

**LITTLE GLEMHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on**  
**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014 in the Parish Room**

1. **Present from the Council:** Mr Peter Chaloner [Chairman] Kate Burt; Ceri Larman; Roger Blyth Pat Trinder [Clerk]
2. **Present from the Public:** Mr Ivor Guppy & Mrs S Guppy; Anna Shand; Tony Eaves; Stephen Burroughes [County Councillor]
3. **Apologies for Absence:** Philip Hope-Cobbold; Stuart Hogg; PCSO Thora Taylor;
4. **Declaration of Interest:** None
5. **Minutes of the last meeting:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2014 were unanimously adopted and signed as a correct record.
6. **Matters Arising from the 9<sup>th</sup> June meeting:**
  - a. **Community Area Update:** During the June weekly inspections, Phillip had noted that one of the fence posts on the east side was broken at the bottom, and there was continuing 'ageing' on the right hand swing seat. He had been able to stabilise a rear post on one of the goalposts. Roger agreed to replace the broken fence post, using one of the spares that Peter had in storage. It was also agreed that the brown seats would benefit from being cleaned with a wire brush and repainted with preservative. Roger asked if the rubbish bin could be replaced with a wheelie bin but the Chairman explained that the community area did not meet the criteria for this facility to be provided.

**Proposal to improve the community area play facilities:** Kate reported that initial investigations with other local parishes had established that their average 'spend' on provision of improved play area equipment was in the region of £40,000. As mentioned at the last meeting, following feedback received from some residents she had spoken to, a 'zip wire' would be the product of choice, but there is insufficient room for this item of equipment on the present site. Concerned about the prohibitive costs of upgrading the existing play equipment on a limited site, Kate reiterated her earlier suggestion for consideration to be given to acquiring the wooded area to the north of the existing site, which, looking on the longer term, she felt could be used to provide additional village facilities, such as an improved village hall with associated car parking. Kate provided a resume of her further investigations and actions to date, culminating in recent impromptu informal discussions with Glemham Estates, regarding possible options to improve on the present available land space, to allow for a more ambitious project to be formulated. The initial inquiry had evoked a positive response and Kate hoped that such a scheme could be taken up by a steering group comprising representative from the Parish Council, Parish Room Committee and other interested parties, to apply for lottery and other funding. The Chairman was aggrieved that, however well-intentioned, Kate had taken action which was outside the brief given to her by the Council, without prior debate, particularly with regard to her subsequent discussions relating to the Parish Rooms. The original proposal was to apply for funding from SCDC 'outside playing space funding scheme' for the purchase of additional equipment for the existing play area and an original suggestion to create a fenced off area for smaller children, with appropriate age related equipment, had been favourably received, although had yet to be costed and assessed for viability. The Chairman invited comments from the floor. Mr Ivor Guppy had been surprised to learn that discussions about the future of the Parish Rooms had taken place, without prior consultation with the committee, and questioned exactly who in the village had been consulted about proposals. After further frank and robust discussions, the Chairman suggested that the best way forward would be for the

Council to conduct a proper survey, and he offered to draft a suitable questionnaire, to be delivered to every household in the parish. Thereafter, based on the responses received, the Council could reasonably justify any decision made. Mr Guppy stressed the need for the questionnaire to be very clearly worded and any areas of land referred to should be clearly and exactly defined. He also asked for the Council's assurance that any future discussions about proposals relating to the Parish Room and/or car parking facilities, etc. would be passed to the Parish Room committee, and not progressed at the instigation of the Parish Council. The Chairman was pleased to provide such an assurance, and agreed to draft a questionnaire for approval at the next meeting in September. **[A.P. Chairman]**

- b. Maintenance of highways/pavements/footpaths:** Anna Shand complained about the overgrown vegetation which was encroaching onto the public footpath leading up to Glemham Hall, making it almost impassable for pedestrians. It was agreed to bring this to the attention of SCC and Stephen Burroughes also agreed to pursue the matter. Roger advised that he has started to clear out the ditch alongside Hoo Lane. He had, however, noticed that wild flowers had been planted along the bottom of the ditch, and this may well necessitate his asking for the Council's support, if objections are raised to the clearance work continuing. It was noted that the gullies alongside the A12, travelling up the road towards Marlesford, were still blocked with silt, and Stephen agreed to take this up with Highways, as a matter of urgency. **[A.P. Clerk; Stephen Burroughes]**
- c. SNT Police Report:** A written report, confirming that no crimes had been recorded during June, had been circulated. *[Copy to be filed with Minutes]*
- d. Neighbourhood Watch:** The Chairman reported that the weekly newsletters had recommenced.
- e. Refurbishment of Village Sign:** Anna Shand reported that work was still ongoing and steady progress was being made.
- f. Four Village Bypass Working Party:**  
***Report on meeting held at the Riverside Centre on 18<sup>th</sup> June'14:*** The Chairman had attended the meeting on behalf of LGPC and presented a detailed report on the discussions, including the series of what he considered were piecemeal proposals, now on the table, following work carried out by consultants. Peter's main concern was that SCC, having split the original concept of a 4-village bypass into several stand-alone scenarios, have now given themselves the option not to provide the 4-village bypass in its entirety, and proposals to bypass Little Glemham and Marlesford could well be abandoned due to insufficient funding. There are only two sources of funding, the Local Enterprise Partnership and whatever can be obtained from EDF, and he was aware that Stephen Burroughes is trying to convene a meeting with local M.P.s during the parliamentary recess to lobby for an increase in the LEP element of funding. Replying to a question from Ivor Guppy, the Chairman confirmed that a traffic volume survey had been carried out in the four villages during the previous enquiry, and EDF will appoint consultants to undertake a similar survey for current proposals. Referring to LGPC's recent response to the Sizewell C Scoping consultation, Peter felt that not enough has been done to provide evidence for Little Glemham's need for a bypass, and he would be seeking Stephen Burroughes' assurance that the County Council will provide a detailed critical response to EDF's current survey results, when known.
- g. Sizewell C Update:**  
***Minutes of Marlesford Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June'14:*** Copies of the minutes had been circulated via email. Councillors supported the Chairman's view that LGPC should support Marlesford and Hacheston and the draft joint letter, to be sent to EDF, MPs and Councillors, was awaited.
- h. Provision of litter bin – lay-bye on A12:** Matter still ongoing. *[Page 2 of 4]*

- i. **LGPC Casual Vacancy:** The Chairman was pleased to introduce and welcome Mr Tony Eaves, who had confirmed his wish to be considered for co-option onto the Council, via email. On a Proposition by the Chairman, Seconded by Cllr. Mrs Ceri Larman, members unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Eaves onto the Council, with immediate effect, to hold office until the next Parish Council elections in May 2015. The clerk advised that she would notify SCDC accordingly, and they would contact Mr Eaves direct in due course, regarding completion of his Register of Interests form on line. *[Acceptance of Office form to be completed at the next Council meeting]* **[A.P. Clerk]**
7. **Suffolk County Councillor's Report:** Copies of Stephen's detailed report had been circulated via email. Stephen commented further on other issues, including:
- *Framlingham Area Parishes meetings* – Stephen hoped that the next divisional meeting will be held during September , and full details will be circulated in due course;
  - *Four Village Bypass Group:* Stephen confirmed that he had been in touch with the local MPs to seek their agreement to attend a meeting during the parliamentary recess.
  - The Chairman referred to his earlier comments concerning the work being done by EDF consultants regarding traffic flows and his concern that not enough was being done to provide evidence for Little Glemham's need for a bypass. Stephen was happy to provide his assurance that he would endeavour to ensure that the County Council would rigorously question the evidence from the studies, when known.
  - Proposal to reconstruct the junction into Church Road in an attempt to give greater turning space to vehicles and remove turning hazards generally when entering and leaving the A12: This is a major scheme which Highways are still looking into;
  - Provision of 'flashing speed limit sign' via Locality Budget: Stephen agreed to provide the Chairman with an update at the earliest opportunity. Replying to a question, he confirmed that the signs are used purely as a deterrent. Tony asked whether incidents of speeding could be logged for statistics/data which could subsequently be collected, and used to support evidence for a bypass, and Stephen agreed to take the matter up.
  - A complaint was made about the overhanging hedge outside The White House, which was making it very difficult for pedestrians to walk along the footpath. Stephen suggested that the Parish Council should, as a first step, ask the property owner to cut the hedge back to the boundary of the footway. SCC could intervene, if no progress was made.

8. **District Councillor's Report:** Nothing to report.

9. **Planning:** Nothing to report.

10. **Finance:**

a. **Financial Update:**

|                                       |                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| The amount in the current account is: | £ 67.09          |
| The amount in the deposit account is: | <u>£5,270.32</u> |
| <b>Total:</b>                         | <b>£5,337.41</b> |

b. **Invoices for payment:**

|   |         |          |
|---|---------|----------|
| • Bus Shelter cleaning April/May/June'14 .....                      | Amount: | £ 18.93  |
| • Clerk's invoice for salary & expenses<br>[April/May/June'14]..... | Amount: | £ 391.78 |
| • E-ON – Electricity charges 01/04/14 – 30/06/14                    | Amount: | £ 13.01  |

After payment of the above invoices [£423.72] the combined amount held in the Accounts is **£4,913.69**

- c. **Internal Audit Report:** Details of the items to be considered following this year’s internal audit report had been circulated. On a Proposition by the Chairman, Seconded by Cllr. Ceri Larman, the following RESOLUTIONS were unanimously passed:
  - [1] That, to comply with S26 of the Localism Act 2011, the Council formally RESOLVED to adopt the 2012 Code of Conduct for the purposes of discharging its duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct within its area;
  - [2] The Council formally RESOLVED to adopt the Suffolk Code of Conduct, as revised in June 2014 by S.A.L.C.

**11. Any Other Business:**

- a. Letter received concerning “Empowering Parish Councils to sell Electricity” : Full details had been circulated via email. It was agreed not to submit a proposal at this time – the information to be kept on file for future reference.
- b. C.A.B. – Annual Report 2013/14 & invitation to attend forthcoming AGM on 16<sup>th</sup> July: The clerk asked councillors to contact her for further details if anyone wished to attend.
- c. SCDC – Changes to waste and recycling: Full details had been circulated and residents had been notified.

**12 Date of next meeting: MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014**

Signed as a correct record.....

Peter Chaloner  
Chairman

DATE: 8<sup>TH</sup> September 2014