

A GRIMSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
ON MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2013 AT 7.30 PM

**Present:** Cllr Stebbings (Chairman), Cllrs Coe, Fulcher, Israel, Johnson, Moore (took the Chair for Planning), O'Brien, Packer, Pitcher, Rudd & Whitmore, and 8 members of the public, including Mr Law. **Apologies:** PCSO Calaby.

**To receive Declarations of Interest:** Prejudicial Interests were declared by Cllrs Stebbings & Rudd in Item 15: Planning: Their own applications.

**The Minutes of the previous meeting:** were taken as read, Approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

**The following Accounts were Approved for payment:**

E-on Energy – Sept. energy charge (£60.25) paid DD on 12/10/13;

BT Broadband – October broadband (£15.94) paid DD on 10/10/13.

**Other accounts agreed & signed:** Hudson Fen Leisure Ltd – Donation towards insurance costs (£600.00);

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – Donation (£55.00) – Mr Hone had agreed to lay the poppy wreath again;

Mr John Missing – Clerk's October wage (£306.85) & Clerk's October expenses (£7.77) – both dated 06/11/13;

**Business Reserve Gross Interest** - £2.15 was paid into the A/C on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

**VAT Refund** - £383.83 refund claimed & banked on 01/11/13 for the period 01/04/13 – 30/09/13.

**Planning was moved to last on the agenda and both Cllrs Stebbings & Rudd left the meeting.**

**Planning: Considered by the Planning Committee since last meeting:**

13/01419/F: Mr W Tuffs + Miss R Hubbard, 76 Chapel Road – Extension to existing dwelling: **Approve.**

**Put to Full Council:**

13/01458/F: Mrs E Jeffery, 34 Church Close – Appl. for permanent siting of caravan to renew current planning permission 08/02416/F: Cllr Fulcher Proposed that the P/Council **Approve a 3 year Temporary Permission** (for her parents only), Cllr Pitcher Seconded, Agreed.

13/01496/F: Mr/Mrs R Rudd, Border Lane Farm – Proposed new swimming pool extension: Cllr Coe Proposed **Approval** for personal use only, with suitable screening to lessen the impact on the Open Countryside, Cllr Whitmore Seconded, Agreed.

13/01531/O: Mr T Stebbings, Fen Farm, Fen Lane – Demolition of out buildings & construction of new dwelling at 10 Chequers Road: Cllr Pitcher Proposed that the application be **Approved** provided there is a large enough pipe to replace the dyke and there is no access over Chequers Green, Cllr Packer Seconded, Agreed.

**Acknowledgement of Withdrawal:** Application 13/00996/F – Mr/Mrs R Rudd, Border Lane Farm, Fen Lane – Proposed new swimming pool & gymnasium extension: Approved for Personal Use Only by P/C.

**Borough Planning has given permission for Mr/Mrs Skerry, Lodge Farm Barn (CU inc. alteration & extension of building for storage of equipment/machinery to maintain associated land) & Mrs P Mutimer, 10 Hillings Way (Extension to roof to create accommodation in roof space)**

- *Both Approved by P/C, with conditions.*

**County Councillor's Report:** Report from Jason Law: He spoke about the Incinerator. Last week the County Council had voted by a majority of 2 to continue the project. He was frustrated by his party, who all voted for it, except those from W. Norfolk. The Cabinet was not listening and had already decided. The various arguments about figures don't add up, especially the cost of cancelling. Government credits have been withdrawn & Eric Pickles can still stop the permission.

**Borough Councillor's Report:** Report from Mike Pitcher: He spoke about the Borough's scheme for people to register to buy "bulk" electricity and the Council Tax support scheme to help older people. There is no money available this year to help relieve the Precept rise – he has asked for this to be reconsidered.

*On the cost of energy – The Clerk reminded councillors that the Fen & Allotment Trust do give electricity grants to those most in need and asked that councillors put people forward who may be eligible and may be too proud to apply.*

**Matters Arising:**

**Philip Rudd Court** – "green" area – Reply received from Stuart Ashworth (Borough Planning). It was never adopted by Borough (copy given to each councillor). He is investigating the Meadows situation.

**Co-option of One Councillor** – All forms signed except the Personal Interest Dispensation form – Cllr Rudd signed.

**Grimston Phone Box** – Finally got a response from BT. The Phone Box is not on the closure list, so they promised to come and clean it on the inside soon and to put it on their list for painting next year.

**Polling Districts & Polling Places Review** – Consultation till 11 November. Cllr Pitcher did not find anything out.

**Police Matters:** Pott Row School – Mr Giles raised concern about cars parking on the gravel drive in the evening, drinking and leaving cans – To report to PCSO Calaby.

**Approval of next year's meeting dates:** Put some dates to David Giles. Available: All Mondays: 27<sup>th</sup> January; 3<sup>rd</sup> March; 7<sup>th</sup> April; 12<sup>th</sup> May; 9<sup>th</sup> June; 14<sup>th</sup> July; 1<sup>st</sup> September; 6<sup>th</sup> October; 3<sup>rd</sup> November & 8<sup>th</sup> December. All 7.30 p.m. start except 12<sup>th</sup> May: Parish Meeting – 7 – 8 p.m. & P/C AGM 8 p.m. start. It was Resolved to book these dates.

**Quarterly Budget Statement & Attendance Register:** The quarterly checks on the accounts have been done by Cllr Moore – she reported no problems found. Budget Statement & Attendance Register copied to all councillors.

**Risk Assessment Review:**

Birch Tree – On Pott Row Green. Quotes: J & J Tree Services (£100, no Vat) & Grange Tree Services (£150, no Vat - verbal). Cllr Whitmore Proposed that J & J Trees be awarded the work, Cllr Packer Seconded, Agreed.

Seat – Cllr Coe has replaced the new tree on the Triangle Green and the seat will be placed near it.

Clock Tower – Pointing – A day's worth to be done – reminded Sloan – it had not been done.

**Affordable Housing:** Received a reply from Mr Hall of Freebridge (copy each councillor). Response from Nikki Patton: Only 1 family on the housing list – so no demand for affordable housing in the village. Copy given to each councillor. It was Resolved to put a questionnaire in V/Link to evaluate interest.

**Putting People First (NCC):** Consultation on NCC 2014/15 Budget & Savings 2014/17 till 12<sup>th</sup> December (emailed a reminder), so that everyone could look at the website. Some had looked, others failed to get into the sites. No views.

**Highway Matters:** 23 Lynn Road – A BT Pole in the pavement – Reply: No response yet.

Leziate Drove Trod – Becoming overgrown – Further Reply: Too time consuming for the Rangers. Programmed to tidy its full length soon.

Footpath 18 – Reply: Some hedge trimming programmed (not immediately) & will look at FP 8. Some hedge/branches recently fell over the footpath – the out of hour's number was called & it was done Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Mud on the Road – Gayton Rd/Bends area: Reported to Highways.

Back Lane, Potholes – Reply: Been tar & chip patched; also some edge deterioration patching has been programmed. Potholes reported as not done.

Roydon Common – Trees overhanging the road – Reply: Have written to both landowners (Mr Rae has cut some).

Parish Partnership – NCC 2014/15 scheme, early warning (emailed to all) – 50% grant this time – councillors were asked to think about possible projects.

Potholes – Outside 77 Lynn Road & the road is cracking. Also outside Norfolk Cottage, Cliffe-en-Howe Road. To report.

School – Any hope of kerbs along the school field pavement in Vong Lane. To report.

Watery Lane – Is blocked to walkers & horses, Grimston end. This has been raised many times. To report again.

Drain – At the corner of Pott Row Green near the gravel track, is still blocked in heavy rain. To report.

**Correspondence:** Mayor's Civic Awards for Voluntary Service 2013 – now is the time to nominate anyone.

New Property Addresses – 33, 35 & 37 Chapel Road (new cottages next to Hill Farm). Cllr Pitcher will enter these cottages into the Mayor's Design Award.

The Big Tree Plant – Free trees for a planting project – anyone? Cllr Coe will look into a scheme to plant replacement trees in Congham Road, where they have died in the corridor of trees.

Our Place! – Neighbourhood Community Budget info. from NALC (emailed to all).

**AOB (for exchange of information only):**

Food composting bags – The Clerk raised complaints about the bags breaking up when wet. Cllr Pitcher said food can be wrapped in newspaper.

Sewage – Anglian Water have been reminded about coming back to report improvements. Cllr Israel reported more problems last time we had heavy rain. To try to get them to our December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**AOB (for exchange of information only) for members of the public:**

Mr Giles – Complained that the elderly present could not hear everything said.

The meeting closed at 8.47 p.m.

Date of the next meeting: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

Signed .....

Dated .....