

Clerk's Report

Monday 6th June 2022

2. Apologies To receive apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Minutes. To approve the minutes from the meetings held on 18th May 2022.

5. Open Forum

6. Matters Arising

1. Multi-Use Games Area – update from PCSO & Councillors

“As you will know I have been able to put a lot of time into my rural villages and communities over the past 5 years, however, with the recent reduction of PCSO's in Cambridgeshire it has been harder to commit my time to the village communities. St Neots have gone from 9 PCSO's when I started to just 2 of us now, covering St Neots and the surrounding villages. The biggest drawback from this has been that the force now only employs us until 8pm instead of the midnight finishes we used to do, which impacts on ASB issues in the evening times.

On saying this, we will still run Rural Watch operations a minimum of 2 a month when the Neighbourhood Team at St Neots concentrate on the rural areas to deter crime from the villages and rural locations, and we can certainly make patrols of Gransden and the MUGA area a priority during these operations.

I of course will be happy to patrol the area up to my finish time and will have a chat with any possible young persons that might be hanging around.

I have had a look through recent jobs called into the Police and there have not been any from Great Gransden in relation to ASB for some time, which would suggest there is no issue when allocating officers to deal with, so I would certainly push for residents to call 101 or report online if the problems persist.

Lastly, I appreciate noise into the late hours is unacceptable and that the MUGA closes at 8.30pm as stated in the email, my concern is that there are teenagers who live in the village, which I am guessing has increased with the new development off Sand Road, and they will require somewhere to go and hang out, this tends to be parks and open spaces, we need to also reflect on what teenagers need in rural villages such as Gransden. Teenagers especially older teens don't usually come out until later, due to commitments or part time work and perhaps we should look at what they need in the village to stop them causing any ASB issues.

I am happy to come along as stated during my shift time, or if you require any further discussions, I am happy to work with you to resolve any problems.” (Richard Braddick, PCSO)

2. Mandene Gardens Play Area

The letter below was sent to James Lloyd, the Planning Officer on 22nd May 2022.

“Good afternoon James,

The above item was discussed by the Great Gransden Parish Council on May 18th and the following points were made in the minutes:

“Councillors voiced their alarm at having been misled about the provision of a new play facility which is now to be an open space with no play equipment being provided. The development of the 2 houses has resulted in the loss of a play area and swings, for which the sum of £2,661 is

now proposed as the financial contribution under S106. The play area is fenced and gated, will be of little use as a community facility and the Parish Council should not have to maintain it."

In short, Great Gransden Parish Council feel that they have been duped on this particular proposal. Where we had a play area before we now have none; where a swing existed there is none; and instead we have been given a small gated, grassed area that no one will use and which will cost the Parish to maintain! Be in no doubt that this Council will oppose an S73 attempt to "regularise" this situation.

We would welcome your further consideration.

3. Playground Area – update from Cllr Davis

4. Recruitment of Replacement Clerk/RFO – update from Cllr Pett

5. County Broadband

The email below was sent to County Broadband on 22nd May 2022.

"Thank you for your email. Having discussed this at the latest Parish Council on May 18th we would be delighted to accept your offer of a "few snippets" of the design for the village as a great number of residents have been concerned about the possible disruption to life in the village if/when this build commences. We need to put their minds at rest. We look forward to hearing from you."

7. Clerk's Financial Statement For May 2022 and Budget Review.

*To be circulated to councillors
prior to the meeting:*

*Financial Report May 2022
Budget Review May 2022*

8. Cheques/Payments for Approval

To be circulated to Councillors:

Full List of Payments for June 2022

9. Financial Mandate. Council to approve one person for interactive mandate

10. Play Equipment and Muga Annual Inspection To consider appointment of last year's contractor and automatic annual renewal.

"We annually visit Bedfordshire every May and inspect play areas at a special discounted rate.

Unfortunately, it is too late to accept orders for this now as we need the orders by the end of April, but I will give you some info for future reference.

We charge £70 plus VAT per area to inspect up to 5 items of play equipment on the play area. There is an extra fee of £3.50 plus VAT to inspect each play item over five.

By being on our 'Automatic Schedule' your play area(s) will automatically be inspected every year at the reduced rate when we are in your area.

You don't need to place a new order each year and you will receive notification of the inspection prior to it taking place.

Please let me know if this is something you're interested in for 2023 onwards.

Our standard costs would now apply as we are now at the end of May.

The cost of an outdoor annual inspection is £240 plus VAT for the play area + £105 plus VAT for the MUGA.

You will receive full photographic and written reports with risk ratings.

The inspections will take place within six weeks of receipt of an order from you.” (From Rospa)

11. Poorsland Membership of trustees and correspondent appointment

12. Audit of the Accounts for the y/e 31st March 2022. To consider Internal Auditor’s Report.

13. Highways.

- Any repairs or maintenance.
- Hedgerows & Parking (Cllr Rowbotham)
- Correspondence from Highways Officer, Maciej Adamczyk “Church Street drainage investigation has been ordered and will be carried out in the nearest future (trial hole).”

14. Correspondence.

1. West & South Area Greater Cambridge Partnership Community Forums clash with this meeting. Cllr Catmur will update when he returns.

2. Draft Active Travel Strategy CCC and CA Local Transport and Connectivity Plan Paper already circulated to Councillors.

3. Luton Aircraft Noise (email from Croydon Parish Council clerk)

My apologies for contacting you in this fashion. I understand that Rob Payne has been a speaker at your meetings, regarding the disruption caused by the new flight paths for London Luton Airport. He has suggested in his email to Croydon PC that:-

As an early heads up - so far each council has supported us and offered help and as we will be incurring expenses each council is suggesting some contribution under section 137 - for instance we need to hire properly calibrated and certified sound monitoring equipment to augment our data to present back as evidence properly gathered in conjunction with our existing technical overflight data, also we will be needing to produce leaflets to deliver in the villages to raise awareness, how to complain and to promote the public meeting on the 5th July.

Are you able to indicate how much financial or other type of support your Council has pledged for the campaign? Our Chairman only took over last month and would appreciate your guidance on this.

4. Church Wall & Lychgate. (Council to consider whether to obtain the services of another contractor)

6. HD C CIL Funding Round 1 2022-23

“we are looking to open the next round in the Summer and will need the completed applications submitted by the end of August. I understand there is a lot of work that goes into the applications from you all and so wanted to make you aware of this programme so that you have enough time to fully prepare, and hold any meetings necessary in preparation. The new form will be available on the HDC website [CIL Funding - Huntingdonshire.gov.uk](http://CIL.Funding-Huntingdonshire.gov.uk) when the round opens, and we will email you again at this point to let you know all the details for the funding round. As per previous rounds we will need a business plan, risk report and budget details to be submitted alongside the form, as a minimum.

15. Planning.

15.1. Hayfield Homes Development, Sand Road, Great Gransden Light Pollution

“Dear Cllr’s

“Hope you are both well. I have a street lighting hat these days, and we have reviewed the situation on Sand Road which forms part of the S278 Agreement, as the remainder of the new development is not part of a S38 agreement and therefore will not become public adopted highway, we’ve no jurisdiction at the County within the development.

That said there may be some grounds to amend the design on highway but this will have to be a decision of the parish and also the developer to fund, there may be wriggle room on one of the 3 columns (assuming the PC don’t have any aspirations to link this area with further development or out to the sports field). The one on the verge heading out of the village could be removed but the one opposite the junction and over the footway needs to remain. The highway lighting scheme was indeed agreed prior to that within the new development.

We really need the planners and developer to engage on the private road lighting matter, and the developers wish to fund changes needs to be understood, we have tried engaging. Unfortunately it’s not within CCC’s gift to solve this issue and although happy to attend a site meeting, without the developer and HDC engaged and supportive of achieving the PC’s and residents aspirations, it’s not within CCC’s gift to fix I’m afraid.

I am happy to attend a site meeting from a street lighting perspective on the highway, as we have so few team resources right now and being the nearest officer but without the planning authority and developer present there is very little in my gift to offer on this matter. Our HDM Inspector has also approach the developer but as yet the developer has not shared a response with us.

Richard, may be this is something you can seek the support and views of HDC officers, so if we do meet the PC we are all on the same page.

Please get back to us once the relevant parties are engaged and I will attend a site visit as required.

Have a nice evening”

Emma Murden

Group Manager Highway Contracts and Commissioning.

07786 336249

Richard asked for my thoughts on this: (Council might think differently?)

- The whole email trail sums up the shambles that underpins HDC & CCC’s actions over this and other matters.
- The offer of a site meeting on the basis of not being able to do anything about 5 of the 6 lights is disappointing.
- The light pollution is a clear issue - when all the lights are switched on. Surely someone will see how ridiculous this situation is when they actually see if for themselves?
- When will the councils and the developer liaise with residents who are impacted by the light pollution?
- Maybe we need to take the Stephen Ferguson route and go to the press?

15.2. PARISH COUNCIL CONSULTATION – APPLICATION REF. 22/01130/HHFUL
The proposal is to fit PV solar panels to certain of the roof aspects together with ancilliary battery storage and cables, 2 Church Street Great Gransden.

15.3. Reading Room Cottage. Planning for door and window expires in August 2022.

16. HR Committee Update

Confidential - This item will be closed to the public

End of Report