

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held remotely on 26 May 2021 at 7.30pm

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

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
District Councillor Sarah Suggitt
County Councillor Ed Connolly
2 members of the public

- 1. To elect a Chairman for the forthcoming year and receive the Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office** - Councillor Betts was nominated and seconded for the role of Chairman. He accepted and signed the appropriate paperwork.
- 2. To elect a Vice-chair and receive the Vice-chairman's declaration of acceptance of office** - Councillor S Mellor was nominated and seconded for the role of Chairman. He accepted and signed the appropriate paperwork.
- 3. Open Forum – An opportunity for any parishioner to speak on parish matters and to hear reports from District and County Councillors, if applicable** – County Councillor Ed Connolly thanked electors for his successful re-election to position of County Councillor for the next four years and reminded everyone that he is here to help, no matter what political party you support or voted for. The County Council recently held their meeting at the Norfolk Showground, which was the only place large enough to accommodate social distancing. The meeting was kept brief but Councillor Connolly reported that it seemed to be a successful step back to some normality. District Councillor Sarah Suggitt advised that she had little to report but hoped everyone received their copy of the 'Breckland' magazine recently, which contained lots of useful information and positive news stories. Breckland District Council are continuing with their focus of helping businesses to get back on track.
- 4. To consider apologies for absence** – None to report.
- 5. To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda** – Councillor Wilkins declared an interest in item 10b on the agenda.
- 6. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 21 April 2021** – The minutes were approved without alteration and signed as correct by the Chairman.
- 7. To report matters arising not on the agenda and hear the Chairman's report** – The Chairman reported that plans for the installation of the roundabout are progressing. The Chairman continues to liaise with NCC Highways regarding the planned diversion and has requested adequate signage, particularly regarding access to Bow Street. Kerry Foods have sent instructions to all drivers instructing them to follow the diversion and not their sat-navs. Highways have written to residents about the plans and Highways Engineer Ben Hanlon has been extremely helpful.

The Chairman has attended a meeting with the Headteacher of the school, District Councillor Sarah Suggitt and school Governors as the school pupil number has reached 176 which is actually capacity plus one. Further meetings will be taking place to seek a resolution to the accommodation problems. The advert for a new clerk has been displayed and some interest has been received.

The Chairman has been in discussion with Breckland Council regarding the S106 agreement with RB Developments and the land at the triangle.

8. Planning applications considered between meetings: None to report

9. To hear of planning decisions and other information:

- a) **3PL/2020/0780/F - Snetterton: Land at Chalk Lane – Agricultural Feed Mill – Planning Committee deferral – new committee date not yet agreed**
- b) **3PL/2018/0386/O – Mellor Metals, Attleborough Rd – Development of up to 75 dwellings – Approved**

10. To consider planning applications:

- a) **3PL/2021/0637/VAR – Development at 21 Long Street – Variation of condition – change to parking arrangement for plot 5** - Councillors agreed there were **no objections** to this application.
- b) **3PL/2021/0022/OB – Land off Church Street – Application to discharge planning obligation – affordable housing scheme Plots 1 – 3 only** – Following discussion and some clarification as to the matter being considered, Councillors agreed there were **no objections** to this application.

11. To confirm meeting dates for the forthcoming year – It was resolved that meetings be held on the third Wednesday of the month apart from next month, June 2021, which has been moved to 23 June 2021 in order that it can be held in the recreation centre and hopefully without restriction. Meetings will only be held in August and December if urgent business or planning issues warrant a meeting. The remainder of the dates are therefore as follows: 2021 – 21 July, 15 September, 20 October, 17 November. 2022 – 19 January, 16 February, 16 March, 20 April, 18 May.

12. Open space management – land off Attleborough Road – Breckland District Council have approached the parish council to ask if they would like to take over the management of the open spaces on the development. Councillors agreed they did not wish to do so. The clerk will report this back to Breckland. **Action AR.**

13. To agree a proposal to NCC Highways regarding speed limits – Following concerns relating to the proximity of the new roundabout to the school, Councillor H Mellor has prepared an excellent presentation to form the basis of the start of an appeal to have a permanent, enforceable 20 mph speed limit on all four roads approaching the school. Councillor H Mellor was thanked for the work she has completed on this and County Councillor Ed Connolly and District Councillor Sarah Suggitt both confirmed they would like to receive a copy of the presentation. It was agreed that, in order to take the matter further, the presentation be compressed, going forwards. Councillor Wishart confirmed he would be happy to help in this respect. Councillors Wilkins and Barron also voiced their support and that they would be happy to volunteer some time to help the project move forwards.

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Both County and District Councillors voiced their support for the proposals and the Chairman suggested that the next step be a socially distanced meeting to agree the next steps. **Action TB.**

- 14. To consider a request for funding from Great Ellingham Pre-school** - The pre-school children have been offered some space at the allotments but need some funding towards gardening equipment and supplies. The pre-school requested a grant of £300 and the parish council approved this.
- 15. To receive the report from the internal auditor** – A comprehensive report has been received from the internal auditor. There are four small action points listed for the attention of Councillors, which were noted. As a result of the comments two of the parish council's policies will be listed for review on the agenda next month. **Action AR.**
- 16. To declare that GEPC is an exempt authority within the definition contained in the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and confirm exemption for 2020 / 21** – Councillors agreed that GEPC be declared an exempt authority.
- 17. To approve the Annual Governance Statement** - The Annual Governance Statement, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved.
- 18. To consider and approve the Accounting Statements for 2020 / 21** – The Accounting Statement, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved.

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

Chq no	Amount	Payee	Notes
100668	£ 231.90	A Rayner	May salary
100669	£4230.00	Westcotec Ltd	Parish Partership bid
100670	£ 13.00	GE Teddy Bear Festival	Publication in magazine
100671	£ 143.88	T Betts	Expenses refund
100672	£ 795.24	Glasdon UK	2 x bins
100673	£ 300.00	GE Pre-school	Grant

- 20. To consider items from Councillors** – Councillor Partridge asked about the grass cutting. Councillor Mellor confirmed that, as far as he was aware, cuts have been carried out twice, at 3 weekly intervals, which was the agreed schedule.
- 21. To consider correspondence received: Residents concerns regarding Bow Street** – Several residents of Bow Street have been in contact with the clerk and Chairman, raising concerns about the impact of the road closure and the inappropriate use of Bow Street during this period. The Chairman has worked with the Highways Engineer to mitigate the impact .
- 22. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 23 June 2021 to be held at the recreation centre, commencing at 7.30pm.**

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm