

Greatham Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 11th March 2020, 8pm
at Greatham Village Hall

Present Cllr T Butler (Chair), Cllr A Cheesman, Cllr A Crick, Cllr S Harris, Cllr M Rodbert, Cllr O Rook

Also present Jane Ives, Clerk to Parish Council
9 members of the public

- 19.271 Chair's Announcements:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked councilors and residents to be mindful of vulnerable neighbours during the current coronavirus concerns. He also reminded members of the public that they could ask questions during the adjournment of the meeting for public questions.
- 19.272 Apologies for absence:** Cllr Driver. Cllr Oppenheimer had also sent his apologies.
- 19.273 Declarations of Interests:** None
- 19.274 Council Meeting Minutes:** It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th February 2020.
- 19.275 Update on actions arising from previous meetings:**
- i) There were a small number of volunteers for defibrillator training so an agenda item will be added in April.
 - ii) The Clerk had inspected the phone box and the resident will be returning it refurbished within 2 months. It needs replacement glass and Cllr Cheesman will investigate potential sources. Cllr Harris will seek a quote for work using up to date photos and will also discuss installation with the Village Hall Committee. All decisions will be brought to Council at the appropriate time.
 - iii) The Clerk is waiting for a quote for dog waste bins and this will be brought to the next meeting.
 - iv) Unity Bank Account – The Clerk will contact Unity Bank to resolve Cllr Cheesman's login.
 - v) Cllr Crick will ask the Village Hall Committee about the potential for a microphone system.
- 19.276 County Councillor's Report:** Cllr Oppenheimer had provided a report (Appendix 1) which was noted.
- 19.277** The Chair **adjourned** the meeting for **Public Questions:**
In response to a question from a resident about the Fern Farm planning application, Cllr Rodbert advised that a response could still be submitted to EHDC but he did not know if they could take account of it. Cllr Cheesman asked Cllr Crick about the Liss Greatham & Hawkley Friendship Fund's charity status as the Parish Council had recently awarded a grant. A written response will be given following the meeting. A resident had written to the Council requesting support for a garden project at Greatham Primary School. Cllr Rook will seek further information and report back to Council.
A resident asked why the precept had increased for 2020/21. The Chair explained that the previous Council had run down reserves as they were too high. The expenditure of the Council has not significantly increased but we are now using precept rather than reserves to cover current expenditure.
A resident asked why the reserves are still above the amount recommended by the auditor at this point in the year. A response will be given at a future meeting following the end of the financial year.

Meeting reconvened

- 19.278 Financial Report:**
- a) The Clerk reported the bank balances at 29th February 2020 as follows:

Current Account:	£ 5,988.43
Deposit Account:	£25,000.00
- Earmarked funds held in the bank account are as follows:
- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| CIL fund: | £ 4,395.00 |
| Website | £ 500.00 |

There were no receipts in February 2020.

The Clerk reported that the cost of the post box agreed at the February meeting was £29.03.

Additionally, an emergency spend had been agreed under Financial Regulations to purchase a new laptop for the Clerk at a cost of £479.00. The cost had been budgeted for 2020/21 but will now be taken from general reserves in this financial year. Approval by two councilors had been given.

The Clerk advised that year end accounts are now being prepared and preparation for both internal and external audits is underway.

b) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

Invoice Date	Payee	Description	Net Total	VAT	Total
		PAYMENTS MADE			
02/12/19	Greatham Village Hall	Room Hire November 2019	£24.75	£0.00	£24.75
29/02/20	Clerk	Salary February 2020	£640.25	£0.00	£640.25
29/02/20	HMRC	Tax/NI liability month 11	£160.80	£0.00	£160.80
		PAYMENTS TO BE MADE			
25/02/20	Premier Grounds	Non green waste from lengthsman litter pick	£20.00	£4.00	£24.00
01/03/20	Clerk	Expenses Jan-March 2020	£90.11	£11.17	£101.28
02/03/20	Greatham Village Hall	Room Hire February 2020	£8.25	£0.00	£8.25
05/03/20	Parish Online	One year subscription to mapping service	£75.00	£15.00	£90.00
06/03/20	Headley Parish Council	SLR deployments 2019/20	£281.25	£56.25	£337.50
05/03/20	Oakworks	Repair to Old Church tomb plinth	£180.00	£0.00	£180.00
10/03/20	Clerk	Reclaim cost of new laptop for use by the Clerk	£479.00	£0.00	£479.00
		TOTALS	£1,959.41	£86.42	£2,045.83

- 19.279 CPRE Subscription:** It was **RESOLVED** to subscribe to CPRE Membership for one year at a cost of £36.00.
- 19.280 Planning Update:** Cllr Rodbert provided an update and advised that no new planning applications had been received and there were no decisions on recently applications.
- 19.281 SDNPA Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document:** It was **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to Cllr Rodbert and Cllr Rook to provide a response to the consultation documents.
- 19.282 Tree Survey on Parish Council Trees:** There was a discussion about the tree survey and councilors felt that they wanted further information relating to the ancient yew tree before they could make a decision on work. It was therefore agreed to **DEFER** the appointment of a contractor and instead to carry out the following actions:
 The Clerk will contact Dryad Tree Specialists to ascertain their view of the work recommended by the ancient yew specialist and whether their report can reflect this amended work.
 If the tree surveyor cannot amend his recommendations, the Clerk will obtain quotations for a specialist survey on the ancient yew tree and this will be added to the April agenda for agreement.
 The Clerk will then seek advice from the Council's insurers.
 The contractors' quotes relating to the other parish owned trees will be brought back to a future meeting.
- 19.283 Old Church Grass Cutting:** Following some concerns from the potential grass cutting contractor, it was **RESOLVED** to now appoint Petersfield Town Council to carry out two cuts per year, in September and March, at a cost of £120 + VAT.
- 19.284 Old Church Update:** The Clerk provided a brief update from the recent advisory committee meeting. The work on the plinth had been successfully completed by Oakworks who also fixed the noticeboard at no cost.

The standpipe tap will be removed from the churchyard shortly. The Old Church committee will be arranging a talk later in the year from an ancient yew tree specialist.

The Chair wished to minute his thanks to David Redman for all the work he carries out on a voluntary basis as he has recently cut the grass and will be removing the tap at no cost to the Parish. The Clerk will write to Mr Redman to express the Council's thanks. **Action: Clerk**

19.285 Village Clean Up Day: It was **RESOLVED** to hold the next Clean Up Day on the afternoon of Sunday 26th April 2020. This will be promoted via Facebook, our website and mailing, and an article will go in the Village Magazine. Identified jobs for the day were as follows: bus stop tidy up, pavement clearance, Old Church churchyard tidy, school garden.

The Clerk to obtain litter picking equipment from EHDC and promote the event. **Action: Clerk**

19.286 Traffic Working Group: Cllr Rook provided an update. The group have requested a meeting with the SDNPA regarding highways/traffic and would also like to meet with representatives from Selborne Parish Council. The group will have a display at the Annual Parish Meeting to encourage residents to discuss any issues with them. Potholes in the village have been reported and it is understood they have been fixed.

Cllr Rook to provide suggested gateway locations to the Clerk to discuss with Highways. **Action: Cllr Rook**

19.287 Community Funded Initiative Scheme: It was **RESOLVED** to defer a request for funding for the Community Funded Initiative Scheme until such time as the working group have consulted residents and agreed potential projects.

19.288 Annual Parish Meeting: The working party reported that the APM would take place on Tuesday April 7th, from 7pm, and refreshments would be served as residents arrived. There will be display tables from various village groups and so far confirmed are St John's Church, Tot Stop, Traffic & Transport Working Group and The Greatham Inn.

Speakers are confirmed as Tim Slaney from SDNPA, Steve Peach from Hampshire Countryside Services and Cllr Butler will provide a report on the parish council regarding their work over the past year.

There will also be a scrolling board of thank yous, nominated by villagers – this will be an opportunity to say thank you to the people doing great things in the village. These are being collated by Councillor Driver as they come in after being requested through the village magazine.

19.289 Reports from representatives of Organisations, Outside Bodies, Working Parties, Leads & Groups:
Cllr Crick reported that Mr Ken Cope had carried out some work repairing the posts around the Village Green. The Chair asked if thanks could be minuted and the Clerk will write to Mr Cope to express the Council's thanks for his work. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Cheesman reported that the playground may require painting over the Summer. This will be added to the next Council agenda.

The Chair reported that approximately 30 residents had recently helped with hedge planting at the school.

19.290 Items for next agenda: Playground painting

19.291 Date of next meeting – The Chair confirmed the next meeting will be on Wednesday 8th April 2020, 8pm. A Planning Committee meeting would be held on Monday 23rd March 2020 subject to any planning applications being received. The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th April 2020, 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed: **Chair**

Date:

Appendix 1: County Councillors Report

1. Weather impacts Hampshire Highways

February saw the arrival of two storms in quick succession – Storm Ciara and Storm Dennis – which resulted in an extra 2,000 reports for Hampshire Highways to deal with over two consecutive weekends. Intense rainfall and strong winds caused widespread debris (fallen trees, mud, branches) and surface water on the roads, and highways teams worked round the clock to keep Hampshire’s roads clear.

Throughout the year, Highways teams carry out a programme of gully cleansing, cutting and cleaning grips (channels that run between the highway and roadside ditches) and new drainage schemes in preparation for wet weather. Around £2 million is earmarked annually for maintaining Hampshire’s 900km of highway drains and roadside gullies, but there are many watercourses on private land which can become blocked without regular maintenance. All landowners are urged to make sure ditches and drains on their land are kept clear of leaves, vegetation and other debris as blockages can lead to flooding on local roads after heavy rainfall. Surface water or fallen trees and debris on the highway can be reported direct to the County Council at www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems

We also advise residents to keep themselves informed and to be prepared by signing up to the Environment Agency flood alert system:

<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings>

2. Coronavirus preparedness

Hampshire County Council and health partners continue to keep a close watch on the development of the Coronavirus outbreak – with processes in place to respond, if and when required.

Although a small number of cases have been recorded in the UK, there have been no confirmed cases in Hampshire. The Government’s Chief Medical Officer continues to advise that the risk to the public is moderate, with risks to individuals remaining low.

Hampshire residents can stay up to date with the latest information and guidance at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

One of the best ways to minimise the spread of any virus is to adopt good hand hygiene and to follow the Catch it, Bin it, Kill it advice if you have a cold or cough (see this link: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2017/09/catch-bin-kill.pdf> which can be printed and placed in washrooms and kitchens).

3. New “Business Hampshire” service launched

Previously known as Invest in Hampshire, the new service has been created to showcase all that is great about Hampshire with the aim to attract new business investment into the county and to support the growth and success of our existing local businesses, large and small.

Hampshire faces strong competition from other areas of the UK. We need to make sure that we make Hampshire stand out, and bring all Hampshire has to offer as a business location to the attention of potential investors.

The new website offers information about the Hampshire economy, key business sectors, business news and how the Business Hampshire team can support businesses.

Also featured is a new interactive property and development portfolio, showcasing the key commercial and mixed-use development, investment and occupier opportunities available across the county and Isle of Wight. Here is a link:

<https://businesshampshire.co.uk/>

A Hampshire place-making strategy is also being undertaken to support this initiative. This strategy will involve consultation with stakeholders and the public across Hampshire.

4. Winner announced in annual South Downs photo competition



As ponies gathered around a tree at sunset at Cissbury Ring, near Worthing, budding photographer Joe James snapped away – and the result can be seen above.

This blissful photograph has won the People’s Choice Award in the National Park’s Annual Photography Competition. Joe, a 38-year-old security manager from Horsham, wins a £100 prize.

Joe, who is a well-known local advocate for autism awareness through his own Facebook page, has been taking images for the past two years and has been honing his talent.

“I’m autistic and proud,” said the dad-of-two, who has never entered a photo competition before. “Being autistic allows me to hyperfocus on photography to really hone this skill so I can get the perfect image. Taking pictures is my version of mindfulness – I find it calms me and relaxes me.”

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers