

Granborough Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Granborough Parish Council
held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 12th December 2023

Attendees: Cllr Anderson, Cllr Ellerton, Cllr Fenwick (Chair), Cllr Oakland, Cllr Smedley (item 134 onwards), Clerk Tors Firth, and 0 member of the public

130. Apologies; The council accepted apologies from Cllr Watson and Cllr de Niese due to personal commitments. Buckinghamshire's Cllr Chilver and Stanier sent apologies.

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

132. Interests: No declarations of interest were made.

133. Minutes;

Resolved: To accept the Minutes from the 14th November 2023 as a true record.

134. BESS Proposal

a. The working party provided a brief update;

Given the unpredictable validation timeframe for the application, the following is planned but subject to change; The questionnaires (which are complete except for an application reference number), will be distributed by the working party prior to an open meeting for residents, to be held on 6th January. The working party will use feedback from the questionnaires, to present the parish council with the village opinions, at a meeting on 16th January. The parish council will then agree a general response to the application, an in-depth written response will follow.

b. The application has been submitted via a third party portal and has yet to reach Buckinghamshire Council. Once received a validation process of indeterminate length will take place. The parish council will receive consultee notification, from which point the parish council has 35 days to respond.

135. Finance;

a. **Resolved:** To accept the accounts for November 2023,

b. **Ratified:** Payments 72 to 78 inclusive were ratified, please see Appendix A,

c. **Ratified:** A budget of £49,412 and precept request of £24,900,

d. **Confirmed:** Cllr Anderson is now a signatory on the PC bank account.

136. Planning;

a. **Resolved;** To agree a response of no objection to application 23/03808/APP at The Grain Store for a loading shelter lean-to and timber store lean-to (retrospective),

b. **Confirmed;** A status update on current planning applications was obtained from the planning portal, please see Appendix B,

c. Planning Actions including enforcement issues; None,

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- d. Planning Surgeries; **Resolved:** To register the clerk as the nominated representative.
It was felt that a surgery for the BESS was unnecessary.

137. Buckinghamshire Council Updates; No updates were provided.

138. Buckinghamshire Council: Highways, Footpaths & Footways

- a. The following new issues have been raised;
 - i. Ivy covered fence falling into the footpath opposite The Crown
Resolved: Cllr Oakland will speak to the owner of the fence,
 - ii. Request for a salt bin in Bates Close **Resolved:** The clerk will ascertain costs and procedures allowing the parish council to consider the request at the next meeting.
- b. Updates on outstanding issues;
 - i. The salt bin on Green End has now been filled,
 - ii. Resurfacing work outside the church is still outstanding,
 - iii. The road closure signs have now been removed.

139. Play Area;

- a. The lower gate has no tension in the spring
Resolved: Cllr Smedley will try to remedy this when the weather is dry,
Inspection Reports indicate that no further action is currently required,
- b. Outstanding Issues; fence posts to be assessed in the next few months.

140. Coronation Meadow Project;

- a. Existing actions;
 - i. The Community Boards Grant has now been paid,
 - ii. The Winter clearance schedule will be completed in the new year, work is weather dependant, a notice for volunteers will be displayed on the website.
 - iii. The Buckthorne saplings require clearance prior to planting, but will be purchased before April 2024.
- b. New actions;
 - i. Due to wet weather the lower pond is currently full. The pond liner will be fitted when water levels drop.

141. Street Lighting and Parish Council Assets

- a. New issues requiring attention;
 - i. Street Light No. 2 on Winslow Road has been repaired,

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- ii. Soldier Silhouettes; **Resolved:** after discussion highlighted a lack of suitable sites, it was agreed not to purchase silhouettes currently.

b. Updates on outstanding issues

- i. The closed noticeboard will be ordered tomorrow,
- ii. Resident complaint; the anonymous complainant has not responded to an invitation to meet with Cllr Oakland to discuss their complaint.

Cllr Oakland confirmed the MVAS is working. Highways have previously advised that there are limited suitable and safe sites for speed indicator devices in Granborough due to the length of straight approach required, to detect speed. There are three approved ground screws currently, which the device can be moved between. **Resolved:** the clerk will investigate the costs and procedures involved in upgrading the MVAS sign to a newer solar version. The parish council decided against pursuing any kind of traffic calming measure.

NOTE: Speeding is dangerous and illegal. No residents should speed at the MVAS sign to "test" whether it is working, the sign only illuminates when approached at speeds above the speed limit.

142. Devolved Services;

- a. Devolution Contract **Resolved:** the clerk will send an expression of interest for devolved services in 24/25.
- b. Village asset cleaning, **Resolved:** To invite quotes for asset cleaning next April.

143. Website/Technology;

- a. New issues, events have gone missing from the shared Calendar, which needs investigating.
- b. Outstanding issues;
 - i. **Confirmed:** The annual bill for web hosting has been paid to Aubergine,
 - ii. Agenda packs; postponed to the next meeting,
 - iii. Google analytics; postponed to the next meeting,
 - iv. Microsoft office upgrades; postponed to the next meeting,
 - v. **Confirmed:** The domain name has been renewed for the next three years with 123 Reg.

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144. Outside Bodies;

- a. Upcoming meetings; The NBPPC meeting takes place on 10th January; if online Cllr Smedley will attend, if in person Cllr Fenwick will attend.
- b. Updates from meetings attended;
Cllr Fenwick gave an update from the Rosefield meeting,
The clerk attended a useful website training event regarding images.

145. Plans, Structures and Consultations;

Rosefield Solar Scoping Request; it was decided that the parish council does not have the expertise to add to the scoping document.

146. Items for the Next Agenda; Additional salt bin, speed indicator device, Statera application.

147. To confirm the date of the next meeting; 16th January 2024

The meeting closed at 20:35

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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Appendix A – Payments Ratified

Note: Invoices over £200 are checked and signed by two councillors.

Ref	Amount	Expenditure	VAT
72	£5.00	Smarty monthly subs	£0.00
73	£189.16	SSE Street Light Electricity October	9.00
74	+£2,469.60	HMRC VAT rebate	£0.00
75	£***.**	Clerks Pay November	£0.00
76	£34.55	Clerks Expenses November	£0.00
76	£***.**	Clerks Expenses (back pay)	£0.00
77	+£400.00	Grant payment from Community Boards	£0.00
78	£100.00	Xmas Tree Donation to 101 Club	£0.00

Appendix B – Planning Update

Application	Where	Decision
23/00214/APP	20D Green End	Awaiting Decision
22/01260/APP	The Crown Public House	Awaiting Decision
23/03808/APP	The Grain Store	Awaiting Decision