Minutes of the Meeting of Granborough Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 18th April 2023

Attendees: Cllr Anderson, Cllr de Niese, Cllr Ellerton, Cllr Fenwick, Cllr Oakland (Chair)
Cllr Smedley, Cllr Watson, Clerk Tors Firth, Buckinghamshire's Cllr Stanier and 2
members of the public

- 1. Apologies; Buckinghamshire's Cllr John Chilver sent apologies.
- 2. Open Forum for Parishioners; A representative from Statera attended the open forum to tell the Parish Council of possible plans for a battery installation near the East Claydon substation, within Granborough Parish. Statera intend to leaflet residents and hold an exhibition including question and answer sessions, in the village hall in May/June. Statera will then gauge public opinion, on the proposals. The Councillors were offered a visit to an existing battery installation to better understand the impact of such a site. Any installation will require planning permission from the local planning authority and will be subject to the usual planning process.
- **3. Interests:** No declarations of interest were made.
- 4. Minutes;

Resolved: To accept the Minutes from the 7th March 2023 as a true record.

- 5. Finance;
 - a. Resolved: To accept the accounts for March 2023.
 - b. Ratified: Payments 83 to 01 inclusive were ratified, please see Appendix A.
 - **c.** *Resolved:* To accept the year-end figure of £24,629.89 and to accept the draft accounting statement, pending internal auditor sign-off.
 - d. *Resolved:* Minor changes to the budget for 23-24 were confirmed.
 - e. Resolved: Fixed assets and the proposed insurance figures were agreed.
 - **f.** *Resolved:* To award small grants to Granborough Friendship Group, Charter Fayre and Granborough Youth Group for the amounts requested. To award a small grant of £500 to the Scouts group. Confirmation emails will be sent, representatives will be asked to attend the annual meeting on 23rd May 2023.
 - g. Resolved: To agree a donation of £395 for Granborough coronation events.
 Payment will be made on receipt of invoices. The events leaflet is available on the "what's on" page of the website.

6. Planning:

a. *Resolved;* To agree a response of No objections to application 23/00813/VRC at Leys Farm for removal of condition 7.

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- **b.** *Resolved;* To agree a response of no objections to application 23/00696/APP at 46 Winslow Road for a two storey rear extension and an additional dwelling, requests will be made regarding appearance.
- **c.** *Confirmed;* A status update on current planning applications was obtained from the planning portal, please see Appendix B.
- **d.** Planning Actions including enforcement issues; None.

7. Buckinghamshire Council Updates;

Cllr Stanier gave an update to the meeting, including that 2% of the Council Tax rise, is for welfare funds. Potholes were discussed, including the issue that repairing them during winter is not ideal since water ingress and frost cause the patches to fail. 17,000 potholes were mended in Buckinghamshire last year. Buckinghamshire Council is also seeking additional funding for the support of Ukrainian and Afghan refugees. New constituency boundaries; Granborough will become part of the new Buckingham and Bletchley constituency. The conservative candidate will be Ian Stuart.

Cllr Stanier was asked if HS2 and East West Rail are paying for road damage and what is meant by the reinstatement of roads to previous condition.

8. Councillors/Clerk/Administration;

- **a.** *Resolved:* To agree the clerk's progression from SCP27 to SCP28 from 1st April 2023. The Clerk will amend the standing order for Clerks Pay with the bank.
- **b.** *Resolved:* The annual village meeting will be held at 7pm on 23rd May. All those in receipt of a small grant will be asked to attend to give a brief update. The Annual Parish Council meeting will follow at 7.30pm, all Councillors should review Standard Documents and personal interests in preparation for the meeting. The Clerk will circulate links to the relevant information.
- **c.** There is to be a National Emergency Alert on 23rd April at 3pm which will involve a siren like sound being sent to all mobile phones which have not opted out.

Resolved: Cllr Smedley will put posters at the Bus Stop noticeboards.

9. Buckinghamshire Council: Highways, Footpaths & Footways

- **a.** The following new issues have been raised; None
- **b.** Updates on outstanding issues;
 - i. Some Salt Bins in the village been replenished, but not on Green End.
 - ii. ROW issue 220795649 has been resolved.
 - iii. Buckinghamshire Highways village walk around is yet to be agree. The Clerk will raise this with John Chilver again.

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10. Play Area;

a. New issues; The gates at the top of the play area have rotten panels, the gate at the bottom of the play area is supported by a rotten post. The Clerk will ask Robert Kemp to quote for fixing the gates.

The wire on the top gate needs tacking back, but the gate needs to be repaired first. The baby swing seat may need replacing soon, the situation will be monitored. The picnic bench will need to be replaced in the near future, the situation will be monitored.

The grass is too long, it is due to be cut this week.

b. *Confirmed;* RoSPA have confirmed the annual inspection will take place in May.

11. Glebe Land Project;

- **a.** The following updates were given;
 - i. The noticeboard has now been installed, thanks to Robert Kemp.
 - ii. The rewilding plugs are planted.
 - iii. The brambles needed to be in leaf for a weed killer application, this is now possible.
 - iv. Pre-planted coir rolls for the pond, Cllr Ellerton will place an order with a maximum budget of £1,350 including VAT.
- **b.** The following new actions were agreed;
 - i. *Resolved:* The meadow will now be known as Coronation Meadow.
 - ii. *Resolved:* Cllr Ellerton will prepare a notice stating rules for use of the meadow and ponds.
 - iii. *Resolved:* Landscaping is required, Cllr Ellerton will obtain a quote, a budget of £300 was agreed.

12. Street Lighting and Parish Council Assets

- **a.** New issues requiring attention; Since the last meeting light No. 8 on Winslow Road has been reported and repaired.
- **b.** Updates on outstanding issues; The Swarco contract has now been paid, the batteries need to be charged.

13. Devolved Services;

- **a.** *Confirmed:* The cutting and herbicide schedule has been received and the budget adjusted accordingly.
- **b.** *Confirmed:* A village and play area cut have already taken place. A second play area cut is due this week, this will be monitored.

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- **14. Website/Technology**; Cllr de Niese will investigate getting all Councillors onto the same platform for data protection and GDPR purposes. A recommendation will be made at the next meeting to include costs.
- **15.** Outside Bodies; The following meetings have been attended; Cllr Fenwick and Cllr Smedley attended the Buckinghamshire Highways meeting about the change of Highways contractor.
- **16. Plans, Structures and Consultations**; *Resolved:* Cllr Fenwick will prepare a response to the resilience consultation.
- 17. Items for the Next Agenda; Councillors Interests, Standard Documents, Statera
- **18.** To confirm the date of the next meeting; 23rd May 2023

The meeting closed at 20:55

| Signed: | Date: |
|---------|-------|

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Appendix A – Payments Ratified

| Ref | Amount | Expenditure | VAT |
|-----|-------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| 83 | £54.97 | Reimburse Printer Ink - V Firth | £9.16 |
| 84 | £100.00 | Village Hall Hire #10345 | £0.00 |
| 85 | £25.20 | Reimburse Map Printing - P Oakland | £4.20 |
| 86 | £310.50 | Reimburse A Mellor to Lindengate | £51.75 |
| 87 | £177.21 | SSE Energy February | £8.43 |
| 88 | £309.00 | JP Morgan (Swarco) MVAS Contract | £51.50 |
| 89 | £268.80 | A.C.Kemp & Sons, Glebe Work | £44.80 |
| 90 | £39.55 | Clerks Expenses March | £0.00 |
| 91 | £21.67 | Reimburse Stationery V Firth | £3.12 |
| 92 | + £43.83 | SSE Utility Aid Credit | £0.00 |
| 93 | £***.** | Clerks Pay March (SO) | £0.00 |
| 94 | £18.00 | Bank Charges for quarter | £0.00 |
| 1 | + £1,389.51 | Devolution Grant | £0.00 |

Appendix B – Planning Update

| Application | Where | Decision |
|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 23/00813/VRC | Ley Farm, Winslow Road | Awaiting Decision |
| 23/00696/APP | 46 Winslow Road | Awaiting Decision |
| 23/00227/APP | Land behind 20D Green End | Approved |
| 23/00214/APP | 20D Green End | Awaiting Decision |
| 22/03030/APP | The Old Byre, Green End | Awaiting Decision |
| 22/01260/APP | The Crown Public House | Awaiting Decision |
| 21/04067/APP | The Grain Store Winslow Road | Withdrawn |
| | | |

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