

**Greatham Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 7.30 pm**

**Present** Cllr R. Lafferty (Chair), Cllr SJ Bartlett (clerk), Cllr C Rudd, Cllr S Pond, Cllr Cheesman

**Also present** : 7 residents

**24.219 : Chairman's Announcement** : The Chair advised that the council have some staffing issues to discuss at the end of the meeting and will therefore ask all residents to leave once the main agenda items have been covered, so that they can complete their discussions in an exempt session.

**24.220 : Apologies for Absence** : Cllr R Oppenheimer, Cllr K Mitchell, Cllr M Steevens.

**24.221 :Declarations of Interest** : None

**24.222 :Approval of Minutes:** It was **RESOLVED** to approve minutes from the council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

**24.223 : Update on previous actions arising from council meetings** : (Appendix 1)

- The council are still looking into how the bridleway that was at the Old Apple Pie Depot might be replaced.
- The council have been reading whatever information is provided regarding devolution, however there has not been anything significant to share at a meeting as yet. However the clerk is aware of two public meetings being organised by East Hampshire Conservative Association : Alton Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm and Rowlands Castle Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm.

**24.224 : Report from District Councillors:** Report from Cllr Mitchell/Cllr Steevens (Appendix 2)

- An email was received from Cllr Mitchell and was read to the meeting.

**24.225 Report from County Councillor:** Report from Cllr Russell Oppenheimer (Appendix 3)

- Cllr Oppenheimer has sent his Annual Report this month, which he has asked that we use at the Annual Parish Meeting. He has sent this early as some of his parishes hold these meetings in March/April.
- He did send an update regarding the issue of parking at the school and from the Enforcement team. See appendix 3 for this email.

**24.226 Public Question Time:** Adjournment of the meeting for 15 minutes to allow the public to raise questions

- A resident advised that at 06.50 am on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> march a large concrete pumping lorry was seen using Longmoor road. It was travelling above the speed limit for the road that it was on. A photo was taken of the registration of the lorry and it was noted that at the slip road alongside the old apple pie site it turned left and then left again onto the relief road. The photo was forwarded to the Chair of the council who has in turn sent it to Equaton properties to ask if this is anything to do with them.
- A question was asked about why Cove Homes development traffic has been agreed to travel through the village to Digby way rather than towards the Farnham Road. The Chair advised that the school had asked that no traffic goes past the school to ensure the safety of the children that attend. It is also a shorter distance from the site entrance to Digby way than from the site entrance to the Farnham Road. Lastly the turning into Greatham travelling from Selbourne on the Farnham Road is very difficult for large vehicles to navigate given the layout of the junction.
- A question was asked about what was being done about the traffic calming measures for the village from Longmoor Road to Digby way. A number of points were made regarding this question : The council have looked at the cobbles that have been used in Buriton, which do seem to have made a difference to the speed of the traffic. This is an interesting solution and will be considered further. It was pointed out that the proposed pedestrian crossing between the two bus stops on Petersfield Road would have been the first stage

in adding some traffic calming measures, but due to a small number of residents making this impossible to implement, it had not been completed. The funding was in place for this activity, along with a workforce to start the work. The majority of the village were in favour of the pedestrian crossing being implemented. It was also advised that the council will try and place the SLR camera's that are used in the year showing traffic speeds in places where they are likely to have the most impact.

- Given that HCC have little funding available for the coming year, and they are moving towards devolution additional funding for traffic calming measures is unlikely to be received.
- A question was asked about the use of dragon's teeth posts to protect the verges on the corner of Church Lane and Petersfield road which has been damaged by cars parking on the grass. The council will ask what can be done.
- A question was raised about the parking around the school and that it still poses an issue. The council understand the residents frustration with this issue, and share their concerns. Discussions have taken place with Greatham school via the parish council and also from the trustees of the village hall, unfortunately with little impact. Residents agree that the school should take more responsibility. The council had asked Cllr Oppenheimer to engage with the traffic enforcement team at HCC to see if they could do anything to help. Unfortunately they cannot as there are no traffic regulations in place outside the school for them to enforce. However they did forward their concerns to the Principal Traffic and Safety Engineer at East Hants and Winchester. Her response was as follows :

Meeting reconvened

#### **24.227 : Parish Council Finances/Administration:**

- a) **Payment Schedule:** It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment schedule. (Appendix 4).
- b) **Finance Report:** To note the Finance Report for February 2025. Bank reconciliations were signed showing a balance error of £2.50. This will be resolved in March bank reconciliations 2025.
- c. **Clerks Report** (Appendix 6)
  - The meeting with the secretary of the Coryton Almshouses was cordial and she explained that the charity is now fully independent and as such does not have to report to any of the local parish councils that used to be involved as Trustees.
  - A more detailed discussion regarding recruitment of an RFO will take place at the end of the meeting in an exempt session.
  - Dates will be advertised on Facebook and on the parish council website for the litter picking as part of the Great British Spring Clean. These will be 22<sup>nd</sup> March and 5<sup>th</sup> April.
  - During the retirement celebration for the Ven Peter Sutton, Greatham Parish Council presented a painting of The old Church Carols by Candlelight as a thank you.

#### **24.228: Planning Applications :**

**Lone Barn Farm : Retrospective change of use of land from equestrian to land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes with hardstanding and dayrooms ancillary to that use.**

Council Comment : There is currently only 1 consultee comment listed on the planning portal. Cllr Pond had a detailed conversation with the planning officer regarding this and the previous application prior to the council meeting. There is one new document linked to this application regarding the legal definition of Gypsy status and if the changes in law may be applicable in this case. The council has to look at each application in their own right, without reference to a previous application. Cllr Pond noted the comments made previously with regard to this property, which were :

We object to this planning application for the following reasons : suitability of Church Lane for higher volumes of traffic, the area is outside of the settlement boundary, and the impact of the siting of the mobile homes on the landscape as part of the SDNP, and that the area is an ancient meadow and not for residential use.

Given our previous comments have not changed. It was **RESOLVED** to Object to the proposal using the same comments as above. **Proposed by Cllr Lafferty and seconded by Cllr Rudd. The vote was unanimously approved.**

**Thele Knapp Cottage : Erection of 1 new dwelling (resubmission of SDNP/24/01985/FUL) with amended site boundary and car parking area. Self Build.**

Council Comment : Cllr Pond pointed out that should this application be refused the previous submission would still stand. It was **RESOLVED** to not object to this application. **Proposed by Cllr Pond and seconded by Cllr Lafferty. The vote was unanimously approved.**

**24.229 : To appoint a new trustee to the Greatham Allotment Charity.** The parish council have not yet received an update on whether the trustee that was due to leave will actually step down, so this item has been moved to the April Meeting.

**24.230 : To discuss the SLR Locations for the coming year.** A full list of locations has been received. The 5 locations for the SLR within the village are :

Greatham 1 : Lamp column 17. Petersfield Rd, (near Eurotec) facing oncoming traffic from the North, heading out of the village towards Whitehill.

Greatham 2 : B3006 from Ham Barn Roundabout to towards Greatham. Before turning into Greatham there is an existing road sign for left hand bend and 30 mph repeater sign. SLR to be on this post.

Greatham 3 : 30 mph post just beyond Springfield Stables on the left, on Longmoor Road heading out of Greatham.

Greatham 4 : Lampost column 3. Heading out of Greatham towards Toll House corner. Attach to column above existing dog fouling sign.

Greatham 5 : B3006 from Liss towards Ham Barn Roundabout. Use existing 40 mpg speed marker sign outside cottages on left hand side.

It was **RESOLVED** that we would request that Greatham 3 and Greatham 5 are no longer used. And that Greatham 1 should be used to face oncoming traffic from the South, heading into Greatham from Whitehill. A question will also be asked about Speed markers being used at Silver Birch Mews, as this does appear to have been a site used in the past.

It was **RESOLVED** to request again if any of the ANPR camera's that were being offered from EHDC are coming available.

It was **RESOLVED** that each time an SLR is installed in the village the data will be collected and submitted to the local police force as information on offending drivers.

**24.231: Council Led projects for the 2025.** It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Cheesman will be responsible for the ongoing playground maintenance and the document will be amended accordingly.

It was **RESOLVED** that any Councillor that requires funding for any of their projects advises the clerk asap so that funding can be applied for prior to the CIL deadline of 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

**24.232 : Grass cutting of verges :** It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will discuss a grass cutting and maintenance budget with the Lengthsmen team to ensure the village is maintained in good order during the summer months.

**24.233 : Annual Review of the Asset Register.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the following changes needed to be made to the Asset Register post annual review. The Projector screen held at the village hall entered onto the register on 14/03/2012 be removed as Cllr Lafferty has

stated it is no longer in working order and should be disposed of. Once this change has been made the Asset Register can be adopted as correct as at 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

**24.234 : Risk Management Schedule review :** It was **RESOLVED** that the risk management schedule as updated on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 was accurate and should be adopted.

**24.235 : Reports from other organisations and outside bodies :**

- **Community Hub :** See appendix 11 for update.
- **PCC :** Peter Sutton retires on 30<sup>th</sup> April, and the PCC is working with the Diocese to secure a replacement. The quiz night is full so a fun evening is expected. There is a dog show and fete on 21<sup>st</sup> June where the NCMA will have a section of their 62ft railway line on display in the church. The bishop is saying mass on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June. The Shanty men will make a welcome return on the 21<sup>st</sup> September.
- **Greatham Village Hall :** The In-post is not currently working. The error is in the process of being fixed. 2 quotes for the trim trail have been received, a 3<sup>rd</sup> quote is expected soon. Provision of Bike racks and scooter racks is under review. The hall is planned for a complete refurbishment including painting.
- **Flag Flying on the village green :** A resident requested the parish council consider flying a union Jack everyday, rather than on special occasions only. (See appendix 12). It was **RESOLVED** that the parish council consider designing a flag for the village that can be flown regularly, and will look into the cost. Consideration could be given to flying a St George's Flag and the rules around this will be investigated. The flagpole will also be refurbished as it is looking tired. A review of the dates when a Union Jack flag should be flown will be reviewed and updated. The parish council will also review flying a flag to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St John the Baptist. The Clerk will respond to the residents email accordingly.

**24.212 : Agenda Items for next meeting :**

- Financial Statement review
- End of Year Accounts.
- Annual Parish Meeting
- Annual Meeting

**24.213 : The Date of the next meeting : 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 @ 7.30 pm**

**24.218: The meeting closed at 21.35**

Signed ..... (Chairman)

Date .....

**Appendix 1 : Matters Arising**

- A question was raised about BOATs and if Greatham has any. This led to a question about the bridlepath that has been lost at the old Apple Pie Depot and if it can be replaced. This is being investigated.
- The parish council are keeping a watching eye on all of the devolution developments and when we have a clear idea of how it will impact parish councils we will discuss in a meeting.
- A link to the devolution consultation and the SDNP housing plan consultation was added to the parish facebook page.

**Appendix 2 : District Councillors Report**

Sending apologies as neither Mike nor I will be able to make the meeting tomorrow, I will however be at the next one.

The school are officially opening their new library at the beginning of April which was done through councillor grants which is lovely and they are just awaiting the planning approval for the astro which was also done through EHDC grants.

Also to say that it has been confirmed that both Mike and I have had our councillor grants doubled for the next year. £7k each for general funding and then £3k each for sustainability grants. Please please let us know of anything that we can help with as we are both very committed to using a large chunk of our funds on Greatham.

I know that Sue had her meeting about the Hub with Adeel and I believe that she is having to set up as an organisation before they can apply for funding of any sort.

I hope the meeting tomorrow goes well and I look forward to seeing you at the next one.

### Appendix 3 : County Councillor Report

Dear Cllr Oppenheimer,

I understand from our colleagues in Parking Enforcement, that you have recently requested that enforcement is undertaken outside Greatham Primary School. They, in turn, have written to us, as there are not any parking restrictions that they can enforce. I just wanted to write to you to say that we will undertake an assessment with a view to the possibility of developing a suitable scheme and to see if the school have engaged with our School Travel Advisor.

Kind regards,

**Alison Lawlor**

**Principal Traffic and Safety Engineer**

**East Hants and Winchester**

### Appendix 4 : Payment Schedule

Invoice Date	Payee	Description	Net Total	Vat	Total
09/03/2025	Reg White	St Johns Churchyard maintenance	168.00	0.00	168.00
05/03/2025	Greatham village Hall	Booking 19/02/25	10.00	0.00	10.00
07/03/2025	Giff Gaff	Mobile phone charges	5.00	1.00	6.00
03/03/25	Disking	Monthly support and m/soft subscriptions. Paid by DD	63.97	12.79	76.76
28/02/25	Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges	6.00	0.00	6.00
05/03/25	Geosphere Ltd	Parish online mapping software	75.00	15.00	90.00
28/02/2025	Unity Trust bank	Debit interest	6.00	0.00	6.00

### Appendix 5 : Finance Report and Bank Reconciliations

**Receipts 1<sup>st</sup> February to 31<sup>st</sup> February 2025**

**Total Receipts** £0.00

**Balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025**

Current Account £12,435.99

Deposit Account	£26,696.15
<b>Total at Bank</b>	<b>£39,132.14</b>
<b>Earmarked Funds Held</b>	
Trees	£ 900.00
Community Engagement	£ 250.00
Elections	£3500.00
EMR CIL + £2K Grant	£1720.00
Telephone Box	£ 500.00
Kings Coronation	£ 500.00
Old Church	£4500.00
Defib Maintenance	£ 250.00
Bus Shelters	£ 250.00
<b>Total Earmarked Funds</b>	<b>£12,370.00</b>
<b>General Reserves Balance</b>	<b>£26,762.14 (Total at Bank less Earmarked funds)</b>

#### Appendix 6 : Clerks Report

- Meeting with Secretary of the Coryton Almshouses Charity to discuss recent questions regarding Trustees etc.
- Potential recruitment of RFO involved clerk interview, organizing interview with 2 other councillors, writing job description, seeking advice and benchmarking salary to ensure we are in line with correct pay scale, writing employment contract and liaison with candidate.
- Attended Old Church Communion service as part of leaving celebration of Ven Peter Sutton.
- Organising litter pick events supporting Clean up Britain campaign.

#### Appendix 7 : SLR Locations.

- See details in Main Minutes.

#### Appendix 8 : Council Projects 2025 and beyond.

##### Greatham Parish Council Project List 2025/2026 and beyond updated February 2025

Colour Code :

2025 projects

2026 Projects

2027 Projects and new Parish Council

Task	Lead	Cost	Comments/Progress
<b>General Parish Council Work</b>			
Playground maintenance	Cllr Lafferty		<i>Sort out drainage issue. Ensure ongoing checking of equipment and play area.</i>
Speedwatch equipment	Cllr Lafferty		<i>Fix owned camera and utilise within village on permanent basis</i>
Lengthsman	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Ongoing planning of work.</i>
Bus Shelter maintenance	Cllr Lafferty/Cllr Cheesman		<i>Review roof of shelters and re paint</i>
Review of salt bins	Cllr Cheesman		<i>Look at state of bins and if any need replacing, and if need cleaning/re-filling.</i>

Foliage management at Digby Way	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Look at improving visibility for cyclists and road users on the roundabout. ASAP using Lengthsmen. Look at Pedestrian Signage.</i>
Footpath	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Make up footpath from church to Farnham road junction. And alongside the village green. Look at using probation service. Also consider lengthsmen.</i>
Footpath	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Clear all footpaths so minimum walking area is available to pedestrians. Note : footpath to Snailing lane and to ham barn roundabout.</i>
Maintenance of Footpaths and bridlepaths	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Ongoing maintenance during summer months. Ask Sue Booton, Sue Godby and other residents to report on specific footpaths.</i>
Longmoor Bridge			<i>Maintenance and Painting.</i>
Village Green Posts	Cllr Lafferty/Cllr Cheesman		<i>Replace all posts around the village green. Clerk to source costs for Ash posts.</i>

### Quick Wins

Speedwatch	Cllr Lafferty/Cllr Bartlett		<i>Review locations of speed camera. Find volunteers to run village speedwatch sessions.</i>
G15			<i>Reviewed for new parish council</i>
Councillor Drop In	All		<i>Look to hold in April. Consider 12<sup>th</sup> if available. 10 – 12.</i>
Telephone box	Cllr Lafferty		<i>Concrete base to be organised. Windows to be installed.</i>
Wildflowers	Cllr Rudd		<i>Look at creating Wildflower and pollinator corridors in the village.</i>
Village Footpath & Ecology Signboards/Gateways	Cllr Bartlett	S106	<i>Find out where we are and get production moving.</i>
Old Church Strategy	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Book meeting with old church working group.</i>
Flood alleviation	Cllr Lafferty		<i>Work to be done on the river to reduce chance of flooding.</i>
Parking issues with school run	Cllr Cheesman/Cllr Rudd		<i>Review options to improve village access at peak times. HCC follow up and parking enforcement – Cllr Bartlett.</i>
Bakers field Parking			<i>Review issues and look at resolution options</i>
Old Church laurel hedge	Cllr Bartlett		<i>To agree actions regarding stumps of laurels that have been sprouting on bank. To agree boundary with L'Abri.</i>
Christmas tree	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Are we having one? Location? Power? Look to secure permanent site. Raised bed to be created.</i>
Litter pick	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Litter pick all areas currently in need to clearance : Forest Road, Petersfield Road, Selbourne Road to Snailing Lane, Farnham road to ham barn roundabout. Encourage support at Drop in to support Green Week</i>
Cove Homes Update	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Member of cove homes to visit parish council meeting and update on plans. Suggest attendance at March/April meeting.</i>
Budget Review	Cllr Lafferty/Cllr Bartlett		<i>Ongoing financial planning.</i>

### Major Initiatives

Cycle route from Greatham to Liss			<i>Utilise plans from previous parish council to see if route possible and look at finance.</i>
Old Church power and light	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Review option of having power and light installed at old church to allow for greater usage to be made of site to aid with cost of maintenance.</i>
Traffic calming initiatives	Cllr Lafferty/Cllr Bartlett		<i>Follow up with HCC regarding crossing, Farnham road junction works, traffic calming options. Consider planters.</i>
150 <sup>th</sup> celebration of St Johns church	Cllr Rudd		<i>Agree what the parish council will do to note this event. Look at funding a new noticeboard – Cllr Bartlett to source.</i>
<b>Other Initiatives</b>			
Community Hub engagement			
Recruitment of RFO and Clerk			
War Memorial – Post/Chain at front of memorial. Flower border to surround. Look at Funding options.			
Gift for Ven. Peter Sutton to Thank for his service : Cllr Bartlett to review option of print of painting of old church.			

**Appendix 9 : Asset Register**

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Asset Register as at 07/03/2025

Asset Details					Purchase Details		Payment		Insured value
Date entered on Register	Item	Make	Serial Number	Location	Supplier	Purchase Price (ex VAT)	Invoice Date	Sub Totals	
14/08/2006	Greatham Old Church			Petersfield Rd		£1.00		£1.00	£1
14/08/2006	War Memorial			St John the Baptist Church		£14,060.69		£14,060.69	£16,619.75
30/03/2020	Village Green			Petersfield Rd/Forest Rd		£1.00		£1.00	
20/03/2018	Speedwatch equipment			Clr Bartlett	CA Traffic	£2,258.40	07/09/2015	£2,258.40	£2,258.40
31/03/2021	Defibrillator & Cabinet	AED Plus		Village Hall	Donated by Farnham Lions pre 2016 (purchase price = market price). 10/06/21 new cabinet purchased @ £465	£1,670.00	10/06/2021	£1,670.00	£1,670.00
14/11/2021	Litter pickers x 8			Clr Bartlett	Amazon	£24.43	14/11/2021	£24.43	£24.43
14/03/2012	Cupboard			Village Hall	Surrey Office Supp	£85.00	06/01/2012		£85.00
14/03/2012	Laminator	Fellowes Mars	110909vd0065685	Clr Bartlett	Viking Direct	£53.49	15/03/2012		£53.49
14/03/2012	Projector Screen	Metroplan Budget Tripod Screen 240x240 ET1005		Village Hall	AV Partmaster Lt	£116.75	05/03/2012		£116.75
20/03/2018	Colour printer/scanner	Samsung C480FW Colour Laser Printer	08GRB8KJGB026VW	Clr Bartlett	Amazon	£209.99	07/11/2017		£209.99
20/03/2018	External hard drive	Bipra 1TB 2.5" USB 2.0 FAT 32	BOOP81QTJ	Clr Bartlett	Amazon	£54.95	16/01/2018		£54.95
30/03/2020	Laptop computer	Lenovo S340 1415BL		Clr Bartlett	Currys PC World	£479.00	11/03/2020		£479.00
30/09/2020	HDMI cable			Cl Lafferty	Amazon	£26.21			£26.21
30/09/2020	Extension cable			Clr Bartlett	Amazon	£11.68			£11.68
06/02/2024	Post Box	Black 171 letterbox		Village Hall	B&Q	£35.52			£35.52
30/09/2020	Fire extinguisher/blanket			Old Church	Fire Safety Store	£31.95			£31.95
31/03/2021	Mobile phone	Nokia 1.3		Clr Bartlett		£89.00			£89.00
31/03/2021	Webcam	Logitech		Clr Bartlett		£24.99			£24.99
26/07/2021	Water bowser	Tanks Direct		D. Redman		£239.00			£239.00
21/06/2022	Bat & bird boxes	RSPB	8 x bird boxes, 2 x bat	Old Church	RSPB	£309.42			£309.42
07/03/2024	Defibrillator & Cabinet	DHSC Mindray C1A fully automatic		St John the Baptist Church rooms	London Hearts. Match funding 50%	£750.00	05/01/2024	£750.00	£1,500.00
	Defibrillator & Cabinet	DHSC Mindray C1A fully automatic			Eurotec Ltd London Hearts. Match funding 50% (EHDC Clr Grant funded)	£750.00	05/01/2024	£750.00	£1,500.00
	Voice Recorder	Olympus Digital voice Recorder VN-8500PC		Clr Bartlett	Donated by Mr D. Jerrard	£0.00			£44.99
					<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>£21,282.47</b>	
	<b>PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT</b>								
25/03/2024	Village Playground (including play surfaces)			Recreation Ground	Sawscapes Play Ltd	£112,725.00	25/01/2024		£112,725.00
	Zipwire			Recreation Ground	GB Sport & Leisure	£7,613.04	07/09/2015		£11,055.42
					<b>Sub Total for Playground Equipment</b>			<b>£120,338.04</b>	
	<b>STREET FURNITURE</b>								
07/09/2015	Flagpole			Village Green		£421.79			£421.79
	Union Jack			D Redman		£71.95			£71.95
03/12/2012	Bench			Village Green		£389.90			£1,193.82
03/03/2021	Bench			Bakers Field	Donation	£400.00			£400.00
	Bench			Old Church	Hemington Rustics	£250.00	06/06/2020		£250.00
	Fences			Playground		£2,785.59			£2,785.59
2011	Telephone box			Village Hall		£1.00			
14/08/2006	Bus Shelters x 3			2 @ Greatham Inn, 1 @ Digby Way		£14,581.48			£25,000.00
14/08/2006	Litter Bins			Bakers Field, bus shelter, playground, school, Hopeswood	Trevor Iles Ltd	£455.76	20/03/2006		£455.76
29/03/2023	Village gateways			Petersfield Road	K Knight Engineering	£2,600.00	21/10/2022		£2,600.00
					<b>Sub Total for Street Furniture</b>			<b>£21,957.47</b>	
								<b>£163,577.98</b>	<b>£182,344.85</b>

## **Appendix 10 : Risk Management Schedule 2025**

### **Risk Management Schedule 2025**

## **Appendix 11 : Community Hub**

The Action group is finalising the survey which should be going out in the April Parish magazine to all Greatham residents; there will be an online version as well. One of the questions gives people the opportunity to get involved in various ways.

The Action group have so far been funding initial expenses ourselves, so we are in the process of creating a more formalised body which will be a Community Benefit Society.

Once we have the results we will be producing a report and proposal which will be shared with all stakeholders. For any questions or comments please contact Sue Godby ([sue.godby@sky.com](mailto:sue.godby@sky.com))

## **Appendix 12 : Resident Request**

I would ask that the British flag is left raised in the village opposite the church on a daily basis and not just for special events. I wish to acknowledge my country every day.

I have raised my point in next door.co.uk. The suggestion has been met with approval. Below is a copy of my comments on the aforementioned website.

Upon walking my dog through Greatham village, I feel a sense of sadness that we have a flagpole with no flag. The pole says to me the village stands for nothing, is proud of nothing and without identity. I have to admit I am not particularly pleased with the actions of this Government or the last with their pro-woke agenda. However, the accomplishments and sacrifice of the people of Britain, both past and present need to be proudly reflected upon and duly recognised. The Union Jack is emblematic of our belonging. To me it evokes a sense of pride and achievement. Greatham could do this and not be bowed by current wokism. I've driven past other villages who display the flag. Why don't we do the same? Therefore, I am suggesting that we put up a Union Jack flag. I have read at great depth the history of our country. The more I read, the more proud I am of our historical heritage. All country's have had their blemishes, Britain is no different, but the good it has achieved, not just for the country but also the world,- far,far outweighs the bad. It must not be any other flag, barring St George's flag of course. Definitely not a pressure group. That really would be idiocy. Can someone offer me a suggestion as to why Greatham Village Council would consider this to be a bad idea? I am happy to advance the idea to Greatham Village Council. I'd be astonished if they said no as it would show disrespect to their country's flag. If in the event of cost being the reason given against the purchase of such a flag, I would be more than happy to make a contribution as I am sure would others in the village.