



GREAT DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the extra ordinary meeting of Great Denham Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Thursday 18th March 2021. The meeting was held remotely.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Donna Parsons (DP) - Chair; Chris Staite (CST); Helen Allen (HA); Vince Arthur (VA)

Borough Councillor: apologies sent

Parish Clerk: Anna O'Meara (AOM)

Members of the Public: no members on the public in attendance

Public Questions

There were no public questions.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Lou Evans, Chris Slinn (childcare/work commitments) and Jo Ruskin (illness). Borough Councillor Jim Weir also sent apologies as clashing diary commitment.

Resolved: Apologies were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

DP declared a non-pecuniary interest as trustee of Great Denham Community Hall (GDCH).

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held 1st March 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by DP.

4. Planning

- a) Planning application 21/00556/FUL – Single storey rear extension, 15 Broad Mead Avenue, Great Denham

Councillors had reviewed the plans and had no comments or objections.

Resolved: no objections to this application.

- b) Planning application 21/00565/FUL – Single storey rear extension, 20 Greenkeepers Road, Great Denham.

Councillors had reviewed the plans and had no comments or objections.

Resolved: no objection to this application.

5. Finance and Clerk's Report

- a) Finance Report & payments – signature of cheques/initial invoices/approve & initial Bacs payments

Invoices received were reviewed for payment by end of financial year where possible. The Finance Report had been circulated and a copy is published on the website. All receipts were available for inspection

Resolved: All payments were approved and all Bacs payments approved by two councillors. Invoices will be initialled outside the meeting as soon as possible. ACE Security invoice to be paid once completion of work is confirmed.

b) Date of Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting in light of Covid-19 restrictions

Clerk advised that the legislation permitting remote meetings expires on 7th May; as a result of this, and that the Covid-19 restrictions permitting indoor meetings will not be eased before 21 June at earliest, the Annual Parish Council Meeting currently scheduled for 10th May 2021 will not be able to take place either remotely or physically.

It is therefore proposed to reschedule this before 7th May.

Resolved: Date of Annual Parish Council meeting rescheduled to Tuesday 4th May 2021.

The Annual Parish Meeting should take place between 1st March and 1st June 2021; the 2020 meeting was cancelled due to Covid lockdown, and currently there will be restrictions in place which prevent it being held physically this year. It was also noted that, due to Covid restrictions over last 12 months, it was unlikely that many clubs or groups would have much to report. To be kept under review.

6. Correspondence

All correspondence was available at the meeting and a list is attached to these minutes.

Resolved: No correspondence required discussion.

7. Any Other Business

For Exchange of information only – no decisions may be made here.

- Clerk advised that Bedford Borough Council have asked to confirm no issues with plans to replace sand in Large Play Hub. This was discussed at previous meeting and additional info had been provided by BBC.
- DP advised that she had written to the Borough Council re status of Pavilion opening and Café lease. Awaiting response.
- DP advised she has responded to a resident who raised concerns over parking outside shops on Anglia Way. This issue has been discussed at previous meetings, and the feasibility study for the Pedestrian Crossing has now been completed.
- DP noted that Council insurers have written regarding the arrangements for the Community Hall during enforced closure. DP and Clerk have been liaising with the CIO and have responded to the Insurers
- Complaints about the work done to clear the ground at end of Greenkeepers Road have been received; this area will be planted with wildflowers by Bedford Borough Council, and is the site of a scheduled monument. The issues have been flagged to the Borough Council who have taken action to remove the plastic rubbish etc.
- CST advised that a meeting had been held with Bedford Borough Council re CCTV provision; they have advised that the maintenance contract will be going out to tender in next couple of months.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 12th April 2021