

Clerk's Report
Monday 6th November 2023

1. Silent prayer.

2. Apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of Interest.

- (a) Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest in any items on the agenda:
- (b) Councillors to declare any other interest in any items on the agenda.

4. Minutes - To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting held on 2nd October 2023.

5. Open Forum.

- **Poppy installation: Cllr Day**
- **Barneys phone:** It is an OSTED requirement that Barneys has a landline. Barneys BT landline account (goes in to RR) is out of contract 15/11/23 and BT will not renew as going over to VoIP which requires internet. Barneys wondering whether phone can be added to GGPC internet account, - Barneys would pay the phone bill.
- **Co-option to PC – 31/10/23 email received from Paul Greenland:** circulated to councillors.
- **Town / Parish council engagement with HDC:**
31/10/23 new Chief Executive, Michelle Sacks: HDC wishes to learn which subjects the council would like them to pursue / collaborate on better / further etc. There is a short online survey to fill in.
- **Proposed TTRO - 24-050 West Street, Great Gransden 18/01/2024-27/01/2024 – comments required by 16/11/23:** circulated to councillors.

6. Matters Arising / points for information: - to note.

6.1 Noticeboards repair: Councillor Capps.

6.2 Tree Survey: Councillor Capps.

6.3 Gigaclear works – concerns: Clerk.

1/11/23 – Bob Turner, Senior Street Works Inspector

Just a quick update re the below.

We're aware that Gigaclear are working in the village and Ryan is my hard-working Inspector who is looking after their work (although he's covering their work across the entire County as well).

If there are any specific issues, please let him or me know and we will do our best to resolve them soonest.

6.4 Playing Field – MUGA Councillor Ginn / Councillor Pett.

6.5 Cambs ACRE – Housing Needs Survey: Councillor Ginn.

6.6 E-W Rail Huntingdonshire / South Cambridgeshire Local Representatives Group – October meeting: Councillor Catmur.

7. Crown & Cushion - ACV – update: Councillor Pett/ Councillor Ginn.

8. Green Space Land North East of Mandene Gardens. S106 Agreement under planning application 17/01375/OUT ('Dutton Gardens openspace') – Councillor Pett and Councillor Ginn.

9. Gransden & District Bowls Club – lease:

The Bowls Club lease is due for renewal near the end of 2024. The Club has asked for the wording to be updated to include croquet; at the moment the lease specifies only bowls. The map appended to the lease, shows the parking space also covering the Reading Room garden, so will need updating. Further, the lease wording is rather antiquated, thus, it may be considered that a more modern wording should be used when renewed.

10. Churchyard management:

22/10/22 – Grass cutting organiser.

Dear Councillors,

For at least 30yrs. I have organised the grass cutting in the Churchyard.

For this the PC have given a donation to the Church.

I am now going to have to resign from this task, mainly age, but this year

we have lost 3 out of 5 grass cutters.

Despite advertising, for the first time ever, no one has volunteered to take their places.

As you know, there is an enthusiastic group who want to create re-wilding areas in the Churchyard. I have suggested they speak to you about this.

You will be aware that the PC is responsible for the Churchyard. I would be pleased to meet a representative from the PC in the Churchyard to discuss the present situation, and let you have the names of the grass cutting volunteers who would like to continue.

In the Churchyard is a 'Handkerchief Tree'. This has now been in a bad way for 2 years, mainly caused by 2 trees which are growing too close to it.

Is it possible for at least one of these trees to be removed?

Thank you for giving this your attention, Yours sincerely

11. RFO's Financial Statements:

To be circulated to councillors prior to the meeting:

Financial Report October 2023

Budget Review October 2023

12. Payments for Approval

To be circulated to Councillors:

Full List of Payments for November 2023

13. Bank signatories: To note - addition of third signatory now complete.

14. Councillor email addresses: Councillor Day.

15. Precept proposal / Budget Review 2024-25: Councillor Pett.

16. Risk Register – update: Councillor Catmur.

17. Highways.

- **Any repairs or maintenance needed**

- **LHI bid - Autumn 2023 bidding round** – Councillor Catmur.
- **Waresley Road flooding – update:** Councillor Capps.
- **Meadow Road closure - Anglian Water - 23-1362 Proposed TTRO - Meadow Road (B1046), Great Gransden 11/12/23 to 13/12/23 – CCC, Highways request for comments.**
- **Proposed TTRO - 24-050 West Street, Great Gransden 18/01/2024-27/01/2024 – comments required by 16/11/23.**

18. Correspondence.

18.1 St Neots Museum Funding:

4/10/23 – Mike Fletcher, Chair of Trustees of St Neots Museum.

'I know we have previously communicated with the parish council to **seek contributions, however large or small**, to provide the funding required for the museum to be able to continue its policy of providing free access to everyone within our catchment area. We appreciate the support and encouragement from the people residing in Great Gransden, and this funding would help support that work and continue and develop the range of activities, workshops and exhibitions that the museum is able to provide. More details of what services and events we provide can be accessed on the following link: <https://www.stneotsmuseum.org.uk>

For visitors who do not live in one of our local contributing parishes the museum currently charges £5 per adult, £4 for seniors and students and £2 for a child. I do hope you will consider supporting the museum by making a donation to our museum charity at a time when the costs to keep the museum open and provide the services we offer have increased significantly. Your donation will help support the upkeep of the museum and allow us to continue to collect images, items and information from your parish and be able to provide any information that we store to local residents and visitors to our area. ...

If there is anything I can do to help to ensure there is improved communication between the museum and the parish council let me know. One of my ambitions as Chair is that the museum better represents our rural communities and any suggestions of what you would like to see from the museum would be welcome.'

18.2 Public Rights of Way Officer – Huntingdonshire:

12/10/23 - Dan Wiggs - Public Rights of Way Officer - Huntingdonshire

‘Recognising the extended vacancy in this role, I understand that colleagues have been managing these responsibilities alongside their existing work, leading to a considerable backlog that I am eager to address. Your patience in this matter is greatly appreciated, especially as some rights of way issues may not have received the timely attention they deserve.

As I step into this role, I want to share my key priorities:

- Address and resolve outstanding rights of way issues, as documented in the Report It system.
- Identify and replace public footpath signs that have fallen into disrepair (subject to budgetary constraints).
- Reevaluate the bi-annual grass and vegetation cutting system, with a focus on improving accessibility for our contractors.

Your input is invaluable to me, as I hope to gain a better understanding of ongoing issues within your parish and any ideas you might have related to these priorities. I hope to establish an ongoing partnership with Huntingdonshire’s 80 parishes to enhance public access to greenspaces throughout the county.’

18.3 Greater Cambridge Statement of Community Involvement - consultation 18/10 – 5pm, 29/11/2023.

<https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/about-us/statement-of-community-involvement/>

‘The Statement of Community Involvement outlines the types of engagement designed to capture views to inform the preparation of the plan, the future of Greater Cambridge, involvement in neighbourhood planning, and the consideration of planning and related applications for new development.’

18.4 Town / Parish council engagement with HDC – 31/10/23 email from new Chief Executive.

19. Planning Applications:

(Various tree works in Conservation Area).

REF. 23/01997/FUL, Extension to existing warehouse, Aquadistri Uk, Highbury Fields, Eltisley Road, Great Gransden, Sandy SG19 3AR. <https://publicaccess.huntingdonshire.gov.uk//online-applications/caseDetails.do?caseType=Application&keyVal=S2QCQ4IKIC600>.

20. HR Committee Update – (see separate Clerk’s Report for this agenda item).

Confidential - This item will be closed to the public.

21. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 4th December 2023 which will commence at 7.30pm.

**Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960*

(2) A body may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies.’

End of Report