

GREAT GRANSDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 8th January 2024

Those present were:

Councillor Ginn, Chairman

Chris Bane, Parish Councillor,

Cathy Davis, Parish Councillor

Paul Greenland, Parish Councillor

Councillor Pett, Vice-chairman

James Catmur, Parish Councillor

Nigel Day, Parish Councillor

Alan Rowbotham, Parish Councillor

Also present: 3 members of the public and 2 planning application representatives.

1. The meeting was opened with silent prayer.

2. Apologies for absence.

Councillor Richard West, HDC and Parish Councillor Michael Capps.

3. Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Davis declared an interest, in item 14.2 23/02127/LBC – 1 Fox Street, RETROSPECTIVE Renovation of 4 windows on the South elevation and 1 on the north elevation.

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting** held on 4th December: The Minutes were proposed by Councillor Pett, seconded by Councillor Davis and unanimously approved,

5. OPEN FORUM:

Public representation was made on the Agenda items listed here. The Council discussions and decisions are recorded under the respective Agenda items.

11. Highways:

- Drainage on Sand Rd/Mill Rd junction.
- A428 community fund suggestions.

14. Planning:

14.1 22/00390/FUL & 22/00223/LBC - Barns, East Street, Great Gransden.

Playing Field MUGA: William Bentall reported a meeting with Councillor Pett and work on some of the lower fence clips and tightening of bolts. It is apparent that a couple of bolts have been over tightened in the past and need replacing.

6. Matters Arising:

6.1 Tree Management: new quotes have been requested for the end of February, so as to be presented by Councillor Capps.

7. Crown & Cushion - ACV – update: As yet there has been no response to the offer of the asking price from the Great Gransden Community Benefit Society.

8. RFO's Financial Statement and Budget Review December 2023.

This update was postponed until the February meeting.

9. Payments for Approval.

The payments below: Proposed by Councillor Ginn, seconded by Councillor Bane and unanimously approved.

Payments for approval at the Parish Council meeting on Monday 8th January 2024

Cheques/ Bank Transfers payable Jan 2024

1.	Mr R McIntosh (Garden of Remembrance)	£7.50
2.	The Mower Shed	£156.00*
3.	Nigglefix	£90.00
4.	Clerk's Salary – January 2024	£717.80
5.	HMRC - PAYE (period ending 5 th January 24)	£261.00
6.	RFO backpay Apr -Jul 2023	£93.48
7.	HMRC - PAYE on RFO backpay Apr-Jul 2023 (period ending 5 th January 24)	£23.20

Automated Payments payable Nov 2023

1.	DD	BT – Broadband Reading Room (11 th Jan 2024)	£44.36
2.	DD	SSE (18 th Jan 2024)	£ TBC*
3.	DD	ICO – Data Protection Fee – annual (20 th Jan 2024)	£35.00

**Invoice expected, but not available in time for meeting*

***Approximate amount. Subject to slight variation. (Not available in time for meeting)*

10. BT contract: Noted that it had been agreed in early 2022 to remain out of contract with BT, in the anticipation that County Broadband would be providing a free service to the Reading Room. Payment of bills in the meantime, will be discussed with the Reading Room Committee. Barneys is looking at the option of an independent phone line, compared to using the Parish Council phone line.

11. Highways & Rights of Way

- **Any repairs or maintenance needed.**

- **Mill Hill Rill:** After recent very heavy rain the Rill is running. It is however blocked at a piped section and flooding the road. Discussion noted that responsibility for clearing the ditch and pipe lies with the adjacent landowner. A flow chart showing responsibilities will be forwarded to councillors.
- **Hedges:** After discussion on hedge cutting and bird nesting, residents are encouraged to cut hedges and winter pruned shrubs in the next few weeks before bird nesting starts.
- **Hole outside Kingspan** – Councillor Bane will make the Road Fault Report.
- **Locating problems on the Road Fault Report portal:** when making a report it is essential to zoom in fully before placing a marker on the map. Noted that that some markers are being placed well away from the problem point, in which cases Highways is unlikely to follow up the matter.

Highways Correspondence:

- **Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Bay: Caxton Road, Great Gransden:** Agreed to recommend to HDC the helpful comments sent to them by a local resident.
- **Drainage on Sand Road/Mill Road junction:** Concern was expressed during the Open Forum about the drainage problems that were affecting the fabric of at least one adjacent house and the dangerous situation on the crossroads and pavements during icy weather. Concern was also expressed that Highways would only be investigating the situation in 2024/25. Noted that the Parish Council supported residents in their pursuing this well known and long term problem and could assist should Highways not proceed on the matter within reasonable time.
- **Meadow Road speeding:** Noted that speed monitoring would be a prerequisite, to provide the Parish Council with data which might support any proposal for speed changes. Correspondence was noted, with agreement to meet with concerned residents. Action: Councillors Pett and Catmur.
- **Suggestions for A428 legacy fund:** Several suggestions had been put forward by a resident and others were also discussed. Noted that the application for a cycle route to Caxton had been refused. Agreed: to make application to the fund for a) an access ramp from Little Lane to the Playing Field, action: Councillor Davis, b) widening of footpath to nursery and Sportsfield, action: Councillor Catmur, c) resurfacing of the Sportsfield car park, action: Councillor Ginn.
- **Local Transport and Connectivity Plan approved:** Noted.
- **Highways and Streetlighting Contracts - Stakeholder surveys:** Noted.
- **Great Gransden 20MPH Zone - Final Cost:** A request for £1148.00, as the Parish Council contribution to the 20mph zone, has been received from Highways. As the Great Gransden scheme had been transferred to the County prioritised schemes, it had been thought that there was no cost to the Parish Council. Highways to be questioned on this point.

12. Correspondence

Pizza van parking – 400 degrees: In principal agreement was approved for 400 degrees pizza van to use the Reading Room car park, with the proviso that a) no parking under trees (due to possible the heat scorching), b) particular care be taken near the Reading Room itself as it is a thatched building and c) the van should be parked on the hard standing. Councillor Davis agreed to liaise with the Reading Room Committee.

13. Planning Consultation.

Review of the Huntingdonshire Local List: The list is considered comprehensive and important in focusing review of planning applications.

14. Planning Applications:

14.1 22/00390/FUL & 22/00223/LBC - Barns, East Street, Great Gransden: Proposed by Councillor Pett, seconded by Councillor Catmur and unanimously approved, that the Parish Council stand by its original decision of 4th April 2022 of approval of the application. It was noted that a further two years have gone by and still a resolution for the future of this vital site in the centre of the village is awaited.

14.2 23/02127/LBC – 1 Fox Street, RETROSPECTIVE Renovation of 4 windows on the South elevation and 1 on the north elevation: Approval proposed by Councillor Pett, seconded by Councillor Ginn and unanimously approved, noting that the windows have been replaced with like for like and that the workmanship is of high quality.

14.3 APPLICATION REF. 23/02075/S73 Variation of condition 2 (As Plans) and removal of conditions 14 (Joinery), 15 (Slates) 18 (Oak) and 19 (Corrugated Steel Roof) of 18/010909/FUL(Retrospective) Rippington Barn 18 Church Street Great Gransden Sandy SG19 3AF. The Parish Council unanimously agreed that it stands by its comments of 8th December 2023;

“Great Gransden Parish Council unanimously agreed no comment on this application. There were however, certain observations: that the retrospective application was for works that could be seen from a listed building, although the works could not be seen from outside the property. It was noted that the original plans had been approved by the Parish Council and that it was now the work of the Conservation Officer that was of critical importance.”

It was further noted at the January meeting of the Parish Council, that the colour used for the windows is different to the approved plans, together with a possible slight variation in size, and that these points should be considered by the Conservation Officer.

14.4 REF. 23/02074/S73 Variation of condition 2 (As Plans) and 4 (Slate), and removal of conditions 3 (Joinery), 7 (Oak) and 8 (Corrugated Steel Roof) of 18/01910/LBC (Retrospective) Rippington Barn 18 Church Street Great Gransden Sandy SG19 3AF. The Parish Council unanimously agreed that it stands by its comments of 8th December 2023, with the same comments as for the related application **23/02075/S73** noted under 14.3 of these minutes.

15. HR Committee Update. *In line with the legislation below*, this item will be closed to the public.*

16. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 5th February 2024 which will commence at 7.30pm.

The meeting ended at 21.25 pm.

**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.’