

Granborough Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Granborough Parish Council

Held via Zoom on Tuesday 15th September 2020

Attendees: Cllr Ellerton, Cllr Oakland (Chair), Cllr Smedley, Cllr B Watson, Cllr L Watson, Clerk Tors Firth, Buckinghamshire's Cllr Chilver, Leone Dale, and 0 members of the public.

69. Apologies; Buckinghamshire Cllr Renshell & Cllr Stanier

70. Open Forum for Parishioners; No items were raised by members of the public

71. Interests: No declarations of interests were made

72. Minutes;

Resolved: To accept the Minutes from the 4th August 2020 as a true record.

73. Finance;

a. **Resolved:** To accept the accounts for July & August 2020

b. **Ratified:** Payments 40 to 55 inclusive were ratified, please see Appendix A.

c. **Confirmed;** 2019 Audit is complete, no issues were raised.

74. Planning

a. **Resolved;** To agree a response of no objection to 20/02687/APP at 6 Marks Orchard for a 1st floor extension.

b. **Confirmed;** A status update obtained from the planning portal is included in Appendix B.

c. Three white papers have been circulated by NALC; Changes to the current planning system, Planning for the future and Transparency and competition.

Cllr Chilver informed the Council that Buckinghamshire Council will respond along the lines that they object to the top down housing target, specifically the method used to identify housing, as the algorithm is weighted against the South East and rural areas which could double the housing number in Aylesbury Vale.

The proposed plan will split into three areas; growth, renewal and protected. If the papers are adopted, it will be vitally important for Parishes to consult on the local plan since being designated a growth area could see automatic outline permission for housing development.

Cllr Smedley commented that response to the white papers appear to be either agree, or propose a different solution. **Resolved;** The Parish Council will view the Buckinghamshire Council response, before preparing their own response. Cllr Chilver will let The Clerk know when the Buckinghamshire response is available.

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75. Councillors/Clerk;

- a. **Confirmed;** Cllr Marchant has moved from the area and therefore resigned his position as Councillor. This leaves the Council with 2 of 7 seats empty. All Councillors to make an effort at recruitment.
- b. **Resolved;** Pay rises for Clerks have now been agreed by the professional body. The increase will add £0.681 per hour to the Clerks Salary and should be backdated to 1st April, the standing order will be changed going forward and arrears collected via expenses.

76. Buckinghamshire Council: Highways, Footpaths & Footways

- a. Issues raised since the last meeting;
 - i. The Hedge around the Green in Sovereign Close has not been cut recently. This land is maintained by Buckinghamshire Council's Street Scene department. Cutting is due in September but may run a little late.
 - ii. Ref: 40140721 & 2 drainage issues on Green End reported.
- b. To receive any updates from the Unitary Authority on outstanding issues;
 - i. Ref: 40136228; flooding on Winslow Road, TfB have carried out extensive repairs which should resolve the issue.
 - ii. Ref: 200493131 broken footbridge; Cllr Chilver offered to follow this up.
 - iii. Ref: 40129983 verge damage Winslow Road; the verge has been repaired by TfB whilst overhauling the drains on the road.
 - iv. Ref: 40130505 & 40130506 damaged horse warning signs, no updates
- c. Cycle Path Request; Leone Dale attended the meeting in the hopes of forming a working party with some key partners to make progress and drive the project forward with the local Community Board acting as a catalyst. **Resolved;** Cllr Chilver will put Cllr Ellerton in touch with Cllr Clive Harris who was involved in the cycle path to Buckingham, to help scope the project. Cllr Ellerton and Leone Dale will liaise with regard to forming a working party. Funding will need to be secured from various sources since the Community Board budget is limited. Proposals for next year's Community Board budget must be submitted by the end of October.
- d. Tree Planting and wild flowers on Winslow Road; the online cultivation licence application is complicated and seems inappropriate. Cllr Chilver will suggest a Buckinghamshire Council representative to help guide the Council through the process.

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77. Play Area;

- a. **Resolved:** The broken branch reported by Cllr Watson has been removed. Inspection Reports indicate no further action is required at this time.
- b. **Confirmed:** The following progress is recorded on outstanding issues;
 - i. Basketball Surface, repaired by A J North
 - ii. Rocker See-saw, the weld is rough and needs to be smoothed off and painted. The Clerk will contact Roy Randalls.
 - iii. Zip Wire, the current height of the seat is fine.

78. Street Lighting and Parish Council Assets

- a. New Issues; None. A resident has offered to do a weekly inspection of the street lights, for which the Parish Council is grateful.
- b. Updates;
 - i. **Confirmed;** Play Area Sign; the wooden sign will be installed at the Village Hall in the next week by Cllr Oakland.
 - ii. **Confirmed;** Bench and Plaque memorial for Colin Carter; these are now in-situ on Winslow Road, positive feedback has been received.
 - iii. **Confirmed;** Street Light problems were reported in Bates Close, Church Lane and Winslow Road, lights are now working.
 - iv. **Confirmed;** The MVAS Unit was serviced on 7/7/20, batteries were changed a week ago. Cllrs Oakland and Watson will move the sign in the next two weeks.

79. Devolved Services; No issues were raised

80. **Website;** The Clerk attended a Website Accessibility webinar with BALC, the requirements were covered, but no instruction on how to achieve them was given. It was made clear that a great deal of work is involved and the deadline is very close. Cllr Chilver confirmed that many Parish Councils are struggling with the requirements. Leone Dale will ask the Buckinghamshire Councils web team if any help/advice can be provided for Parish Councils. It may be necessary to apply for exemption since the Clerk has neither the expertise nor the time, and obtaining professional help is prohibitively expensive. It was also noted that the council's Service Provider has restricted single document upload sizes, and that the Clerk has requested bills since none have automatically trigger in the last quarter.

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81. Neighbourhood Plan; The first draft is coming to fruition but current regulations mean there will be a delay before a referendum can take place. One project moving forward as a result of the plan, is the potential leasing of the land next to the play area for use as a butterfly sanctuary/nature walk area. Negotiations with the Oxford Diocese are underway.

82. Outside Bodies; The Winslow & Villages Community Board; The Board had established four subgroups; Youth, Health, Roads & Highways and Public & Community Transport which will allow for detailed consideration of these areas and inform the Community Board. Residents or Councillors with a specific interest in any of these areas are invited to join working groups outside of the Community Board meetings, to drive local projects forward.

***Resolved;* Cllrs Oakland and Smedley will discuss possible candidates.**

83. Buckinghamshire Council Updates;

Cllr John Chilver told the meeting that significantly more funding will be available to the Community Boards than was available to the LAFS they have replaced; £277k this year for infrastructure, local priorities and health & wellbeing. Much of this funding has already been allocated to the Covid response. Transport scheme feasibility studies requiring funding next year, should be submitted before the end of October 2020.

84. Post and Consultations;

The following communications have been logged;

- a. Community Board Meeting on 29th September at 7pm via MS Teams
- b. Police & Crime Bulletin 25th August
- c. Various covid-19 updates throughout July & August
- d. Recommendation to continue remote meetings from BALC 27/8
- e. Government Consultation for changes to current planning system 27/8
- f. VALP update from Buckinghamshire Council 27/8

85. Items for the Next Agenda; Six Month Finance Review for Budgeting.

86. To confirm the date of the next meeting; 13th October 2020

The meeting closed at 20.46

Signed: _____

Date: _____

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Appendix A – Payments Ratified

Ref	Amount	Expenditure	VAT
40	£***.**	Clerks Pay July	£0.00
41	£240.00	PKF Littlejohn LLP Extenal Audit	£40.00
42	£472.07	RTM Landscapes Grass Cutting	£78.68
43	£**.**	Clerks Expenses July	£0.00
44	£135.66	E.on Street Lighting Electricity	£6.46
45	£56.33	E.on Street Light Maintenance	£9.39
46	£28.08	E.on Street Light Maintenance	£4.68
47	£133.00	Stretton Services – Website Charges	£0.00
48	£14.39	Reimbursement for Zoom Membership	£2.40
49	£1505.00	Chapman Planning, Neighbour Hood Plan	£0.00
50	£1008.00	A J North, Plinth & Surface Repairs	£168.00
51	£35.00	Reimbursement for memorial plaque	£0.00
52	£***.**	Clerks Pay August	£0.00
53	£135.66	E.on Street Lighting Electricity	£6.46
54	£621.16	RTM Landscapes Grass Cutting, Herbicide	£103.53
55	£**.**	Clerks Expenses August	£0.00

Appendix B – Planning Update

Application	Address	Status
20/02071/APP	Stately Stables residential for traveller family	Awaiting Decision
20/01631/APP	Green End Barns conversion to 2 dwellings	Awaiting Decision
20/01675/APP	19 Winslow Road, Annex extension	Awaiting Decision
20/02687/APP	6 Marks Orchard, 2 story rear extension	Awaiting Decision