

GREAT GRANSDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 5th February 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.

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:

None.

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting** held on 8th January: The Minutes were proposed by Councillor Pett, seconded by Councillor Catmur and unanimously approved,

5. OPEN FORUM:

- **MUGA:** With Spring approaching and the longer days, a reminder of the MUGA opening hours, 8:30am – 8:30pm and the Rules of Use will be posted on Touchbase.

6. Matters Arising:

- **Mandene Gardens and Dutton Gardens open space areas – site meeting with HDC:**
Meeting postponed until next week.
- **Community energy project:** A report will be given at the March meeting. Councillor Greenland will join the Working Group.
- **Churchyard management:** Agreed further discussion with churchyard mowing group and a new mowing proposal with map / plan to be produced for consideration. Councillor Bane to take this forward with all interested.

7.1 Reading Room AGM and nominations of Trustees:

The Reading Room Committee AGM is 19th February 2024. Parish Councillors, as Trustees of the Reading Room, were reminded that they should attend.

7.2 Parish Council representative to the Reading Room Committee:

Councillor Davis asked to step down as the Parish Council representative to the Reading Room Committee. Councillor Greenland offered to stand and was duly elected.

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

This update was postponed until the March meeting.

9. Payments for Approval.

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

Payments for approval at the Parish Council meeting on Monday 5th February 2024

Cheques/ Bank Transfers payable Feb 2024

1.	Mr R McIntosh (Garden of Remembrance)	£7.50
2.	The Mower Shed	£156.00*
3.	20 mph Zone	£1148.00*
4.	Annual ACRE Membership	£65.00*
5.	Reading Room Gardening Reclaim May-Oct 2023	£395.25
6.	Reading Room Cleaning Reclaim April-Dec 2023	£877.50
7.	Clerk's Salary – February 2024	£717.80
8.	RFO Backpay (Catherine Fox)	£233.57
9.	HMRC - PAYE (period ending 5 th March) (For Sharon Brown & Catherine Fox)	£91.80

Automated Payments payable Feb 2024

1.	DD	BT – Broadband Reading Room (11 th Feb 2024)	£44.36*
2.	DD	SSE (DD12 th Feb 2024)	£ TBC*

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

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

10. CIL Report 2022/23:

The CIL report 2022/23 has been made to HDC. CIL Income and Expenditure was reviewed.

11. Highways & Rights of Way

- **Any repairs or maintenance needed:**
 - Drain cover out of place on Crow Tree Street: Councillor Rowbotham will report to Highways.
 - State of layby and verge outside the school: Councillor Ginn will write to the Local Highways Officer.
 - Sand Road / Mill Road junction: The Parish Council noted with concern that a resident had suffered a broken arm from a fall on the ice in January and agreed to write to Highways to note the concern and request the drainage investigation be brought forward.
- **A428 road closure – request for liaison Little Gransden PC – re. a weight limit - Councillor Ginn:** Unanimously agreed to support the proposal, from Little Gransden PC, that National Highways be requested to apply for a weight limit on roads affecting
- **A428 Social Value Fund – Caxton Road application – Councillor Catmur:** The Stage 2 application requires a fully costed proposal, approximately £500 if undertaken via the PFHI route. Recognising that the LHI bid for Caxton Road speed reduction measures has been submitted, agreed, to take initial action on removing the soil creep on to the pathway and to approach the adjacent landowner concerning the hedge. Correspondence received in the last week concerning dangers along Caxton Road was noted. Replies have been sent explaining the Parish Councils actions in pursuance of safety measures.
- **A428 Social Value Fund - Little Lane Playing Field access application:** Agreed to obtain information to create a project specification and to research suitable contractors, with a view to progressing to a Stage 2 application.
- **A428 Social Value Fund – Sportsfield car park surfacing application:** Design and costings are already available. Councillor Ginn will make an application.
- **Meadow Road speeding:** Meeting to be arranged with Meadow Road residents; action Councillors Pett and Catmur.
- **Footbridge – between churchyard and cemetery:** This is on a Public Footpath and maintenance the responsibility of CCC Highways. Repair work to the retaining wall will start Friday, 9th February, taking about two weeks, if there is no bad weather. The Footpath will remain open.
- **Little Lane dog fouling:** Requests have been posted on Touchbase by the chairman, asking that dog mess be binned.

12. Correspondence

12.1 Proposals for a New House to the Rear of 2 Church Street, Great Gransden: It was considered that the Parish Council would be able to provide comment should a formal planning application be made and the correspondent would be advised accordingly.

12.2 Footpath network: Consideration will not be taken forward at present.

12.3 Memorial bench proposal: The family wishes to consider this further.

12.4 Biodiversity Grants, HDC

Noted. The website link to be put in the Parish Council Roundabout Notes.

12.5 Festival of Huntingdonshire HDC: Collaboration with Town and Parish Councils: Councillor Bane to represent the Parish Council at the meeting on 19th February.

13. Planning Applications:

- **REF. 23/01813/FUL Proposed installation of a 25 x 50m horse manege for private, non-commercial use 113 Meadow Road Great Gransden Sandy SG19 3BB:** Proposed by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Pett and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council recommend approval subject to certain conditions: a) a restriction of private usage of the manege, due to the property location on a difficult road bend, and b) no flood lighting, so as to avoid light pollution in this rural location outside the built village envelope and also to avoid its hazards to certain species of wildlife.

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

16. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 4th March 2024 which will commence at 7.30pm.

The meeting ended at 21.30 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.'