

Granborough Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Granborough Parish Council
held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 14th November 2023

Attendees: Cllr Anderson, Cllr de Niese, Cllr Ellerton, Cllr Oakland (Chair), Cllr Smedley, Cllr Watson, Clerk Tors Firth, and 0 member of the public

110. Apologies; Cllr Fenwick sent apologies due to a personal commitment.

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

Correspondence from a parishioner regarding the MVAS sign, requesting it be upgraded with 3 new devices and speed humps, was logged for discussion at the next meeting.

112. Interests: No declarations of interest were made.

113. Minutes;

Resolved: To accept the Minutes from the 17th October 2023 as a true record.

114. BESS Proposal:

a. The working party reported a successful event on Saturday morning at which Statera provided updates to those attending, followed by a working party and parish council visit to the proposed site. It was confirmed that a new access point has been agreed from the substation, avoiding the village. The latest target for submission of the application is before Christmas 2023. The working party are finalising the village questionnaire and in the absence of a detailed application to examine, research is directed at specific concerns such as noise and fire risk. It is noted that EQT group has taken a controlling interest in Statera Energy Limited.

b. **Resolved:** The working party will use the £200 Chairmans Allowance to print questionnaires for delivery to each household in the village.

The working party will use the results from the questionnaire to provide the parish council with an informed view of residents' opinions.

The parish council wishes to thank Statera for accommodating its request for the additional public meeting last Saturday, giving residents the opportunity to seek further information.

115. Finance;

a. **Resolved:** To accept the accounts for October 2023.

b. **Ratified:** Payments 62 to 71 inclusive were ratified, and items over £200 were checked and signed by Cllrs Oakland and Smedley. Please see Appendix A.

c. **Resolved:** To set a budget of £48,313 for 2024/25, a precept request of £24,900 will be required. Councillors will check the figures and confirm agreement at the next meeting.

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- d. **Confirmed:** Cllr Anderson has submitted the signatory paperwork and awaits confirmation of becoming a signatory.

116. Planning:

- a. **Confirmed:** A status update on current planning applications was obtained from the planning portal, please see Appendix B.
- b. Planning Actions including enforcement issues; None.

117. **Resilience Planning:** No decisions are required. This item will be removed from the next agenda unless the working party give notice that a parish council decision is sought.

118. **Buckinghamshire Council Updates;** none given.

119. Councillors/Clerk/Administration;

Agenda packs; Cllr de Niese proposed that when the documents are uploaded to the portal, a check box can be used to indicate selection for public availability.

Resolved: Cllr de Niese will add a selection tick box to the portal. Selected documents will automatically feed to the meeting page. Cllr de Niese will liaise with the clerk regarding meeting page requirements.

120. Buckinghamshire Council: Highways, Footpaths & Footways

- a. The following new issues have been raised;
 - i. Road closure signs left on the verge outside the village hall. The clerk will raise this with the LAT to have them collected.
- b. Updates on outstanding issues;
 - i. Salt Bin, Green End remains empty. The clerk will contact Highways again.
 - ii. Resurfacing markings outside the church on Green End and on Church Lane remain but work is not yet scheduled.

121. Play Area;

- a. Inspection Reports indicate that no further action is required currently.

Resolved: Cllr de Niese confirmed that notification emails are going to correct addresses, emails were found in spam folders, so councillors need to mark them as "not spam" to ensure they are correctly received in future.
- b. Updates on existing issues;
 - i. Basketball Net removal is complete.
 - ii. Cable Ties above the swings are installed.
 - iii. Fencing posts; Robert Kemp will assess the posts in due course.

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122. Coronation Meadow Project;

- a. The following updates were provided;
 - i. Cultivation and seed planting is complete.
 - ii. The lower pond liner has not yet been fitted since the pond is full of water.
 - iii. The initial 3 year financial plan has been accepted.
 - iv. Payment of the community boards grant is outstanding; the clerk will chase this up.
 - v. Purchase of Buckthorne saplings will take place after Christmas as the area is to be cleared first.
- b. The following new actions were agreed;
 - i. The meadow needs some clearing, a program of winter cutting will be prepared.

123. Street Lighting and Parish Council Assets

- a. New issues requiring attention;
 - i. Light No. 6 on Green End has been repaired.
- b. Updates on outstanding issues
 - i. Street Light No. 3 Bates Close has been repaired.
 - ii. Street Light No. 1 Church Lane has been repaired.
 - iii. Closed Noticeboard replacement is ongoing since sourcing a closed noticeboard which mounts on railings without a locking door, is proving difficult.

124. Devolved Services;

- a. New issues requiring attention; None.
- b. Although the clerk submitted the requested information to the devolved services team on 11th October, no devolution offer has yet been received. This will have a potential impact on the budget for 2024/25.

125. Website/Technology;

- a. New issues; Cllr Watson has booked onto a course for using google analytics on the website to track usage, and a course on website administration. The clerk booked onto a best practice for website images course. These are through Aubergine and provided free of charge.
 - b. **Resolved:** Not to pursue a presence on X (formally twitter) at this time.
 - c. **Resolved:** The proposed website changes were discussed, and a new menu layout agreed. The clerk will implement the changes before the next meeting.
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- d. **Confirmed:** Aubergine notified the parish council that new website accessibility requirements will come into effect in October 2024. The parish council does not need to take any action, Aubergine will handle any requirements.
- e. Microsoft office;
 - i. **Confirmed:** All councillors have migrated to the new email addresses.
 - ii. **Resolved:** To upgrade Cllr de Niese and Cllr Fenwick to the standard package of Office alongside the clerk.
 - iii. Various teething issues were discussed, no actions are required.
 - iv. The clerk asked that councillors either enter any unavailable time into the shared diary themselves or notify the clerk who will do it on their behalf.

126. Outside Bodies;

- a. Upcoming meetings; 29th November Community Boards, 6th December website analytics, 11th December website images.
- b. No outside meetings have been attended since the last meeting.

127. Plans, Structures and Consultations;

Confirmed: A response prepared by Cllr Smedley was submitted to Rosehill Solar, stating the parish council's concerns.

Resolved: Cllr Smedley will consider the Inspectorates consultation request on the environment study for Rosehill Solar, to inform the scoping opinion, deadline 11th December.

128. Items for the Next Agenda; Confirm the Precept Request, discuss memorial silhouettes, discuss speeding deterrents.

129. To confirm the date of the next meeting; 12th December 2023

The meeting closed at 20:46

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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Appendix A – Payments Ratified

Note: Invoices over £200 were checked and signed by _____

Ref	Amount	Expenditure	VAT
62	£194.83	SSE Street Lighting September	£9.27
63	£5.00	Smarty Sim October	£0.00
64	£34.55	Clerks Expenses September	£0.00
65	£493.92	D. de Niese reimburse Office Emails	£82.32
66	£97.58	D. Smedley reimburse wreath etc.	£0.00
67	£30.00	RTM meadow cut	£5.00
68	£1860.00	Blades Turf Care	£310.00
69	£***.**	Clerks Pay October	£0.00
70	£34.55	Clerks Expenses October	£0.00
71	£550.44	RTM Grass Cutting	£91.74

Appendix B – Planning Update

Application	Where	Decision
23/00214/APP	20D Green End	Awaiting Decision
22/01260/APP	The Crown Public House	Awaiting Decision