

Clerk's Report

Monday 6th March 2023

2. Apologies To receive apologies for absence.
Councillor Day.

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Minutes To approve the minutes from the meetings held on 6th February 2023.

5. Open Forum

6. Matters Arising

6.1 Neighbourhood Development Plan – reminder of referendum date 9th March.

6.2 Dog Poo Bins – update (Councillor Pett)

6.3 Memorial Bench – update (Councillor Pett)

6.4 Green Space Land North East of Mandene Gardens. S106 Agreement under planning application 17/01375/OUT.

I believe we, as a Parish Council, for many years paid a 'nominal' sum (25p?) to the District Council for use of the triangular piece of grass by the old garages for Mandene to use as a play area. I believe we were in effect tenants. With the demolition of the old garages and the development producing two houses in the area we were approached and asked whether we would agree to moving the play area position to allow more sensible housing positions. We agreed to the request with the assurance that the area would be the same and its use for play with equipment ie. swing would continue. However, once the houses were built officialdom decided that it was not appropriate to have play equipment on the area in close proximity to the two houses. I do not think we were aware of this until we made enquiries and discovered the decision that had been made with the comment that a sum of money be given to the Parish Council to compensate for the removal of our swing. (£2,600? needs checking). I am not aware we have received this payment that is to be spent elsewhere in the village.....playing field.

The green area between the two new dwellings has been fenced and gated to a height of 1.8 metres which effectively creates a hidden area which is against policy for a children's play area. This fencing has some surprises with where it has been erected! Why would Hayfield Homes have any responsibility for this area it has nothing to do with them? The area next to it is their problem. I personally do not think we as a PC will want to pay for the maintenance of this now useless area in the future - unless councillors consider otherwise if it is connected to Dutton Gardens and the fencing issue sorted properly.

It would appear that there is confusion over the two areas.....bottom of Mandene and bottom of Dutton Gardens. As usual a sensible site meeting by the officials that are involved is the easiest way to resolve the various issues.

Hope these comments help and happy to expand if required.

Michael.

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From: Parish Clerk <gransdenpc@hotmail.co.uk>

Sent: 22 February 2023 16:13

To: all GGPC councillors

Subject: Fw: 17/01375/OUT - Land North East Of Mandene Gardens, Great Gransden

This is the reply from HDC regarding the play area. Two questions:

- Michael, did we own the play area at the foot of Mandene Gardens?

- Do we as a Parish Council want to incorporate the "green space" at the foot of Dutton Gardens with it if we do?

Either way we want the question of the "wooden fences" resolved as this becomes no-man's land otherwise.

Kind regards Andrew

From: S106 <S106@huntingdonshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 21 February 2023 4:52 PM

To: Parish Clerk <gransdenpc@hotmail.co.uk>

Cc: Cllr Stephen Ferguson <Stephen.Ferguson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk>; Andrew Pett <andrew@harrispett.com>; West, Richard (Cllr) <Richard.West@huntingdonshire.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: 17/01375/OUT - Land North East Of Mandene Gardens, Great Gransden

Good Afternoon,

I hope this email finds you well.

Your comments have been discussed by the relevant officers along with Clara and me.

Firstly, please could you confirm the location of the Play Area you mention below and if the Parish Council own it when you took this area on?

Secondly, for the Green Space under 17/01375/OUT, if the Parish Council do not wish to take on this land, then they do not have to as stated under the S106 Agreement clause 2.6 of the Schedule. If the Parish Council do not take on the land, it will go to a Management Company who will be responsible for any remedial works. We have contacted Hayfield Homes regarding this site.

I would however like to thank you for bringing these queries to our attention as the Local Planning Authority.

Kindest Regards Evangeline Implementation and Finance Officer

7. Playground Maintenance and Development – update

- 7.1. Maintenance** - (Councillor Davis)
- 7.2 Development** - (Councillor Davis)
- 7.3 Maintenance Contract – quotes** - (Councillor Pett)

Quotations from:

ETC Sports
 QUOTATION AND SPECIFICATION
 MAINTENANCE OF THE POROUS ASPHALT MUGA
 AT GREAT GRANSDEN VILLAGE MUGA, GREAT GRANSDEN
 POROUS ASPHALT MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
 DESCRIPTION VALUE TOTAL
 TOTAL "One-off Visit" £750.00 + VAT
 CONTRACT OPTIONS
 Three Year Contract £700.00 + VAT per year £2,100.00 + VAT
 Five Year Contract £650.00 + VAT per year £3,250.00 + VAT

Reids Playground Maintenance Ltd

Date: 20th February 2023

Ref: MUGA, SG19 3AA	Cost
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<p>MUGA</p> <p>RPM to carry out an operational inspection on the above MUGA at RPII level</p> <p>Complete with a full written report with gradings, low, Medium and High</p> <p>RPM to check all bolts on the above item and re-secure where required</p> <p>RPM to remove overgrown grass from the perimeter edge where required</p>	£ 750.00
<p>Backboards</p> <p>RPM to replace 2 No. back boards with new HDPE plastic back boards complete with wording "DO NOT CLIMB OR HANG ON THE RING" and re-fit existing hoops</p>	£1615.00
<p>MUGA</p> <p>RPM to supply and fit rubber inserts at both ends of the MUGA</p> <p>Please note this will not completely eliminate the noise</p> <p>Scaffolding required</p> <p>Quotes issued will be valid for a period of 3 weeks only due to rising cost in materials</p>	£1460.00
<p>All prices quoted are subject to VAT</p>	

7.4 Public relations

Date for putting out 'MUGA Use Reminder Information'.

8. Reading Room Cottage Water Supply – update (Councillor Pett)

9. Reading Room - Building Project (Councillor Davis)

10. Car Park Lighting – Reading Room / Playground (Councillor Davis).

Previous quote from 7/9/2020

All Phase Electrical - will supply and install:

External lighting

Item	Quantity
Certification	1.00
External PIR sensor	2.00
Ground light supply in SWA (150M)	1.00
Bollard/In ground lighting PC sum £100 per unit	8.00
MK metal clad 1 gang switch	1.00
Labour	Day

Sub-Total ex VAT £2104.61

VAT @ 20 % £420.92

Total inc VAT £2525.53

Assumptions

All face plates on show to be Click mode white plastic, unless otherwise stated.

All ground works to be completed by others with ducts installed prior to our arrival.

All making good to be done by others, ceilings and walls will be chased and removed where necessary.

Free and easy access to all necessary parts of the installation.
All electrical installations are applied in accordance with current IEE wiring regulations BS7671:2018 and will be fully tested and certified.
The existing installation and fuse board are in line with current regulations and there are sufficient spare ways for the new circuitry.

11. RFO's Financial Statements:

*To be circulated to councillors prior to the meeting:
Financial Report February 2023
Budget Review February 2023*

12. Payments for Approval

*To be circulated to Councillors:
Full List of Payments for March 2023*

13. Purchase of 'Local Council Administration' by Charles Arnold Baker - otherwise known as the Clerk's Bible. £132 - £164 depending on whether discount still available. – This book is the everyday reference for Clerk's and for completion of the CiLCA training.

14. Energy Contract – (please see forwarded email from Utility Aid).

15. Highways.

- **Any repairs or maintenance needed**
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- **Playing Field – hand rail at Little Lane steps**

This is the appropriate PFHI bid form if we decide to pay for it and they install it

[https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/imported-assets/PFHI%20application%20form%20\(Maintenance\)%20v5.pdf](https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/imported-assets/PFHI%20application%20form%20(Maintenance)%20v5.pdf)

CCC Highways say: Cost of installation: £1,600

The cost for the guardrail is based on the supply and install in an existing footway of a 2m section of standard galvanised railing.

So, I guess we would need to budget about £2,000?

James

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From: Maciej Adamczyk <Maciej.Adamczyk@cambridgeshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 22 February 2023 10:36 AM

To: 'Parish Clerk' <gransdenpc@hotmail.co.uk>

Subject: RE: Assistance Railings

Good morning,

Thank you for your request. I will speak with the officer who normally undertake installations of railings to see if there is anything they can do. I cannot make any promises at this stage.

I believe it would be a great addition to existing structure and I have no issue with the upgrade.

Usual way to request permission or install the above is to request it either by LHI or PFHI. I assume that you are familiar with LHI. PFHI is simpler but whole funded by the requesting party and carried out by Highways.

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- **Great Gransden 20MPH Zone - Formal Consultation – update** – (Cllr Catmur)

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- **Speed Watch** (Councillor Catmur)

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- **Future LHI bids**
23/2/2023

Subject: Cambridgeshire County Council 20mph Application Process

I am writing to make you aware that Cambridgeshire County Council will be opening its new 20mph process to applications from Monday 27th February 2023 - closing at 5pm on Sunday 30/4/2023.

Further information on the process, funding available and application timeline is available on our website at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/20mph-funding>

Should you have any further questions or comments please let us know,

Kind regards, Joshua Rutherford Group Manager, Design & Delivery, Project Delivery, Place and Sustainability, Cambridgeshire County Council

16. Correspondence.

16.1 Meadow Road - need for speed reduction

24/2/2023

I note with interest the plans to extend the speed limits on Gransden road Abbotsley, with the help of Cllr Ferguson.

I have campaigned long and hard for a similar outcome on Meadow road Great Gransden and everyone is refusing to do anything about it, even though a lot of money has been spent in the village on speed limiting, but nothing here. We are within the limits of the village sign, and the limits at Gransden road Abbotsley are up to the village sign and may even extend beyond it! We have a dangerous bend and brow of a hill, and they do not; ie Vision is limited here and not there. I see also that traffic calming measures are expected to be introduced.

I see that Abbotsley PC has submitted an application to CCC s Highways under their 2023/4 local highways Improvement process for funding to tackle speeding to extend the 40mph limit to the Croxton Junction. Apparently the Parish council does have within its power to apply for (and this has worked in other areas) and only contribute 10% of the costs. I am wondering why this is not happening on Meadow Road.

You have only to see the speed of all the school buses that go by to know that this is an accident waiting to happen. My granddaughter, who attends Comberton school says, and I quote; "I can never see what you are doing Nanny, when we pass in the bus, everything is just a blur!" The fact is, all the traffic is going for too fast for safety.

Yours sincerely Richard and Helen West

16.2 GRSA – request for support from GGPC for grant application / grant application by GFC.

20/2/2023

Dear All

I really appreciate the attempt to meet up, thank you. There are two matters to discuss.

1. The quality of the Sportsfield pitches have deteriorated over the past five years, more noticeably over the last 14 months. GFC have submitted two pitch reports to the FA in the past 12 months and will need to maintain an ongoing cycle of biannual reporting. This reporting will facilitate grant applications for drainage (>£50k) and fertiliser/seeding ~£25k over five years.

To support the application, we have a quote for £1.7k plus £3k fertiliser/grass from a local specialist (who also chairman of Eynesbury FC). Two other providers, including the current grass cutting team, have declined to meet/quote.

2. Given that GFC have no lease for the Sportsfield, it may not apply to the FA for grant funding without the agreement of the Parish Council. The GSRA, on behalf of the Parish Council, need to provide the agreement. In prior years, the GSRA needed to obtain approval from the full Parish Council for an application for grant funding. If this remains the case then you will need to present this on Monday 6th.

We would like to progress the first tranche of the works, prior to a grant application. Is this something the the GSRA are empowered to fund/support?

In addition, there is merit in a discussion with the GSRA as to the ongoing priorities for the Sportsfield. As part of that discussion, GFC recognise that it is extremely fortunate to have the benefit of the field and the support of the PC in maintaining the facilities.

If and when you are quorate I will be available.

Kind regards Charlie (Whinney)

16.3 Blocked brook

27/2/2023

Sorry for delayed response; I did look at the brook the next day, but forgot to respond to you. Yes, some of the fences on the opposite side of the brook have fallen down, but they have not fallen into the brook. Also, a small tree has fallen over the brook. However, due to the lie of the land I see no danger of flooding, and when I get back from holiday, I'll take some tools and clear away the fallen tree.

Kind regards, Nigel

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12/2/2023

I have noticed that the brook is badly blocked with debris downstream of the pedestrian bridge at the lower end of the cemetery (see photo).

I would suggest that the blockage is cleared to avoid flooding of the surrounding area.

Kind Regards Ian Sanford



16.4 Alternative Land Management options

16/2/2023

I am writing to you to ask if I can meet to discuss Alternative Land Management options within your parish.

Attached letter:

2023 is the year biodiversity really matters to Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC), and the Operations team are making it their aim to explore all opportunities of partnership working with its communities to deliver new ways of managing and maintaining public open spaces (POS) and amenity grass. As an example, long grass and floral meadows are one option we would like to consider with you as it brings a wealth of benefits for wildlife. This mini jungle is moist and sheltered at its base, producing an abundance of flowers, pollen, and seeds. Beetles, caterpillars of various moths and butterflies, and grasshoppers – all benefit, and so then do birds, bats, hedgehogs, and other small mammals.

We are excited to have the opportunity to explore various projects with you in your Parish. We would like to meet and discuss potential ideas and explore better ways we can work together in the future, ensuring we are meeting the individual needs of your Parish as well as the district. We look forward to hearing your views and ideas when we meet.

What have we been doing, and why are we engaging with Parish Councils?

The decline in insects and birds across the UK has been well documented. Pollinators are suffering due to the loss of habitats. Bird species are declining through the reduction in nesting areas and their food sources of seeds and insects.

To maximise these biodiversity benefits we have been piloting alternative land management options in HDC parks and open spaces, you may have seen some on social media. We are now looking at the option of using alternative land management on parts of HDC open spaces within your parish. One option we would like to discuss is leaving the grass to grow where we would ordinarily cut regularly. Mowing frequently means these sites have the least variety of wildlife (biodiversity) so exploring a new way to

manage the areas will make a notable change that will enable more plants, insects, birds, and mammals to flourish. Leaving the grass to grow tall means both grasses and wildflowers in the sward can reach their potential by enabling flowering and seeding. It is important to note that tall grass species are just as important for wildlife as wildflowers. This does not mean the cessation of grass-cutting in all areas. We would like to hear what ideas you may have regarding the increasing of wildlife or alternative land management on your open spaces.

We manage 134 hectares of amenity grass in our parks and open spaces and our proposed plans have identified 20.7 hectares for potential alternative land management (woodlands, floral meadows, community orchards). These plans mean that we will be looking to change the management of 15% of our parks and open spaces.

Please contact me with a convenient date to meet and discuss further.

Kind Regards Emma Stannard Grounds Manager

17. Planning Applications: None

18. HR Committee Update

- Actions taken since January meeting.
- Items to take forward?

Confidential - This item will be closed to the public

19. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 3rd April 2023, following on from the **Annual Parish Meeting** which will commence at 7.30pm.

End of Report