Great Abington Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs. PM Harper

17 Lewis Crescent, Great Abington, Cambridge CB21 6AG

A meeting of Great Abington Parish Council was held at Abington Institute on Monday 18th March 2024

Meeting started at 7.15pm

Present: Tony Orgee, Jane Bowen, Mak , Risa Nagasaki, Stephen McDonnell, Louise Patten and the Clerk.

**105. Open forum – nothing raised.**

**106. Apologies were received and accepted unanimously by councillors from Jill Carter, Henry Batchelor and John Batchelor.**

**107. Declaration of interest in items to be discussed**. **Tony Orgee, Jane Bowen and Stephen McDonnell declared an interest in Glenn Broads payment as he does work for them**

**108. The minutes for the last meetings held on 15th January were approved unanimously by all councillors.**

**109.** **Report from Councillor Henry Batchelor –circulated** to all councillors

**110.** **Report from Councillor John Batchelor –circulated** to all councillors

**111. Highway issues/matters**

a) Pot holes on High Street, Newmarket Road and Pampisford Road and what the result was of Henry’s request for more permanent solution to the Pampisford road. Henry suggested that it would be helpful if people continued to report the potholes on the CCC portal to show that a more permanent solution was required.

b) Update from SCDC on planning irregularities. Planning officers were planning to visit a house with a caravan still on site after the new house was completed and they hasd written to a householder blocking the road with delivery vehicles.

c) The footpath outside Moorefield on the Pampisford is breaking up. Referred to a new footpath team. **Action Clerk** to keep chasing.

d) The hedge on the back boundary of Maple Rise and the footpath to Chalky Road is the responsibility of the neighbouring householder; he confirmed this when replying to a letter querying this.

e) LHI bid for 20 mph speed limits consultation has concluded successfully. Kathryn Pyrah from CCC has asked this council If it agrees to three 20 mph repeaters being attached to street light pillars (SC004.SC005 &SC009). **Councillors unanimously agreed that 3 repeater signs could be attached to street light pillars.**

f) Plans for Mobile vehicle activated signs in three locations have been sent to councillors for their comments. **Action Clerk** to chase up more news.

g) Children crossing signs- Highway suggested LHI, or PFHI application (Privately funded Highways Improvement bid). **Action: Clerk** to follow up requesting action, copying in CEO Stephen Moir.

**112. Planning – separate sheet**

a) Separate listing of planning decisions at end of agenda.

b) Planning application to be considered:

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| i) Ref: 24/ 00522/FUL - 74A High Street- change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden.This application has been withdrawn. |

ii) Ref: 24/00718/FUL - 29 South Road - Demolition of the existing outbuilding and former piggery and the erection of a new single storey dwelling, outbuilding together with vehicular and pedestrian access to South Road and associated works (Re-submission of 23/03247/FUL).**Tony Orgee proposed and all councillors unanimously supported his following proposal that the council make no objection but request conditions concerning construction traffic not blocking roads or passing baya and that no fencing should be higher than 3 foot, and set 3 foot back from the road side to enhance the open nature of the site as per the Neighbourhood Plan. Verges to be reinstated if damaged**.

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| iii) Ref: 24/00707/HFUL – 9 Larkfield – Erection of a 4 x 3m gazebo in rear garden. Councillors noted the gazebo would be 2.1 m high and 3.038 m to the apex and near the boundary of 3 other properties. **Councillors unanimously supported this application, with comments that the planning officer should note neighbours concerns and that conditions be applied that the structure only be used as a gazebo.**iv) Ref: 24/00353/HFUL – 99 High Street – removal of chimney stack. This change is permitted under permitted development so the council made no comment. |
| v) 24/00775/FUL – 55 North Road - Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement dwelling including the temporary setting of a caravan **There was no indication of where the caravan would be sited. Council unanimously objected to the planning application because of the 1.8 m wall and fencing proposed at the front of the property which goes against the ‘open aspect’ required in the Neighbourhood Plan. Asked that if the planning officer was minded to approve it, 4 conditions be imposed:The open aspect be maintain with lower boundary structures set back 3 foot from the roadway, verges be reinstated if damaged during construction and that all parking/ delivery drivers park on the site only and do not obstruct the roadway of parking bays.** |  |

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| Bank transfer | Glenn Broad | Hedge cut in churchyard | £100.00 |
| Bank transfer | Paula Harper | Pay for January -Standing Order | £375.08 |
| Bank transfer | HMRC | Tax for January | £43.00 |
| Bank transfer | Glasdon | Memorial Bench | £879.79 |
| Bank transfer | To Barclays account | £1.00 transferred to keep a/c open | £1.00 |
| Bank transfer | Paula Harper | Pay for February | £374.88 |
| Bank transfer | HMRC | Tax for February | £43.20 |
| Bank transfer | Paula Harper | Pay for March | £374.88 |
| Bank transfer | HMRC | Tax for March | £43.20 |
| Bank transfer | Abington Institute | Hall hire | £48.00 |

**113. Finance**

a) The payments in the table below **- Tony Orgee proposed the payment for all of the invoices except the one for Glenn Broad which was seconded by all councillors,. The invoice for Glenn Broad was proposed by Louise Patten and seconded by Mak and Risa only, as the remaining councillors employ Glenn to work for them.**

**Payments to be authorised by Councillors:**

b) Income – £1000.00 reimbursed Parish Nurse donation

c) Transfer of memory stick to Chairman done.

**Payment to be authorised by councillors:**

d) Councillors need to be added to the account again to get online access to the Barclays account. Jane tried the phone number sent by the Clerk but got no answer. Stephen tied the link and was sent another number.

e) The Finance working group recommendations and report having checked the spreadsheets for income and expenditure against the bank statement and a bank reconciliation dated 31/01/2024. **Councillors approved the bank reconciliation discussed at the FWG meeting, by a proposal from Louise Patten which was seconded by Risa Nagasaki, with the support of all councillors.**

**Councillors unanimously agreed that the Utility iStanding orders (for incorrect amounts) for the Clerk’s pay and HMRC could be cancelled.**

Bank balances as of 5th February 2024.

Barclays: Community Account - £1.00

Business Interest - £ 22,436.64

Active Saver Account (s106 funds) – £ 53,530.03

Unity Account - £ 78,372.00- on 13/03/2024

**114. Internal Auditors Report actions required**

a) The council to review and updating its Internal Controls Policy, Risk Management Policy and the Financial Regulations (FR). The Not**es** of the Finance Working Group meetings circulated suggesting amendments to the above policies. **Action Clerk to ask CAPALC for wording to add to the Risk Management Policy to cover cyber fraud, which was unanimously agreed.** New Financial Regulation are to be issued in April, so the council would delay until these can be reviewed and adopted.

b) The Clerk checked the following assets a week before the meeting: All the salt bins were in good condition and contained salt, the school bus shelter was in good condition but had facia hanging off that needed to be secured**.** **All councillors unanimously agreed that this should be repaired** -**Action** **Clerk** to ask Ian Blackman what he would charge to secure it. The Pampiford bus shelter and the other High Street shelter were in good condition. The noticeboard needed to be revarnished and the door fixed so that it closed easily; **All** **councillors unanimously agreed that this should be revarnished repaired** - **Action Clerk** to ask Ian Blackman what he would charge to do this work.

Larkfield open space was being maintain by local volunteers and was in good condition as was the parking bays. The open space/play area/orchard were checked and no action was required although it was noted that all of the trees had died.

The five benches on the cricket pitch and Recreation Ground had been checked by Louise Patten and were in good condition.

**115.** **Actions from the last meeting**

a) All the householders who had been written to had cut back their hedges as requested.

b) Bench for Gary Calvert – update. The bench had been installed on Linton Road and looked very good. Images of the bench and inscription had been sent to Gary’s sister. **Action: Clerk** to confirm what funds remained from the £2000 donated for the Recreation Ground (Louise Patten) to spend on a bench.

c) Tony has sent a copy of the Linton Road Greenway plan to Henry Batchelor to get the hedge between Larkfield and the kennels cut.

**116. Items raised by councillors**

a) Update on internet access in rural areas. Bt was likely to have rural areas connected by 2026, whereas Gigaclear was active in the village now (not within North, South or Chalky Road neighborhoods/households).

b) Update Community Warden scheme- waiting to hear the level of funding required from the 3 parishes to fund the scheme. Age UK had suggested that Great Abington, Little Abington and Hildersham look at joining the Linton scheme which is already operating. It would cost an additional to £6673 include these villages, they would fund £5500, and the parishes would need to funds of £1673pa. In the second year the £6673 would need to covered by income from the scheme. Users would be charged £10/wk and couples would be charged £12/wk. **Tony Orgee proposed based on these figures that the parish Council support the scheme, which was seconded by Mak, with the support of all councillors.**

c) Update on Parish Council email addresses. Stephen said the council would need a Paypal account to pay for the new email addresses. The Clerks address already existed **and it was unanimously agreed the other addresses would be Chair, Vice Chair, Councillor 1,2,3,4.**

d) Flooding on football pitch; was this a consequence of all the building at Granta Park? A councillor had been informed that a number of native trees had been cut down in Granta Park, do we know why? It was noted that there had been record flooding therefore the water table would be high, and Granta Park were on the other side of the river. There was debris in the river. **Action Clerk to write to Orestis at Grant Park to ask about the trees being felled on the site and the relocating of trees along Pampisford Road.**

**Action Louise** to ask John about the culvert under the MUGA and where the water ran to. If it was suggested that there were issues with the culvert the Clerk would contact Anglia Water.

e) Compile contact list of owners of the land that is alongside all the footpaths. **Action Jane and the Clerk** to walk the route and make a note of the owners and access issues.

f) Defibrillator enquiry update. Action **Tony Orgee** to send a reply to the Social Club, directing them to potential sources of funding.

g) Meadow Walk/Linton Road crossing. Request to CCC for lines alongside the dropped kerb to ensure a safe crossing with no vehicles obstructing the crossing? **Action Clerk** to find out how we get these added to the road.

**117. Correspondence**

a) Village clean up date would be 20th April10-12pm and organised by LAPC.

b) Council’s insurance due for renewal soon, can councillors ensure that they check the policy when it is sent to them, please?

c) Request for a seaside coach trip. **Action Clerk** to ask the cost to hire a coach to Felixstowe and Hunstanton during the summer holidays.

#### **118. Items for the next meeting on 20th May 2024-** Two meetings in May, with the first meeting to start at 6.30pm

Holiday dates

**Meeting closed at 8.45pm**

Clerk: Mrs. PM Harper

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**Parish Council decisions since the last meeting**

**District Council decisions**

23/04644/FUL - Cricket Pavilion Granta Park  - internal and external refurbishment of pavilion including the erection of new enclosure for external condenser

District Council approved: 16/02/2024

23/04804/HFUL - 24 South Road - Single storey side extension together with Internal alterations

District Council approved: 16/02/2024