



GREAT HORKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

www.greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk

Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of Great Horkesley Parish Council

held at 7:30pm on Tuesday 15th October 2019

Members Present: Councillors Mead (Chairman)

Arnold, Baker

Two members of the public

1. Chairman's opening remarks

Cllr Mead welcomed those present to the meeting.

2. Apologies and reasons for absence.

Cllr Williams was unable to attend the meeting for personal reasons and had sent apologies.

3. Declarations for interest

No councillors declared an interest in respect of any item on the agenda.

4. Public open forum

The resident attending asked whether the development proposal from Bloor Homes had come as a surprise to the Council. He was referred to the statement made by Cllr Arnold at the previous meeting, as summarised in the minutes, and to the various reports posted on the village community website over the summer of activities on and adjacent to the site. It was clear from these that many residents, parish councillors included, had deduced that a development proposal was being worked up.

5. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 17th September 2019 were approved.

6. Co-option of new members

The Chairman reported that he had met Mr Vic Flores, who had expressed an interest in becoming a member of the Council. From their conversation it was clear that Mr Flores, who was attending the meeting, would be able to bring useful experience to the Council and had many contacts in the village. It having been confirmed that he met the residency requirement, Cllr Baker proposed that the Council exercise its power to adopt Mr Flores as a member. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Arnold.

It was unanimously agreed that Mr Flores be co-opted to membership of the Council; he then signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

Cllr Arnold reported that he was arranging a meeting with another resident who had expressed an interest in becoming a councillor.

7. Planning applications

192379 & 192380: Knowles Cottage, London Road

The Council decided that no representation need be made.

8. Councillor reports

Cllr Arnold reported that his fellow Borough Councillors for Rural North ward would be making joint decisions on how to spend their £6k Locality Budget in the eleven parishes they represented. They would welcome a bid from GHPC, especially for capital spending on useful items outside the council's usual pattern of expenditure.

He anticipated that the outline planning application for the land around Great Horkesley Manor would go to the CBC planning committee on 14th November.

He had written to County Councillor Brown to remind her that details were awaited of the causes of the accident at the Boxted Road/Causeway junction in March 2019 in which a vehicle had been overturned and of which pictures supplied by a resident had been passed to the highway authority at the time. Cllr Brown had confirmed that she had asked a senior officer to investigate.

9. Coffee with the cops

Councillor Mead reported that two PCSOs had attended the session on 9th October. They had reported that there were now three of them in post per shift, enabling them to give continuous coverage of their patch. They also reported that following contact from a resident they had spoken to two young men in a car in Braeburn Road one evening, prompting them to leave.

It was agreed that this information should be posted on the village community Face Book page.

10. Clerk's Report

The written report submitted by the Clerk, a copy of which is appended to these minutes, was discussed and noted by the Council. The information that the Village Warden had started work and the list of tasks undertaken was particularly welcomed.

11. Financial matters

- a. **The Council noted** without comment payments authorised at the last meeting, those made under the Clerk's delegated powers since the last meeting and any receipts, all as set out in Appendix B to the agenda.
- b. There were no invoices in respect of goods or services not covered under delegated powers to consider.
- c. **The Council approved** refunds of hall hire retainers falling due before the next meeting, as set out in appendix C to the agenda (*sent to members only*);

- d. **It was agreed** that a wreath would be purchased and laid on the village War memorial at All Saints' Church during the Remembrance Service on 10th November.
- e. **It was agreed** that the deadline for submissions for grant requests from village organisations would be 25th November.
- f. **The Council noted** without comment the schedule of Village Hall financial payments and receipts as set out in Appendix D to the agenda.
- g. During discussion of the half-year budgetary control spread sheets it was noticed that although the underlying data appeared to be correct, the layout of the spreadsheets was misleading and contained incorrect totals.
It was agreed that the spreadsheets should be corrected and resubmitted to the council at a future meeting.
- h. The Clerk reported that the Council had been asked to consider donating a raffle prize for the Friends of the Bishop William Ward School Christmas Fair. It was reluctantly agreed that while the cause was worthy, the Council did not have the power to spend public money on such an item. However, Cllr Baker offered to supply bottles of wine from his own resources, a gesture which was welcomed by all present.
- i. The Clerk reported Boxted Parish Council appeared to have identified a company who could migrate and host its website at a reasonable cost ahead of the closure of Essexinfo.net in March 2019. However, in discussion it was suggested that it should be possible to obtain much cheaper hosting. **It was agreed** that Cllr Flores would investigate and report back to a future meeting.
- j. **Chairman's purse:** It was noted that following the change of chairman at the September meeting, Cllr Arnold was giving Cllr Mead a personal cheque for £145.83, this being seven twelfths of the chairman's purse for the year 20019-20.

12. Village Hall

The clerk reported that so far she had been unable to carry forward the work started by former Cllr Harris on obtaining a gate for the car park. **It was agreed** that Renzland Wrought Iron of Copford should be added to the list of those being invited to tender.

13. Future business

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the council would take place on Tuesday 19th November as previously agreed.

Appendix: Clerk's report

1. Reported To Essex County Council
 - Drain damaged in Keelers Way opposite: No;30 inspector due to come out to inspect.
 - Faulty Lights Sandon Close and Ivy Lodge Road and Millers Close, where the power was found to be at fault this light is now back working.
 - The overgrown vegetation in Coach Road opposite BWW school is due to be cut back by the end of October, I first reported this in July 2019.
 - Complained regarding the keep left sign just before the Blackbrook roundabout on the raised crossing island, has still not been replaced which I reported on the 18 June 2018.

2. The Village Warden has completed various jobs;
 - Cut back and cleared nettles and overgrown vegetation in the walk through from Barnfield Road/Brick Kiln lane
 - Flattened sharp metal pieces on the black railings in Brick Kiln lane.
 - Cut back and cleared vegetation encroaching the footway in Blackbrook Road
 - Repaired and secured the seat in the bus shelter opposite the Half Butt Inn
 - Cut back and cleared vegetation in the walk through from Grange Road to Brick Kiln Lane
 - Cut back the vegetation starting to encroach in the visibility splay at the junction at the top of Keelers Way onto A134.
 - Cleared the trees and weeds in the compound at the village hall, to prevent damage to the sheds.
 - Cut back the bushes at the village hall adjoining the footpath.

3. I attended the Clerk's Forum on the 10 October 2019. District Commander Rob Huddleston attended. He stated that if a non-emergency crime is witnessed residents should report this using the online tool, as all reports go into the data base and decisions are then made on where to attend.

4. CBC zone wardens and CBC waste services have now joined to become Neighbourhood Services, they now have an online tool for reporting issues.

Appendix B: Financial Payments & Receipts

Account Dates: 13 September 2019 – 08 October 2019				
ID	TO/FROM	DETAILS	REF:	PAYMENTS/ RECEIPTS
56	HMRC	Tax & NI Contributions	Bacs	£354.00
57	Essex pension Fund	Contributions	Bacs	£468.17
58	Contractor	Bus Shelter	2544	£20.00
59	Contractor	Bus Shelter	2545	£70.00
60	Amazon	Epson E-2711 Printer	Debit Card	£153.00
61	Society Local Council Clerks	Clerk Training Seminar	Bacs	£48.00
62	Entec Novare Ltd	Village News Annual Software Licence	Bacs	£332.35
63	EE	Mobile Phone	DD	13.88
64	Clerk	Salary & Expenses	Bacs	Left Blank
65	Arco Ltd	5 x Cones (Village Warden)	Debit Card	£70.50
66	Arco Ltd	Personalised Hi-Vis (Village Warden)	Debit card	£31.64
67	Arco Ltd	2 x Metal Triangle Hazard Signs (Village Warden)	Debit card	£135.14

Duly approved at the parish council meeting held on the 19 November 2019

Chairman's signature.....