

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held remotely on Wednesday 21 April 2021 at 7.55pm

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
District Councillor Sarah Suggitt
8 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** – Reports from District and County Councillors were heard during the Annual Parish Meeting. There were no comments from members of the public at this time.
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 S Mellor declared an interest in item 8a on the agenda.
4. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 17 February 2021** – 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 the Speedwatch team have started meeting again. The Chairman has been in discussion with Highways regarding the recent road diversions relating to Hingham Road and the detrimental affect such a diversion could have upon Bow Street. The village sign will be moved soon to the triangle of grass on Church Street, in preparation for the installation of the roundabout. Photographs of the lighting outside the Flagship Ellingham Green marketing suite have been sent to Breckland District Council planning department. These have not been approved but are subject to a planning application to which the parish council has objected in order to protect the village’s Dark Sky status. The names of the thoroughfares within this new development have been put forward from ideas by the school children from the village school. They follow a plant and wildlife theme. With regard to the All Saints development, the street names there are planned to be historical figures but the parish have asked if Mike Bowden and all he did for the village could be recognised through one of the road names.

The Chairman continues to liaise with NCC Highways regarding the roundabout and also the issues on Bow Street, which have been made considerably worse as a result of the recent diversion, which resulted in drivers using Bow Street and causing great damage. A request has been made that, for future diversions, a sign be placed at the start of Bow Street instructing ‘Residents Access only’. The Chairman thanked the Teddy Bear Festival committee for the new ‘Pump’ magazine they published recently, he felt it important that the magazine kept going and was very impressed with the content in the first edition.

6. Planning applications considered between meetings – None to report

7. **To hear of planning decisions and other information:**
- a) **3PL/2021/0440/HOU – Orchard End, Town Green – Proposed loft conversion and works to inc. side dormer windows – withdrawn**
 - b) **3PL/2021/0239/F – Celina, Mill Lane – Change of use of land to domestic garden – Approved**
 - c) **3PL/2019/1473/O – Land at Bow St – Construction of self build dwelling – Appeal dismissed**
 - d) **3PL/2020/1036/D – Land to South East of Church St, Reserved matters – Approved**
 - e) **3PL/2021/0324/EA – Application for Environmental Approval to extend permission for 3PL/2018/0713/VAR – Approved**
 - f) **3PL/2020/0741/VAR – Land between Watton Rd & Hingham Rd – Variation of Conditions relating to house types and site layout – Approved**
8. **To consider planning applications:**
- a) **3PL/2021/0039/F - Portwood Farm Packing Building, Bush Lane - Change of use, agricultural to light industrial** - Councillors had **no objections** to this application.
 - b) **3SR/2021/0001/SCO – Land to south of Swangey Lane - Scoping Opinion Request for 8 Poultry Houses with associated admin blocks, feed bins and ancillary development –** Councillors acknowledged they were greatly concerned about this scoping application. Some of the concerns included: Environmental impact to wildlife, tourism, groundwater and pollution; odour issues as experienced by other nearby similar facilities; noise pollution due to the extractor fans; strong concerns regarding the amount of increased traffic associated with both the building and the ongoing business all with access via a single carriageway lane; light pollution impacting on Great Ellingham’s dark sky status and finally concerns relating to avian flu outbreaks, particularly noting the increased risk due to the proximity of the lakes. Comments summarising these concerns will be agreed and submitted to the planning authority.
 - c) **3PL/2021/0481/VAR- 20 Long St – Proposed changes to north elevation –** Councillors had **no objections** to this application.
 - d) **3PL/2021/0518/F – Orchard End, Town Green – Demolish existing dwelling and erect a replacement –** Councillors had **no objections** to this application.
9. **To consider requirements to increase the number of Councillors for the parish –** Democratic services have confirmed that the number of parish councillors relates directly to the numbers of residents. 900 electors gives 7 Councillors, 1400 electors gives 8 Councillors and 2000 electors gives 9 Councillors. The number of electors then needs to increase to 2700 before 10 Councillors are approved. As Great Ellingham’s current electorate is 1032 but the parish council already has 9 Councillors, there is not currently scope to increase further.
10. **To consider meeting arrangements – May onwards –** The legislation allowing parish councils to meet remotely ends on 7 May. The recreation Centre is only open exclusively at the moment for the use of the pre-school children. Councillors discussed alternative options, such as moving the date of the meeting or holding the meeting elsewhere. It was resolved to move the June meeting date to Wednesday 23 June, by which point, if the current Government roadmap stays in place, all restrictions will have been lifted. A decision regarding the May meeting will be made when all options have been investigated.

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- 11. To consider the 20 mph school speeding zone limit** – This issue was discussed again with concerns raised regarding the new roundabout, the proximity to the school and the general speeding problem in the village. The Chairman confirmed he will raise the matter with Highways. Action TB.
- 12. To review the following policies: Financial regulations** - An error picked up during the review of the Regulations during the last meeting was revised and the amended document was approved.
- 13. To consider the following payments:**

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100659	£231.90	A Rayner	April salary
100660	£ 29.92	A Rayner	Expenses Sep 20 – Mar 21
100661	£ 39.50	T Betts	Expenses
100662	£261.40	Norfolk ALC	Annual subscription
100663	£ 60.00	B Cobb	Clock winding
100664	£130.00	R Ewin	Allotment rent
100665	£130.00	D Ewin	Allotment rent
100666	£130.00	C Ewin	Allotment rent
100667	£ 66.00	A Barnes	Internal audit

All payments were unanimously approved.

- 14. To consider items from Councillors** – Cllr S Mellor reported that work has started on the restoration of the clock face.
- 15. To consider correspondence received:**
- a) Highways problems – Bow Street** - The Chairman has been in discussion with Highways regarding the various issues along Bow Street and both he and the clerk have submitted photographs to County Councillor Ed Connolly.
- 16. To confirm the date of the next meeting** - To be agreed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.