

GREAT GLEMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 24 September 2024

Present: Councillors Argus Gathorne-Hardy, Mark Lissaman, Ed Benson, John Cross, Karen Debenham, Sasha French, John Mercer

Apologies: Councillor Lindsay Wright, Cllr Stephen Burroughs, Rachael Wyartt

In attendance: Clerk Suzie Grogan, Cllr Langdon Morris, one member of the public

1 Welcome from the Chair

2 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Minutes of meeting on 14th May 2024

The minutes were approved and signed. Proposed and seconded by Cllrs Mercer and Cross.

5 Matters arising

Action: Clerk to contact Pip Alder regarding a tree and plaque for her mother.

6 District Councillor’s Report

Cllr Langdon-Morris informed the meeting that the Flood Report for Framlingham is now complete and the ‘what next?’ report on its way. Cllr Gathorne-Hardy said he is involved in a ‘clusterwide’ approach to flooding alongside parishes from Stratford St Andrew to Laxfield encompassing the Alde and the Orr. Looking at flood resilience and include the Framlingham report. Cllr Langdon-Morris said a consolidated report, detailing everything agreed so far is on its way. He has overseen the advert for a Resilience Co-ordinator to be funded by ESDC. That person will liaise with parish councils. Cllr Gathorne-Hardy informed the meeting of a farming conference in January that will focus on flood resilience.

The BeWell bus will be in Framlingham on Friday 27th.

The Barclays pop up bank will now be sited in the post office in Framlingham, open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and half day Thursday.

Flytipping has recently increased. Cllr LM encouraged Councils to report to ESDC.

General waste collection goes down to three weekly with an extra recycling bin provided from the 26th September.

Flood resilience funding closes in April 2025. Cllr LM to send Clerk application details again.

The Council expressed its thanks to Cllr Langdon Morris for all his hard work.

7 Public forum

Planning matter brought forward from item 13 as member of the public whose property it refers to attended. Agreed: Actively support the application. **Action:** Clerk

Cllr Cross informed the meeting that Jill Pascoe is moving and as she has the PC archive Cllr Cross can add her half of the paperwork to the half he already stores. **Action:** Cllr Cross

Meeting noted its thanks to Jill and Pat for their long-term commitment to the village.

8. Village Hall

Cllr Benson reported that the Village Hall is looking at first phase completion, i.e. the flooring, by Christmas after which the hall will be usable again. Second phase dates not yet agreed.

Cllr Cross gave a report from Emma Cross on the Village Hall committee. The first phase will get the hall operational and income generating again. The second phase is to get the sealed floors up as they will be storing water. Also, a good point to rejig toilet arrangements as the accessible toilet is not currently accessible to wheelchair users. Any third phase would involve raising the floors at a cost of over £100.000 so unlikely.

The Village Hall has made a request to the solar fund for the sum of £6645.50 plus VAT. Meeting agreed that sum be made available. Proposed Cllr Gathorne-Hardy, seconded Cllr Debenham. **Action:** Cllr Cross to request formal application via email to Clerk.

9 Memory Tree Planting

See matters arising. Meeting agreed to provide tree and plaque. Clerk to email Pip Alder and progress.

Suggest Chapel Lane for planting. Clerk to contact Flagship Housing after messaging Pip.

During discussion the meeting noted the excess of apples lying in public areas. **Action:** Clerk to contact Village News and suggest people take them to avoid waste.

10 Energy Projects

Cllr Mercer does not think the village needs to apply for the thermal imaging camera for a second year, as there is unlikely to be any change from last year.

Cllr French is still waiting for the minutes from the AEPA meeting by Zoom Mon 3rd September. Action: Clerk to pursue. Cllr Mercer wanted noted the increase in traffic on the A12 making turning right out of the village very difficult. Not just lorries but workers at Sizewell C. points being raised by parishes are being ignored.

Action: Clerk to contact Charlotte Fox at Benhall & Sternfield regarding joint action.

Cllr Cross is going to the Community Partnership meeting on 10th October at which this will be discussed.

11 Defibrillator update

The training session with WelMed was a success, but there are serious issues affecting the use of the defibrillator as it is currently sited at the Village Hall

a) The present defibrillator is old and needs replacement. Action Clerk to look at London Hearts grant offer.

b) Most importantly, there is no signal at the Hall so it is difficult to contact emergency services for the code. Action: Clerk to contact Nicola Redmond regarding possibility of siting at K6 (the phone box) and Jill Pascoe regarding the church. Both places get better signal. Cllr Cross to talk to FramBroadband regarding improving the signal at the Hall.

2023/14

12 Village email

Rob Platais has offered to take on the village newsletter email from November as Carolyn and Richard Nicholls are retiring. Meeting minuted thanks to them for their hard work. **Action:** Clerk to contact Ebb and Flow to add in a note requesting people update their email or add themselves to the contact list.

13. Planning Matters

See Public Forum.

14. Standing Orders

Minuted that the updated Standing Orders approved and adopted. Proposed Cllr Mercer, seconded Cllr Lissaman.

15. Finance Matters

Clerk gave finance report. Accounts circulated and approved. No receipts since last meeting. The bank balance is £45, 413.51

Accounts checked and signed by Cllrs Cross and Debenham.

Cllr Cross is happy with the insurance quote. **Action:** Clerk to renew insurance.

Cllr Mercer suggested the purchase of an external hard drive to back up the PC laptop. Action: Clerk to purchase.

The Audit Exemption Notice has been received.

The new Financial Regulations were approved and adopted. Proposed Cllr Mercer, Seconded Cllr Cross. The Clerk requested that a new savings account be set up with the CoOp bank to separate the precept and Council funds from the Solar and other incomes. Agreed. Auditor had requested such an account be established. **Action:** Clerk to check interest rates and set up new account.

The following invoices, paid between 14th May 2024 and 23rd September were approved and signed:

SALC	267.60	Internal Audit Service
Clerk	192.24	Salary
HMRC	48	Tax
Clerk	414.04	Salary
Benson	136.99	Maintenance
Benson	15	Maintenance
Benson	9.36	Maintenance
Clerk	297.44	Salary
Benson	200	Maintenance
Clerk	297.44	Salary

14 Community issues

a) Highways, Footpaths, Speeding and Road Related Issues (Cllr Debenham)

We have the bulbs for a second year. Cllr Gathorne-Hardy requested that non-native species are not planted on field margins or conservation areas. **Action:** Cllr Debenham to collect bulbs in October if possible

Cllr Debenham presented her detailed reports. Meeting noted thanks for her work with Suffolk County Council. Frustration at the difficulties of coordinating the works noted. Wayne Saunders at SCC being chased by Clerk to give date for further scheduled works in November. **Action:** Clerk to pursue Environment Agency over flood risks.

Speed camera rota was passed round.

A call via the Village Newsletter for volunteers for available highways training should be made. **Action:** Clerk.

b) Butchers Field (Cllr Benson)

Cllr Benson reported that the hedges have now grown too high. **Action:** Cllr Cross to check and report back. Cllr Gathorne-Hardy will also check. The RoSPA report on safety is also due shortly.

c) Community Partnerships (Cllr Cross)

Action: Cllr Cross is attending the meeting on 10th October and will report back.

d) Community Biodiversity project (Cllr Gathorne-Hardy)

Cllr Gathorne-Hardy informed the meeting that hedgerow management will now leave hedgerows unclipped.

2024/11

31 ponds now counted on farm.

e) Low Carbon Solar Farm (Cllr Gathorne-Hardy)

All the planning applications circulated by Cllr Langdon Morris confirmed as enabling applications only.

15. A.O.B

The meeting noted the resignation of Cllr Lindsay Wright. **Action:** Clerk to start co-option process and remove Lindsay from the ROI

16. Next meeting.

The next meeting will be on 10th December 2024 The Old School House.

Meeting closed 20.45pm