



GREAT DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Great Denham Parish Council held at 7.30pm on 2nd October 2017 in Great Denham Community Hall, 86-88 Saxon Way, Great Denham, MK40 4GP

Present: Parish Councillors

Jim Weir (JW) - Chair; Steve Gallagher (SG); Martin Stuart (MS)

Borough Councillor

Mark Smith (MWS)

Parish Clerk

Anna O'Meara (AOM)

Other

14 Members of the Public

		<u>Action</u>
	The meeting opened at 7.30pm and was adjourned for public questions as follows: Road markings on roundabout Kingswood Way/Greenkeepers Road – why is there no straight ahead option? We have asked the Highways Dept. to clarify, but all agreed that the road markings are an improvement. Street lights out of action along Saxon Way (opposite Sainsburys) plus a number of other lights (various) not working. Action: Clerk to report lights to BBC or DWH (depending on location) Footbridge across river – when will this be finished? Repairs due to be completed 29th September. Action: Clerk to check Small roundabout on Great Portway has been damaged. NOTE: This has now been repaired by BBC Continuing construction traffic on Anglia Way. Parish Council have written to DWH who will ensure contractors are briefed again. Any incidents should be noted and reported to Clerk, who will keep DWH informed. Yellow lines along Greenkeepers to address Parking/Speeding issues. JW confirmed current action being taken (experimental use of yellow lines in District Centre, resolution at PC meeting 4/9 to introduce enforcement for verge/pavement parking). Parish Council will continue to look for a manageable and enforceable approach to address these issues, but all should recognise that resident behaviour is a key factor in resolving these. Action: JW to set up meeting with Andy Prigmore (BBC Highways) on site to review parking issues. There were no further questions and the meeting was reopened.	Clerk Clerk JW
1.	<u>Guest Speaker – Ben Horrell, BBC Community Safety</u> Ben introduced the work of the Community Safety team, in particular how it can help residents who are having issues with Anti-Social Behaviour in the community. They currently have a team of 3 people (plus an analyst) available to support residents. He outlined the means to report an incident, how each report is dealt with, and the importance of providing information using diaries when required, in order to get a satisfactory resolution. He has already had some success locally (Kempston/Great Denham) in getting action taken. Full presentation is available on Parish Website. He then took questions: - JW raised issue of reported behaviour in Park and Ride, where we have CCTV cameras but have had no response from Police. Ben asked to report to him and he will ensure referral from his department - Can anything be done re ASB (noise) from one-off parties? Ben will check if out of hours facility exists, but advised this may be unlikely for a one-off incident. - MS highlighted continuing issues of graffiti, littering etc. in Play Areas. Ben asked that this is	

	always reported to his department, and can provide diaries for us to log activity so that further action may be taken if possible. SG asked on status of closure order on house on Saunton Close; the order finished on 12th July. Ben advised that he understood the Housing Association involved was in the process of preparing the property for new tenants.	
2.	<u>Apologies</u> Resolution: The absence of Councillor Donna Parsons until January 2018 was accepted by the Council.	
3.	<u>Declarations of interest</u> JW declared a non-pecuniary interest as a trustee of Great Denham Community Hall (GDCH) and a governor of Great Denham Primary School. MS declared a non-pecuniary interest as a trustee of the GDCH. SG declared a non-pecuniary interest as a trustee of the GDCH	
4.	<u>Minutes of the last meeting –</u> Meeting 3rd July – minutes were signed as September meeting was not quorate Meeting 4th September minutes were signed. Resolution: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and signed by JW. All resolutions of September meeting were ratified	
5.	<u>Safety and Wellbeing</u> a) <u>Police Liaison</u> JW outlined issues we have had with response from Police, especially regarding CCTV use for recent burglaries. The police have apologised for their late response and advised that they have been following a line of enquiry re a group camping in Bromham, who have now moved on. As a result they expect things to calm down. During discussion with Police they advised that CCTV cameras had not been working. JW has also written to the Police Commissioner re lack of response. b) <u>CCTV</u> JW has investigated the CCTV downtime – it appears that the cameras were not working for 39 days during August/September. Arrangements are now in place to alert Parish Council (JW) when there is an outage. Resolution: JW to deal with ACE Security and BBC (Monitoring Centre) and seek assurance on Service Level Agreements. Compensation to be pursued. c) <u>Highways BBC/DWH – update on parking restrictions/enforcement Anglia Way</u> JW showed map of intended yellow line restrictions and explained that this was experimental due to road not yet adopted, therefore standard consultation period had not taken place. Once the lines have been painted all residents will be contacted, if lines pass their properties. We are expecting lines to be in place around 13/10/17	
6.	<u>Communication with residents/developers/Beds. Bor. Council/Services</u> a) <u>Structured approach to holding developer to account</u> JW shared update we had received from DWH in response to Parish Council letter 8/9 on issues over construction traffic, contractor vehicle parking on King Alfred Way, repair to rising bollards on Greenkeepers way, improving dropped pavements on Anglia Way/King Alfred Way and safety around balancing ponds in Country Park. Response from DWH remains patchy. Resolution: re-establish quarterly meetings with DWH. JW to ring Ian Bennett to set up.	JW
7.	<u>Local services</u> a) <u>Great Denham Community Hall AGM</u> JW provided update from AGM in September. Headlines are that the Community Hall is doing well against budget and is not losing money, bookings are healthy and we now have 12 of 14 trustees in place. All accounts can be viewed on Charity Commission website.	

	b) <u>Air conditioning for first floor hall and office</u> Lack of air conditioning during the summer was raised by hirers of Wessex Hall; due to the location of the main servers for the technology in the Hall, the office also lacks adequate ventilation and cooling. The Parish Council had anticipated this as a result of the original plans and subsequent changes made by the developer to reduce costs at time of build. The Parish Council has obtained 4 quotes to cover both Wessex Room and office – maximum cost likely to be c. £12,000. DWH have agreed to fund 50% of these costs, with Parish Council contribution for remaining 50% (c. £6,000) Resolution: Parish Council will contribute maximum of £6,000 towards costs. Quotes to be revisited to ensure best value, with recommendation that final specification is made by GDCH trustees.	
8.	<u>Clerk's Report</u> a) Finance Report & payments – signature of cheques/initial invoices/approve & initial Bacs payments The Finance Report had been circulated and a copy is attached to these minutes. All receipts were available for inspection Resolution: All payments were approved and all Bacs payments approved by two councillors were initialled together with the invoices. b) Quarterly financial checks and reconciliation Resolution: confirm that these had been completed and no issues identified c) BDO LLP External Auditors report JW explained the auditor's report and comments. Resolution: External Auditors report and recommendations accepted d) Fixed asset register – review and update Resolution: updated Fixed Asset Register agreed. e) 2 Grant applications have been received: Oakley Rural Centre – application rejected. Great Denham Winter Wonderland (joint application from GDCH and Friends of Great Denham (PTA) – community event to include ice rink, band, food, craft stalls and decorated tree. Discussion on potential source of funding from Ward Fund and to ensure that event is for benefit of Great Denham residents. Resolution: Parish Council will make a grant of £2,000 towards costs. Mark Smith confirmed contribution of £1,000 from Ward Fund. Remainder to be raised by organising committee. Request to check for residency when attending so that event is truly for Great Denham residents.	
9.	<u>Correspondence</u> All correspondence was available at the meeting and a list is attached to these minutes. Resolved: No correspondence required discussion.	
10.	<u>Any other business – for exchange of information only</u> a) Footpath Number 1 – closure extended for further 12 months until October 2018 b) Parish Council vacancy – 3 people have expressed an interest but not confirmed intention to be considered as yet	
11.	Date of next meeting – Monday 6th November 2017	
	There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9pm.	