

LITTLE GLEMHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 10th September 2019 in the Parish Room

1. **Present from the Council:** Philip Hope Cobbold [Chairman] Stephen Bayfield; Frank Hilder; Lynne Gibbs; Emma Angell; Claire Peck; Pat Trinder [Clerk]
2. **Present from the Public:** Stephen Burroughes [County Councillor]
3. **Apologies for Absence:** Carol Poulter [District Councillor]
4. **Declarations of Interest:** Philip Hope-Cobbold: Agenda Item 7 [a] [iii] [iv] [v] ;
5. **Clerk's Vacancy:** Two applications had been received since the last meeting, and councillors were already aware that one of the applicants had subsequently withdrawn. Copies of Mr Roberts CV had been circulated, and on a Proposition by the Chairman it was agreed to invite him to meet with councillors immediately prior to the next meeting on Tuesday 8th October, at 7.15 p.m. Notwithstanding the above arrangement, it was also agreed to re-advertise the position, along with the outstanding councillor vacancy, by means of a hand-delivered leaflet, to every household. SB agreed to draft the leaflet and other councillors volunteered to help with delivery; **[A.P. Clerk/Stephen/Frank/Lynne]**
6. **Minutes of the last meeting:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th July 2019 were unanimously adopted and signed as a correct record. *[Proposed by Cllr. Stephen Bayfield; Seconded by Cllr. Frank Hilder]*
7. **Matters Arising from the 9th July Council meeting:**
 - a. **[i] Community Area Update:** Claire apologised for not carrying out the August inspections. Frank confirmed that he would pick up any issues during his September inspections and advised that he intended to try to dismantle and remove the damaged picnic table on Wednesday *[Other Cllr help requested]* ; noted that it had already been agreed to replace it with the smaller table, currently stored in the shed. Frank reported that the goalposts were not in a good condition and really needed to be replaced. The clerk commented that the Council had replaced the nets twice [2012 & 2016] Quotations would be required for further consideration. It was hoped that the other outstanding repairs could be completed, prior to the annual safety inspection which would be carried out some time during September. The possibility of prohibiting dogs from being allowed in the community area, in line with several other neighbouring play areas, was raised; the clerk briefly outlined the reasoning behind the Council's present policy, to allow dogs accompanied by their owners, in the Play area *Agreed to investigate the requirements for adopting a 'no dog' policy for the Community area;* **[A.P. Clerk/Frank]**
 - [ii] New Draft Lease:** Referring to the Estate's current offer, discussed at length at the last meeting, councillors reiterated their concerns about the scope of the planned project, in particular plans to provide a car park, and the financial implications to the Council. Primary concerns remain the uncertainty relating to the likelihood of the scheme complying with the current criteria operated by potential grant funding sources and also the fact that one of the associated objectives in providing a car park was to try and encourage greater use of the Parish Room ; in this regard, the PR Committee may also not favour any long-term investment, if the Council does not have any security of tenure; Councillors confirmed their commitment to updating the play equipment and also wished to proceed with the provision of a separate dog exercising area; After further lengthy discussion, on a Proposition by Cllr. Stephen Bayfield, it was agreed not to pursue the proposal to provide a car park at this time, but to proceed with the request for the lease to be extended to include the rough area of woodland at the northern end of the play area, to provide a separate dog exercising area. **[A.P. Clerk]**
 - [iii] Fencing & Clearing the site;:** *In abeyance*
 - [iv] Associated car parking provision:** *Deferred; See 7[a] [ii] above;* [Page 1 of 3]

[v] Improvements to community area play facilities: *in abeyance*;

b. Maintenance of highways/pavements/footpaths: It was reported that several 30 mph speed signs on the A12 had become faded/indistinct and some of the village footpath/street signs also needed attention. *Clerk to contact District council/highways; [A.P.Clerk]*

8. **Sizewell C – Stage 4 Consultation:** Those councillors who had attended various consultation/workshop meetings reported on the discussions. The clerk had circulated copies of LGPC's Stage 3 response for members' information and details of forthcoming joint meetings between neighbouring parishes had been circulated along with copies of feedback from other PCs. Following a lengthy debate, on a Proposition by the Chairman it was agreed to submit LGPC's final response to the Stage 4 consultation, as presented. It was also agreed to reiterate LGPC's opinion that many of the issues raised during the Stage 3 consultation have not been adequately addressed, and the Council was disappointed by the short-notice given regarding the launch of the Stage 4 consultation and the short time-frame for responses over the summer period, when many Parish Councils do not hold meetings. *[A.P. Clerk]*
9. **Suffolk County Councillor's Report:** Copies of Stephen Burroughes' written report had been circulated, and taken as read and received. Stephen expanded on one or two issues contained in his report, including: Suffolk schools achieving improved GCSE results; Building work on the new Suffolk Record Office [The Hold] is underway. The £20m project is on target for completion by Easter 2020 and set to come in on budget; Launch of 2 new Lorry Watch Schemes, aimed at reducing the number of HGV drivers ignoring weight restrictions on the County's roads; Other matters discussed included:
- Plans are progressing to begin Area Forums/Community Partnerships in Jan 2020 and further details will be provided in due course;
 - Commenting on the Sizewell C Stage 4 consultation, Stephen was disappointed that the 4VBP is now unlikely to attract Government support/funding;
 - Stephen confirmed his willingness to help with funding from his Locality budget towards LGPC's plans for improvements to the Community area; he also thought there might be funding available via the District Council's Play Space Fund, via Carol Poulter *[Appropriate applications to be submitted]*
 - LG Speed Watch: Stephen asked to be informed when the scheme was up and running so that appropriate publicity could be arranged; the clerk confirmed that delivery of the equipment was imminent; *Further thanks given to Stephen for funding the project; [A.P. Clerk/Frank]*
10. **District Councillor's Report:** Copies of Carol Poulter's written report had been circulated and taken as read and received.

11. **Planning:** Nothing to report.

12. **Finance:**

a. Financial Update:

The amount in the current account is:	£ 1,514.49
The amount in the deposit account is:	<u>5,775.25**</u>
	Total: £ 7,289.74

**_Figure includes funding for speedwatch equipment; invoice awaited;

b. Invoices for payment:

- East Suffolk Council: Uncontested election costs [2.5.19] £ 32.64
- Clerk's invoice for salary & expenses July/Aug 2019]..... £ 353.34

After payment of the above invoices [£385.98] the combined amount held in the accounts is £6,903.76.

c. Internal Audit issues: Reported at the July meeting; matter ongoing; *[A.P. Clerk]*

- d. N.A.L.C. Publication of updated Model Financial Regulations for England & Wales:** The clerk outlined the revisions:
- Restriction added to Regulation 11.1a ii: Clarifying disapplication of contract regulations to legal professionals limited to those “acting in disputes” only – not general legal work;
 - Updates to limits under Public Contract Regulations – footnote to Regulation 11.i.b;
 - Minor change to heading Regulation 12;

On a Proposition by Cllr. Stephen Bayfield, it was unanimously agreed to implement and adopt the revised regulations; **[A.P. Clerk]**

- e. Replacement cheque signatories:** The clerk confirmed that all the outstanding issues had been resolved and the new cheque signatories are now in place;

13. Any Other Business:

- a. Emma suggested the possibility of utilising the allotment land in Church Road [next to Frank’s property] as a communal space for village children to participate in an informal ‘outside learning’ project, for e.g. cultivating plants, etc. Councillors supported the idea, in principle and agreed to consider the matter again, when further information is available;
- b. Frank reported that the village defibrillator had been deployed recently and agreed to order the replacement pads required; **[A.P. Frank]**
- c. Request for a Dog Waste bin in Shop Lane; the clerk commented that there had been an objection from a resident about the proposed siting of a bin, when this had been considered previously; *Matter to be investigated further, and exact location decided;*
- d. Suggestion to hold a second litter pick in the village during October; *matter deferred for further discussion.*

14. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th October 2019

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Signed as a correct record.....

Philip Hope-Cobbold
Chairman

DATE; 8th October 2019