

Great Ellingham Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at the recreation centre on Wednesday 23rd March 2022 at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Cllr S Mellor (Vice-Chairman), Cllr P Ewin, Cllr M Barron and Cllr N Wilkins.

Parish Clerk – Melanie Eversfield
District Councillor – Sarah Suggitt

- 1. Open Forum – An opportunity for any parishioner to speak on parish matters and to hear reports from District and County Councillors, if applicable** – No parishioners were present. District Councillor Suggitt stated that the bin days changed this week and although there are a few glitches it seems to be going well. It was noted that Cabinet agreed to support the Breckland Wildlife Protection Policy, which is a Norfolk wide strategy which has been 2 years in the making. The aim is to create protection by way of funding. It was also noted that Cabinet has agreed for a call for sites. The aim is to identify local land that could be built on or needs to be protected. The consultation will run from 4th April to 20th May.
- 2. To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr A Partridge until June 2022, due to personal circumstances. Apologies were also received and accepted from Cllr N Wishart, Cllr T Betts, Cllr M Hadley and Cllr H Mellor. County Councillor Ed Connolly also sent apologies.
- 3. To receive any declarations of interest in any item on the agenda** – There were none.
- 4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 16th February 2022** – The minutes were approved as a true record and signed as correct by the Vice-Chairman.
- 5. To report matters arising not on the agenda and hear the Chairman’s report** – The submission from NCC Highways to Broadland District Council in relation to planning application 3PL/2021/1547/F – 8no. Poultry Houses, Land to south side of Swangey Lane was noted and agreed that it was good news. It was noted that there had been a recent flooding incident in Town Green. The Parish Council gave thanks to Cllr N Wilkins, Mr M Davey and ENM Services Ltd for finding and sorting the issue. Cllr Betts submitted the following written report: -
 - **School Crossing** -Temporary measure – recruitment of 2nd Lollipop person – an offer of employment has been made to a member of the school’s staff. Once she has been inducted, she will join Rob Strutt in safely helping pupils cross the Watton Road. Long-term solution – NCC Highways are due to undertake a final safety audit of the proposed crossing point, prior to the required works being done. The Headteacher and School Governors have agreed, in principle, the new location for the school safety crossing and all required additional works have been agreed. Finally, a villager has kindly volunteered to assist in the project – details to be agreed.
 - **Speedwatch** - Two sessions held this month have already resulted in 21 vehicles being recorded speeding, in the Hingham Road. Speeding in Great Ellingham continues to be a priority for our local police force. SNAP
 - **West Carr Road & Swangey** - As this area is due to join Great Ellingham at the next election, the Chairman is keeping a close interest in the ‘goings-on’.

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3PL/2021/1547/F – 8no. poultry houses – Land to the South side of Swangey Lane, Rocklands. NCC Highways has submitted an objection to BDC. The Chairman has already circulated this to councillors.

- **Advance Warning sign on A11 of Weight Restriction on Wroo Road etc** - Signs still not in place but. Matt Lines, our Highways Engineer is chasing National Highways. NCC Highways have said there is no case to extend the Weight Restriction to the Breckland Lodge Roundabout. The traffic is too light (in numbers) to warrant the cost – it's not just a case of moving signs; it would require a Road Traffic Act, which comes with legal fees.
- **Covid-19 Support Group Tea Party** - Postponed due to Omicron but £15 per head quoted by The Crown – 20 people in budget. As restrictions have been lifted and The Crown has a new chef, the Chairman will set-up a new date.
- **Jubilee Bench** - NCC Highways will arrange for the Jubilee Bench to be moved near to the Jubilee Oak Tree, in front of the school.
- **Pond at Church Farm** - The Chairman was asked to speak to Derek Beales about his plans for the pond and whether it could be preserved for the benefit of the village – a possible tie-in with the Queen's Jubilee was mentioned. Mr Beales continues to be undecided about the future of the pond. He was minded to cut down all the trees, remove the willow tree, fill the pond and grass the whole area. The Chairman explained the PC's idea to Mr Beales and he said he would think about it. The Chairman will contact Mr Beales again before the next PC meeting.
- **Flooded Ditch on Town Green** - The ditch and culvert are not draining under the Melton Meadow development, which jeopardises nearby properties e.g. Miller's Cottage. The Chairman asked Mark Davey to investigate and propose a solution with costs. Mark Davey cleared the culvert and Alan Reynolds (ENM Services Ltd) pumped out the water. The Chairman and Vice-chairman authorised a payment of £50 to Mark Davey. The Chairman will contact Alan Reynolds to ascertain what he would like to charge for his work. In clearing the blockage, a chamber, open to the elements has been exposed. It had safety railings, but these collapsed some time ago. The Chairman has contacted the Highways Engineer to request the repair of the manhole and that it be made safe, as a matter of urgency.

6. To hear of planning decisions and other information:

- a) 3PL/2021/1218/F – New build sustainable home – Land at Bow Street, Great Ellingham – REFUSED
- b) 3PL/2021/1631/HOU – Proposed cart lodge/garage/summer house with games rooms above – 2 Rookery Cottages, Watton Road, Great Ellingham – APPROVED
- c) 3PL/2021/1038/VAR – Variation of condition no.3 on 3PL/2004/1524/F – Allow use of floodlights 4 evenings per week (Tue to Fri) instead of just 2 – Playing Field, Green Lane, Rockland – WITHDRAWN
- d) 3PL/2022/0050/VAR – Variation of condition 2 for PP 3PL/2020/0482/VAR – Slight raising of roofline of plot 2 to allow for revised layout and rooms in roof space – Misty Dawn, Deopham Road, Great Ellingham - APPROVED

7. To consider planning applications:

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- a) **3PL/2022/0198/F – Change of use of 1no. agricultural building to mixed use class E(g) and B8, and associated works – Stalland Farm, Great Ellingham**– *Great Ellingham Parish Council has now had an opportunity to consider the planning application and wishes to raise no objection to the proposals contained therein. However, if new or additional information comes to light then it would appreciate the opportunity to consider this further.*
- b) **3PL/2022/0199-VAR – Variation of condition 2 on 3PL/2021/1300/F – revised design of garage to include new solar panels – Swamp Farm, Swamp Lane, Great Ellingham**– *Great Ellingham Parish Council has now had an opportunity to consider the planning application and wishes to raise no objection to the proposals contained therein. However, if new or additional information comes to light then it would appreciate the opportunity to consider this further.*
8. **To receive and note accounts, budget comparison and bank reconciliation as at 28th February 2022** – Agreed.
9. **To review and approve Asset Register and Internal Review Policy** – Defer to April meeting.
10. **To receive an update regarding funding a tea party to celebrate the success of the GE Covid Support Group and present the Lord Lieutenant’s Commemorative Plaque during the party; after which it will be attached to the village sign support** – It was noted that this would take place in the coming months, Covid permitting. Approximately 20 people will attend and a budget of £300.00 would be sufficient.
11. **To receive an update regarding funding a planting scheme, prepared by John Patman, for the roundabout and surrounding verges** – It was noted that a licence to cultivate has been approved. Cllr Betts is in consultation with John Patman regarding a slight change of design and then quotations will be obtained. In the meantime, Cllr Betts will write to local businesses seeking sponsorship. Cllr S Mellor will undertake a risk assessment of volunteers working on the highway for the Parish Council. All findings will be brought back to the Council.
12. **To discuss and consider proposals for the queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022** – A discussion took place. It was noted that a few events are already being arranged within the Parish. Cllr M Barron to find out what the actual plans of the Rec Committee are. Cllr M Barron and Cllr S Mellor to work on the design of some jubilee mugs. The possibility of some village bunting was also discussed.
13. **To consider writing off two unrepresented cheques from 2019 as follows: 100579 £84.29 & 100593 £252.95** – Agreed.
14. **To consider insurance renewal for 2022** – It was agreed to renew at a cost of £551.44
15. **To consider the following payments:** -Agreed

Chq No	Amount	Payee	Notes
100697	£212.10	Mrs M Eversfield	March Salary
100698	£130.00	R Ewin	Allotment Rent
100699	£130.00	D Ewin	Allotment Rent
100700	£130.00	C Ewin	Allotment Rent

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100701	£159.00	K Isaaks	Wheelie Bin Stickers
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16. To consider items from councillors

- Cllr M Barron gave a brief update on the Breckland Landscape and Settlement Character Assessment Workshop – there is a lot to it with a huge amount of data. There is a draft document with detailed analysis to form the baseline for a new design supplementary planning document. Cllr Barron to circulate to councillors.
- The subject of defibrillators within the Parish was discussed. The Clerk and Cllr Betts to work on this together and bring their findings back to the council.
- The installation of a general waste bin in Shrug Lane was discussed. The Clerk stated that Breckland had rejected the request. It was noted that Cllr Betts would take this up with Highways.
- Pink colour in the ditches. It was noted that in recent days some of the water in the ditches around the Parish had become pink. It was agreed that Cllr Betts would make enquiries with the Environment Agency as to why this was happening.

17. To consider correspondence received:

- Mid Norfolk Flood Partnership Campaign Update – Noted
- Norfolk Resilience Forum – Support to Community Resilience - Noted

17. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 20th April 2022 to be held at the Recreation Centre commencing at 7.30pm – Noted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25m.