



GREAT DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Great Denham Parish Council held at 7.30pm on 6th November 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)

Members of Public

9 members of public in attendance

	The meeting opened at 7.30pm	<u>Action</u>
	The meeting was adjourned for public questions as follows: 1. Provision of disabled access on footbridge that was recently replaced. This issue has been raised by the Parish Council previously, but the land belongs to Wingfield estates (Bidwells are managing agents). Action: MWS was asked if he could raise this issue with Borough Council on behalf of residents. 2. Request for update on buses – this will be dealt with as agenda item 3. Residents are experiencing issues with Chamonix Management Company. There are now 13 management companies operating across the Great Denham development, all have to be dealt with individually with no co-ordination between them. They have been very slow to allow EGMs to be called and Resident Directors to be put in place. Chamonix is now raising charges for residents which do not appear to be commercially sound. Although the Parish Council has no powers to address this, we will write to DWH as developer to highlight this issue and the impact it will have on DWH own brand and reputation as the company putting these arrangements in place. Action: MS and Clerk to write to DWH to request pressure be put on Chamonix to accelerate the EGM/election of Resident Directors in completed phases of the development. Action: MWS to request details from BBC on how these arrangements are made as they are clearly not for benefit of residents. 4. Drain covers on Anglia Way. Some of the drain covers on Anglia Way (unadopted road) are in very deep wells and becoming potholes. There is a risk of damage to resident vehicles as a result. Action: Clerk will write to DWH and Highways Agency on the issue of safety. There were no further questions and the meeting was reopened.	MWS MS/Clerk MWS Clerk
1.	<u>Apologies</u> Absence has been authorised for Donna Parsons until January 2018. No other apologies Resolved: The apologies were accepted.	
2.	<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.	
3.	<u>Minutes of the last meeting -</u>	

	Resolved: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and signed by JW.	
4.	Dates of meetings for 2018 Resolved: meeting dates were agreed.	
5.	<u>Safety and Wellbeing</u>	
(a)	CCTV – update on meeting with ACE/BBC re outage in summer. No update available as meeting still to be held. Future outages will be notified directly to Parish Council via email from BBC Monitoring Centre.	
6.	<u>Pride in Great Denham in partnership with Residents Association</u>	
(a)	Signage – signs for Great Denham Community Hall/District Retail Centre BBC has advised that signing schedule will be sent to Parish Council in next 2 weeks, although this was promised previously.	Clerk to arrange
(b)	Parking Parish Council have requested no verge/pavement parking enforcement by the Borough Council, and a review of the parking issues we face to see what else can be done. We have spoken to DWH to request their support in this, as they must give permission regarding unadopted roads. Unfortunately, as a result of the recent e-petition by a Great Denham resident, the Borough Council have stepped back from progressing this, and the e-petition is not scheduled to be heard until January. Resolved: meeting to be arranged with Andy Prigmore (BBC Highways), Residents Association and the petitioner to discuss a co-ordinated proposal and a single co-ordinated response.	
7.	<u>Local services</u>	
(a)	Great Denham Winter Wonderland Clerk confirmed Ward Fund grant received; MWS was thanked. More details will be publicised in the Newsletter which will be coming out shortly.	MS
(b)	Bus Service MS gave a brief update from the meeting with Stagecoach 17/10. Full notes from this meeting are available on Parish Council website (Parish News); he stressed the commercial viability issues that poor use of the Number 11 service is causing, and the potential risk to that service. There was a request from the public present to re-visit the potential of Number 8 station to stop at station as temporary measure during the bridge works/diversion currently in place. Action: MS will speak again with Stagecoach re a temporary arrangement for Number 8 bus.	
(c)	Open Space Maintenance Charge MS gave update from meeting held with BBC on 16/10. BBC (Paul Pace/Lee Phanco) provided some financial detail but Great Denham and West of Kempston are still combined. We are still awaiting information as follows: • A breakdown of invoices received and paid for which relate to Great Denham • A breakdown of the dates that staff have been deployed in Great Denham • The outcome of the tree audit so that DWH can be held to account and replacements are not funded from the Open Space Maintenance Charge funds • A more cost effective proposal for play area inspection that that presented to us (Part Time Play Inspector 2.5 days per week across both Great Denham and West of Kempston) Staff on ground appear to be doing a much better job but figures seen to date indicate a surplus will be generated; we would like to see a future payment holiday if this happens. Next meeting will take place in January and an update will be provided via website and at February 2018 Parish Council meeting.	

(d)	Play areas – anti social behaviour The Parish Council has been in contact with the team at BBC who is encouraging residents to report and keep diaries of any instances of ASB so that they can begin to take meaningful action on our behalf. Action: reporting method will be made clear on Great Denham PC website.	Clerk
8.	<u>Planning/Infrastructure</u>	
	The following planning applications were discussed and response agreed. <u>17/02720/MAF – Landscaping and play facilities:</u> no objection, but comment on experience of graffiti and anti-social behaviour in nearby play hub demonstrates the need for some sort of monitoring, e.g. CCTV. <u>17/02890/ADV – illuminated signs on Pharmacy building:</u> no objection, but comments requesting signs are not illuminated after 10pm to be included, given experience with previous signs and disturbance to residents from this. Also noted that signs are in place although application is not retrospective. <u>17/02642/FUL – New Pedestrian and Cycle bridge over Great River Ouse, Country Park:</u> unfortunately there no material considerations for an objection, but comments to be made re previous representations from Parish Council that money for this bridge is better spent on upgrade to Kempston Mill bridge, improving disabled access to backchannel footbridge and other improvements to Country Park. Resolved: Clerk to respond to Planning Department for each application by deadlines; above comments to be included.	
9. (a)	<u>Finance</u> 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 Resolved: All payments were approved and all Bacs payments approved by two councillors were initialled together with the invoices. No cheques required signature.. (b) Agreement to move funds between Current and Deposit accounts to adjust for GDCH spend. A report showing a breakdown of related invoices, VAT payments and summary of funds to be moved was circulated and is attached to these minutes. Resolved: movement of funds agreed. (c) 18/19 budget - first draft circulated with minutes. To be reviewed at future meetings in time for signed agreement at January 2018 meeting. (d) Christmas Lights – quote has been received from Bedford Borough Council for £1430 + VAT; this is same figure as last year. Resolved: agreement to fund Christmas lights for tree on Great Denham roundabout (Kingswood Way). Clerk to make arrangements. (e) SLCC membership renewal is due 1 December. Cost will be £139. Resolved: agreement to pay renewal of SLCC membership for Clerk.	Clerk
10	<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>	
	There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9pm	