this in mind.

Councillors agreed that additional bins and dog waste bins would be needed, as the size of the village increases. The clerk advised that recent applications by the parish council for additional dog waste bins have been refused by Breckland DC. District Councillor Suggitt agreed that she would try to find out why this is and if there is any specific criteria required for additional dog waste bins.

Finally, a quote was received some time ago in relating to the gilding of the clock. The quote was for approximately £1000 and the parish council agreed that the work should go ahead. The clerk will look into whether any grants are available, as the clock is officially a war memorial. **Action AR.**

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

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100649	£263.70	A Rayner	November salary
100650	£ 48.88	T Betts	Expenses reimbursement

The financial report, circulated in advance of the meeting, and both payments were unanimously 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 16 December 2020 to discuss planning applications and urgent business only, otherwise Wednesday 20 January 2021 to be held remotely via Zoom, commencing at 7.30pm.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm.