

# **GRAVENEY with GOODNESTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at The Village Hall, Graveney,  
on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr Alan Stewart (Chair), Cllr Roger Mitchell (Vice-Chair), Cllr Clare Boggia, Cllr Teresa Bowles, Cllr Lesley Lound, Cllr Catherine Wilkinson, Bex Ratchford (Clerk), Cllr George Bobbin (SBC)           Public: 4

## **128. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Bowles (SBC & KCC).

## **129. Declarations of interests**

Cllr Wilkinson declared an interest in agenda item 135 as an employee of Furley Page and agenda item 142b as the applicant.

## **130. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

The minutes were **agreed** as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed and dated by the Chair.

## **131. Matters arising (for information only)**

- a. Action 110b: the letter to KCC regarding traffic calming still needs to be sent. **Action 131a: Clerk to send letter.**
- b. Action 110e: the ground for the dog bin still needs to be checked. **Action 131b: Cllr Wilkinson to check.**
- c. Action 110h: the letter to the housing association still needs to be sent. **Action 131c: Clerk to send letter.**
- d. Action 110i: the letter to the school has been sent.
- e. Action 112a: land registry search done, agenda item 134.
- f. Action 112b: letter to residents sent, agenda item 134.
- g. Action 113: sign design is ongoing. **Action 131g: Clerk and Cllr Mitchell to liaise.**
- h. Action 114a: Streetlights contacted, agenda item 136.
- i. Action 114b: Trust funding can be applied for but is not guaranteed.
- j. Action 115: agenda item 137.
- k. Action 117: insurance renewed.
- l. Action 119: cllrs responded to the survey individually.
- m. Action 120c: Site Allocation Policy forwarded.
- n. Action 120d: applicant provided with chair's details, agenda item 133.
- o. Action 122: planning comments made.
- p. Action 124a: details of bus consultation provided on village Facebook page.
- q. Action 124b: new NhW sign requested.
- r. Agenda item 126: Cllr Boggia has written to Helen Whately MP about the lorry park.

## **132. Crime Report**

There are still no details visible on the website. The police representative normally provides an update at the Faversham Engagement Forum.

## **133. Casual vacancy**

The interested party was asked to contact Cllr Stewart for more details and an informal meeting, but has not done so. It was **agreed** to put posters advertising the vacancy on the noticeboard. **Action 133: Clerk to provide posters.**

#### **134. Cleve Hill Solar Park**

- a. The letter inviting residents to form a working party was distributed, although a little later than intended. The land registry search identified the owner and that Hive Energy have an option to either buy or lease the land.  
The meeting adjourned for a public session for cllrs to hear public opinion. Members of the public raised concerns over the tight deadline for the consultation and its fairness and transparency, the impact on the local population not being sufficiently considered, safety concerns, the lack of studies undertaken on projects of a similar size and the inevitability of the development.  
Cllrs felt it important to achieve the best possible result for the village. A number of residents have expressed an interest in being part of the working party. It was **agreed** to email those interested and assist with arranging a meeting, which can then be publicised on the village Facebook page. It was also **agreed** to invite representatives from neighbouring parishes, including Seasalter, Hernhill, Dunkirk and Leysdown. **Action 134a: Clerk to email interested parties and arrange meeting.**
- b. The current requirement is to respond regarding what nature the future consultation should take. A response to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the Scoping Report was **agreed**, covering the issues the PC would like input into. **Action 134b: Clerk to respond to Planning Inspectorate.**

#### **135. Furley Page agreement**

Cllr Wilkinson left the room for this item. It was **agreed** to engage Furley Page solicitors for general advice, limited at present to the land registry search, with no further costs agreed.

#### **136. Streetlighting**

The safety works on lanterns 2, 3 and 5 have been carried out and it was **agreed** to do the Category 1 safety works required on lanterns 8, 9 and 12, at a cost of £1367. Lanterns 4 and 10 were thought to be redundant and it was **agreed** to investigate the cost of having them switched off and removed. **Action 136: Clerk to request works on lanterns 8, 9 and 12 and ask regarding switch off and removal fees.**

#### **137. Village sign**

The company has been on holiday so no update was available. **Action 137: Cllr Boggia to chase.**

#### **138. KFRS Safety and Well-Being Plan consultation**

It was **agreed** that Cllr Stewart would respond on behalf of the council. **Action 138: Cllr Stewart to respond.**

#### **139. Transparency Fund**

This is the last year the fund is available. It was **agreed** to apply for two extra staff hours per month for 2017-18. **Action 139: Clerk to complete application.**

#### **140. Correspondence**

All correspondence was noted.

- a. Cllr Stewart will attend the Rural Crime training and the coffee morning for PCs.
- b. Cllr Boggia is unable to attend the Faversham and District Engagement Forum.
- c. Cllr Stewart has responded to a survey about second homes.

#### 141. Finance

- a. Cllr Stewart gave details of the proposed budget: the clerk's salary includes an extra two hours a month which will be funded by the Transparency Fund application; the lighting repairs are set at £5000 on the basis of replacing 10 lanterns plus gear over the next two years, at approximately £1000 per lantern; subscriptions include KALC and ACRK; training covers four courses; the increase in insurance is due to the new sign; S137 covers donations to the Kent Air Ambulance and the Citizens' Advice Bureau. The proposed budget of £12,630 was **agreed**. It was **agreed** to set the precept at £10,000, with the shortfall to be taken out of reserves, in order to minimise the increase in council tax for residents. **Action 141a: Clerk to return precept form.**
- b. The financial statement and bank reconciliation were reviewed and accepted.

Account	Balance as of 31/12/17
Current Account	5287.40
Reserve Account	13016.92
<b>Total</b>	<b>18304.32</b>

- c. The amounts for the newsletter and the dog bin were not known so payment could not be made.
- d. Payments were **agreed** as follows:

Ref	Payment	Amount
S/O	Bex Ratchford – salary and office rental	
D/D	SSE – footway lighting (December)	48.04
100532	Came & Co – insurance	511.33
100533	R.Filipczak – mileage to footpath warden training day	12.60
100534	Bex Ratchford – expenses (ink)	86.97
100535	Furley Page – land registry search fee	9.00

#### 142. Planning

- a. 17/505356 – Land at Cleve Hill – installation of a bird watching/monitoring hide – it was **agreed** to comment with no objection.
- b. 17/506524 – School Farm Oast, Graveney Road – demolition of existing domestic shed and replace with a new outbuilding consisting of garage/garden store with hobby room/games room above – Cllr Wilkinson left the room for this item. It was **agreed** to comment with no objection but with the proviso that the building should be for the sole use of the owner of School Farm Oast and it should not be separately rented or used for residential purposes. **Action 142: Clerk to make planning comments.**

#### 143. Report from Graveney & Goodnestone Trust

Nothing to report.

#### 144. Reports from Parish Councillors

- a. Cllr Boggia: suggested writing to the VH committee about the lack of heating in the hall. **Action 144a: Clerk to write to VH committee.** Meetings regarding the bus service have taken place. The Freewheel will only be open from Thursdays to Sundays over the winter.
- b. Cllr Lound: commented on the current road closure of Graveney Road.

#### 145. Reports from Borough and County Councillors (if present)

Cllr Bobbin suggested applying for further funding under the members' grant. It was **agreed** to apply for funding to cover the extra work required to the bus shelter. **Action 145: Clerk to make application.**

**146. Any other business (for information only)**

The fire hydrant warden is conducting checks in accordance with guidance from KALC and KFRS.

**147. Close and date of next meeting**

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

**There is no meeting in February.**

**The next meeting will be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.30pm.**

Signed..... Date.....