

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held remotely – April 2020

Responses from: Cllr T Betts (Chairman), Cllr S Mellor, Cllr A Partridge, Cllr M Hadley, Cllr W Smith, Cllr P Ewin, Cllr H Mellor, Cllr N Wilkins

1. **Public questions – An opportunity for any parishioner to raise issues on parish matters and to hear reports from District and County Councillors, if available** – Regular updates regarding the latest information about the coronavirus pandemic are being received from District and County Councillors and this information is being circulated, as appropriate, and any information which may be useful for parishioners is being put onto the parish council’s website.
2. **To consider apologies for absence** – N/ A
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 March 2020** – The minutes were approved without alteration and will be signed by the Chairman as soon as possible.
5. **To report matters arising not on the agenda and hear the Chairman’s report** – The Chairman has been doing the following in the last month:
 - Checking the legality of the development on-going at 61 Long Street. Breckland DC confirmed that Building Regs had been applied and that no planning permission was required as the dimensions of the extensions are within permitted levels.
 - With help from the clerk, applying for a grant to support the Great Ellingham C-19 support group. See agenda item 9, below.
 - Manning the GE C-19 support group’s telephone line.
 - Staying in, hopefully to save lives
6. **Planning applications considered between meetings: None**
7. **To hear of planning decisions and other information:**
 - a) **3PL/2020/0106/F – Land at The Hollies, Swamp Lane – Proposed single dwelling – Refused**
 - b) **3PL/2020/0191/HOU – The Arrows, Bow Street – Erection of double garage – Approved**
 - c) **3PL/2020/0181/HOU - 42 Long Street. First floor front / side extension & two storey rear extension – Approved**
8. **To consider planning applications**
 - a) **3PL/2020/0323/F – Byfield House, Town Green – Single storey new self-build dwelling house with detached garage** – The parish council **objected** to this application on the grounds that it is outside the settlement boundary. Councillors also felt that the proposed new access was inadequate.
 - b) **3PL/2020/0137/HOU – Prospect House. 20 Long Street – Garage conversion & extension to form an annex. Construction of dormers to the rear elevation at first and second floor**

- The parish council raised **no objections** to the plans for the extension however, given the existing issue of traffic management at the site, Councillors requested that a condition be included in any permission granted, to ensure adequate traffic management for the duration of the project and requiring all works traffic to be parked on the site. Given the proximity to neighbours, Councillors also asked for time restrictions to be placed on the hours of work.

9. To agree how to deploy the Covid-19 Community Response Fund grant of £1000 received from the Norfolk Community Foundation –

This Fund has been created to enable urgent community action to connect vulnerable people to the essential support they need. Examples of activity that may be funded:

- Supply of food/ other items to ensure the continuation/ expansion of services to meet the needs of vulnerable people
- Recruitment and support of volunteers to provide additional capacity
- Rent or other costs relating to a new site or community hub where people can more easily access community support and services
- Transport costs to enable outreach services, or help people provide local transport
- Befriending support for people in isolation
- Equipment and other measures to enable community support to be delivered safely)

The award from Norfolk Community Fund has been granted to the PC to support further the C-19 Support Group. It can be used for any of the purposes identified above. The Chairman proposed that the leader of the support group be made aware of the grant and that receipts for any expenditure be provided, allowing, if possible, for VAT to be reclaimed where appropriate. Councillors agreed.

10. To discuss the amount of heavy agricultural traffic using Chequers Lane / Long Street despite the 'Loading only / 7 tonne' restriction –

This item was added to the agenda in response to the Chairman receiving multiple complaints from residents in Chequers Lane and Long Street. Whilst the general volume of traffic has reduced, due to C-19, the amount of large agricultural traffic is reported to have increased dramatically. The Chairman discussed this with a local contractor who confirmed that staff had been doing a lot of local work recently but this was coming to an end. He also stressed that they do, where sensible, route their vehicles out of and back to their depot (near the AW site at the far end of Long Street) via West Carr Road and Wroo Road. Another business often cited by villagers appears to adhere to speed limits but given the size of the vehicles involved one might question whether the speed is appropriate for the road conditions and the number of pedestrian presently exercising along the roads and streets of the village.

The "7.5Tonne weight restriction except for loading" applies to the whole of: West Carr Road; Long Street; Chequers Lane and Wroo Road (down to the turning to Swangey Lakes). The Chairman understands that this precludes any vehicle capable of carrying a load over 7.5Tonnes from entering the zone, subject to the restriction, except for the purpose of loading or unloading. However, such a vehicle which is based within the zone, subject to the restriction,

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held remotely – April 2020

has to have the right to exit the zone to carry out its purpose and to return to its home depot. Therefore all we, as parish councillors, can do is ask for local contractors to be extra careful when travelling through the village.

Councillors may consider instructing me to write to the various business owners within the weight restricted zone, asking them to make their best efforts to keep our residents safe.

Whilst agreeing that this issue as a whole can only be approached once the Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, Councillors were supportive of the Chairman writing to local businesses and asking if they would be prepared to adopt a voluntary 20mph speed limit in the area, in the interim period.

11. To consider the following payments:

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100625	£ 12.99	T Betts	Cost of lanyards
100626	VOID		
100627	£ 100.00	G Dorrington	Support group payment
100628	£ 257.41	A Rayner	April salary
100629	£ 261.40	Norfolk ALC	Annual subscription
100630	£ 45.00	P James	Internal Audit
100631	£ 100.00	NARS	Donation

Councillors approved all payments

12. To consider items from Councillors: None

13. To consider correspondence received – None to report

14. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 20 May 2020 to be held remotely.