

LITTLE GLEMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on

Monday 14th November 2016 in the Parish Room

1. **Present from the Council:** Peter Chaloner [Chairman] Philip Hope-Cobbold; Tony Eaves; Roger Blyth; Kate Burt; Pat Trinder [Clerk]
2. **Present from the Public:** Mr Frank Hilder; Carol Poulter [Suffolk District Councillor]
3. **Apologies for Absence:** Ceri Larman; Claire Peck; Stephen Burroughes [County Councillor]
4. **Declaration of Interest:** None declared
5. **Minutes of the last meeting:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th October were unanimously adopted and signed as a correct record. *[Proposed by the Chairman; Seconded Cllr. Tony Eaves]*
6. **Matters Arising from the 10th October Council meeting:**
 - a. **[i] Community Area Update:** Roger had nothing further to report since the last meeting. The Chairman thanked everyone who had helped at the working party held on 22nd October, when 3 broken fence posts had been replaced and one or two other minor shed repairs had been done. Councillors had also taken the opportunity to examine the problems flagged up by the inspector during this year's annual safety inspection.
[ii] Community Area – new monthly inspection rota: Copies of the new rota had been circulated and the clerk asked councillors to let her know if they were unable to carry out the allocated inspections, so that alternative arrangements could be made.
[iii] Community Area annual safety inspection report: The annual community area inspection was carried out by PlaySafety Ltd on behalf of RoSPA on 20th September and their report had been circulated via email. It was noted that the present overall risk rating for the play space remained at 'High', as last year, and the Chairman reiterated the importance of regular weekly inspections, so that any specific concerns, already identified, can be monitored and any new issues reported. The Chairman referred to the points of concern raised in this year's report, and felt that the level of remedial work required should be undertaken by a specialist contractor. He therefore Proposed, in line with the Council's Standing Orders, that 2 quotations be obtained for the following work:
 - *Stabilise two swing uprights;*
 - *Repairs to the existing stile;*
 - *Provide a new stile at the gap in the fence and make good fencing;*Councillors unanimously supported the proposal, and the clerk was authorised to proceed accordingly. *[N.B. Chairman to attend site meetings] [A.P. Clerk/Chairman]*
[iv] Improvements to Community Play Facilities: Copies of the quotations received from Wicksteed and Play Quip had been circulated. There was a general discussion on all the options being considered, and the Chairman spoke in support of Wicksteed, bearing in mind their good track record and competitive prices. Referring to the equipment included in their quotations, Peter expressed his preference for the all metal 'Ben Nevis Summit Dome Climber' which, he thought would be more durable. Tony felt that the Wooden 'Pick Up Sticks' alternative would blend better into the natural landscape and was more inclusive of all age groups. After further discussion, on a Proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to defer a decision until the next meeting; councillors to check their copy of the Wicksteed brochure, already circulated, and/or use email link, to look at the specific items of equipment listed in the quotations. *[A.P. Clerk]*
On a Proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to bring forward Agenda item 8.
7. **District Councillor's Report:** Carol Poulter summarised her November report, highlighting matters of interest, including: devolution, merger consultation; better broadband scheme; launch of a new grant programme. There was a general discussion and Carol answered

questions, including: Peter referred to the provision of car parking associated with the Community Area improvement plan, and asked if there had been any progress with the request for a site meeting with the planning officer. Carol confirmed that she had not yet received confirmation of a site meeting date with Anna Kittle but she would try again. Referring to the likely increase in the number of parishes each District Councillor would have to serve, if the current merger proposals go ahead, the Chairman commented that he would not be opposed to changing the day of LGPC's monthly meetings. He was aware that many Parish Councils held meetings on Monday evenings, resulting in both District and County Councillors being unable to maintain continuity and regular attendance. It was therefore agreed to include this as an Agenda item at the next Council meeting, date to remain at Monday 9th January 2017. **[A.P. Clerk]** *[Carol Poulter left the meeting at this point]*

8. Matters Arising from the 10th October Council meeting – Continued:

b. Maintenance of highways/pavements/footpaths:

- The clerk advised that Stephen Burroughes was chasing SCC about clearing the overgrown footpaths, reported at the last meeting.
- Road safety issue: Referring to the 'drop off' point for school buses in Church Road, [opposite the allotment site] the Chairman reported residents' concerns about the speed of traffic coming down Church Road. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of providing a "Children crossing the road" sign **[A.P. Clerk]**

c. Four Village Bypass Working Party Update *[SEGway]* The Chairman envisaged that matters would progress in the light of the recent Sizewell C update covering the announcement of EDF Energy's Stage 2 consultation.

d. Sizewell C Update: The Chairman confirmed that the next stage of formal public consultation for Sizewell C will run from 23rd November 2016 until 3rd February 2017, during which time LGPC will have to formulate a response. He noted that a presentation will be held at the Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew from 10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. on Saturday 3rd December and there will be a County Council meeting for parishes on 6th December. LGPC will also need to engage with Planning Aid England, although the Chairman reminded councillors that PAE's remit will be to offer planning advice and support and therefore they will not be drafting the Council's response; Peter anticipated that a meeting of the 4VBPG would be arranged after the above meetings had been held; Peter questioned whether a joint 4-village response would be more beneficial than individual parish responses and felt this issue should be debated.

e. Provision of new dog waste bin in Hoo Lane: The Chairman was pleased to confirm that SCDC had erected the new bin at the location requested by the Council. Kate reported problems with dog fouling along the permissive path leading from Hoo Lane, and asked the Council to consider providing a dog bag dispenser, similar to one she had seen at Hacheston Village Hall. Councillors agreed that it might encourage dog owners to clean up after their dogs and the clerk was asked to investigate. **[A.P. Clerk]**

9. Suffolk County Councillor's Report: Copies of Stephen Burroughes' written report had been circulated and was taken as read and received. Stephen had provided suggested dates for the promised meeting with Highways – 22nd, 28th, 29th November and 6th or 14th December, meeting to start at 9.00 a.m. It was agreed to confirm the Council's preference for the November dates – clerk to liaise with councillors to ensure a good attendance. **[A.P. Clerk]**

10. SCDC – Site Allocations & Area Specific Policies Development Plan Document/Felixstowe Peninsula Area Action Plan / Proposed main Modifications & Sustainability Appraisal & Habitats Regulations Assessment Consultation: The Chairman had read through the documents and felt that there were no relevant changes that had a direct impact on Little Glemham. *Agreed – no response required at this time.*

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

12. **Finance:**

a. **Financial Update:**

The amount in the current account is:	£ 110.40
The amount in the deposit account is:	£ <u>6,101.49</u>
Total:	£ 6,211.89

b. **Invoices for payment:**

• C.A.B. Donation [LGPC meeting 10.10.16].....	Amount:	£ 60.00
• Playsafety Ltd –Community Area inspection.....	Amount:	£ 79.80
• Suffolk Coastal Norse Ltd: Payment for new 25Ltr Fido Dog Waste Bin – Hoo Lane	Amount:	£ 210.00
• P Chaloner –Reimburse cost of fence posts etc	Amount:	£ 28.41

After payment of the above invoices [**£378.21**] the combined amount held in the accounts is **£5,833.68**.

c. **Setting of annual budget 2017-2018:** Details of the proposed budget had been circulated, and the Chairman briefly outlined the reasons for his proposal not to increase this year's Precept figure, particularly bearing in mind the current economic climate. It was also still unclear whether or not SCDC will be providing a supporting grant this year. It was noted that no precept should be formally approved until after the Tax Base figures are issued by the Billing Authorities at the beginning of December 2016. Therefore, whilst the Council can discuss and make a decision in principle on the level of precept required at the November meeting, this cannot be formally ratified until the January 2017 meeting. After further discussion on the Council's income and projected expenditure for the forthcoming year, on a Proposition by the Chairman, Seconded by Cllr. Roger Blyth, councillors unanimously agreed that they were 'minded' to request a Precept of figure of £3,100, which was the same amount as last year [**A.P. Clerk**]

13. **Schedule of meeting dates for 2017: To be held at 8.00pm in the Parish Rooms:** As

Proposed by the Chairman earlier in the meeting, it was agreed to defer this item until the January 2017 meeting – consideration to be given to possible change of monthly meeting day. [*Minute Ref: 7 above refers*]

14. **Any Other Business:**

- Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Councils: Merger – Creating an East Suffolk Council: Details had been circulated and were taken as read and received.
- Request for a donation to the Disability Advice Service [East Suffolk]: On a Proposition by the Chairman it was unanimously agreed to give a donation of £40 [*same amount as last year*]; cheque to be drawn at the January'17 meeting. [**A.P. Clerk**]
- Mr Frank Hilder reported problems gaining access to the footpath on the A12 [near Park Cottage] ; Philip agreed to investigate. [**A.P. Philip Hope-Cobbold**]

15. **Date of next meeting: MONDAY 9th JANUARY 2017 at 8.00 p.m.**

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

Signed as a correct record.....

Peter Chaloner
Chairman

Date: 9th January 2017