

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF GREAT LIVERMERE PARISH COUNCIL  
held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

	<p>Members present: Councillor Storey in the chair, Councillors Benson, Coates, Johnson, King, and Williams along with Mrs. Waples (Clerk), County Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger, PCSOs Ken Ruston and Claire Teakle and two members of the public.</p>	
1.0	<p><u>Opening Public Session:</u> There were no comments from the public present.</p>	
2.0	<p><u>To fill the Vacancy for Councillor by co-option with reference to s87 of the LGA 1972:</u> Following the expression of interest previously shown it was proposed and agreed by all present that Mr. Jim Hartley be co-opted to the Parish Council. Mr. Harley was invited to join the Parish Council at the table following the signing of his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. It was confirmed that he was required to complete his Register of Interests within 28 days.</p>	
3.0	<p><u>County Councillor's Report:</u> County Cllr. Hopfensperger's was invited to submit her report in which she provided update/answers to the Clerk's recent email and brought the meeting's attention to other matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Bottle Bank: Guy Smith will arrange for someone to contact the Clerk direct for a site visit.</li> <li>ii. Road leading from The Street to the Playing Field: this belonged to Havebury who were happy to put a sign up indicating that this was a private area. It was noted that the Ranger would arrange to visit the residents affected to agree appropriate wording to be put upon such signs.</li> <li>iii. Church Sign - this had been reordered and it was noted that the Parish Council's original cheque would now be invalid due to time constraints. SCC would contact the Clerk direct for settlement once the sign was ready.</li> <li>iv. Picket fence at Village Sign - she was disappointed that this had taken so long to complete and that the original order had not been placed by SCC for the pair. It was agreed that the picket fence should be a pair to ensure that there was a visual break in the road.</li> <li>v. Traffic Calming - she agreed to look into further appropriate traffic calming measures for the village.</li> <li>vi. Stay Safe Scheme launch in Bury St Edmunds: over the next few months Suffolk's Stay Safe Scheme was being launched in Bury St Edmunds. It was hoped that businesses in the town would show their support for the scheme and receive training and display special 'stay safe scheme' stickers to help any vulnerable persons who came to them for support.</li> <li>vii. Budget: the budget for the next 2 years had been approved by full Council the previous week. It was noted that the grant from the government as expected had decreased and that the Borough Council had once again frozen its portion of the Council tax.</li> <li>viii. Highways: it was confirmed that, following the break-down of talks with Balfour Beatty regarding safety schemes and contractual issues, the County's new preferred contractor for the procurement of certain Highway services was now May Gurney. It was noted that some services, gritting and maintenance would be retained by local depots and that day to day contacts would remain the same.</li> <li>ix. Verges - when questioned she confirmed that she would try and ascertain as to who was responsible for the cleanliness of the verges along the County's roads: A, B and C.</li> </ul>	
4.0	<p><u>Borough Councillor's Report:</u> Having previously given his apologies for absence Borough Cllr. Spicer asked that the meeting's attention be brought to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The Borough, along with SCC and the Police were proposing to 'freeze' the 2013/14 Council Tax.</li> <li>ii. The Borough will subsidise the Parish Precept for 2013/14 so that there is no way the Parish Council's finances should be reduced. However there were no promises for the following year.</li> </ul>	

	<p>iii. Waste collections will continue on alternative weeks.</p> <p>5.0 <u>Police Report:</u> PCSO Claire Teakle was invited to submit her report in which she confirmed that 3 new PCSOs had joined the force and that the dedicated PCSO for the village was Will Pardoe 3242. She confirmed that there had been 3 crimes of interest to the Parish since the last meeting: theft from a motor vehicle on The Street on 14.11.12 with cash and a Sat Nav being stolen; burglary from a property on Mere View on 14.11.12 with an assortment of jewellery stolen and theft from an insecure motor vehicle on 29.12.12 with a wallet being stolen. All residents were urged not to be complacent as there appeared to be an increase in crimes being committed in rural areas and to ensure that vehicles and outbuildings were secured.</p> <p>6.0 <u>Chairman's Welcome:</u> The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and in particular to Cllr. Hartley who had now joined the Parish Council.</p> <p>7.0 <u>Declarations of Interest:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interests for the agenda under discussion.</li> <li>ii. There were no requests for dispensation for the agenda under discussion.</li> </ol> <p>8.0 <u>Minutes of the last meeting:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Acceptance of the minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012 as a true and accurate record was proposed and seconded with all in agreement and signed as such by Chairman Storey. It was noted that copies of the Village Welcome pack were still to be given to the Parish Councillors for distribution to newcomers to the village.</li> </ol> <p>9.0 <u>Chairman's report:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. It was confirmed that the non-working street light outside Cllr. Hartley's house had been reported by the Clerk to SCC who had logged the fault and would repair within the next couple of weeks.</li> <li>ii. It was confirmed that a card and leaving present had been given to Cllr. Eatenton and a thank you letter had been received in turn.</li> <li>iii. It was agreed that a card and flowers be sent to the parishioner who kept the Book Exchange in a clean and tidy manner.</li> </ol> <p>10.0 <u>Clerk's Report:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Finances stood at £14179.61 as of 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013. (Appendix A refers).</li> <li>ii. Income in the form of £25.00 as a donation and £193.10 as recycling credits had been received since the last meeting.</li> <li>iii. Payment of verified invoices was proposed by Cllr. Johnson and agreed by all: Mrs A-M Storey £105.81 (Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9&amp;10 &amp; LGA 1972 s144), Mrs V Waples £226.12 (LGA 1972 s112, 144, 150) and AON Ltd £17.98 (LGA 1972 s151 (Appendix B refers).</li> <li>iv. Bus Shelter - the Council were still waiting for quotations and a site meeting with SCC to discuss this matter further.</li> <li>v. Bottle Bank - Council were still awaiting Highways to set a site meeting to discuss what might be practical to improve the area.</li> <li>vi. Quotation for grass cutting services - the Council agreed to accept St Edmundsbury's quotation for £821.05 for the cutting of grass areas including the area around the War Memorial extending up to the end of Church Road.</li> <li>vii. To receive the Clerk's report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish's pavements &amp; grass/vegetation around the village - Highways would look into this and see what could be actioned.</li> <li>• Road leading from The Street to the Playing Field - <i>dealt with earlier in the agenda</i></li> <li>• Storm drains - it was noted that whilst there were a number of drainage issues being dealt with by Highways it would be a while before these areas were visited but they were now on the list.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supply of Litter Bin - this had now been installed and the original yellow bin and post had been removed.</li> <li>• Village Sign on Troston Road - Council accepted the further quotation from SCC for a second gate on the other side of the road to that which has recently been installed at a cost of £350.</li> </ul> <p>viii. To note the Precept for 2013/14 - following confirmation from St Edmundsbury of the final amount to be given under the LCTS Compensation Grant, Council noted that the overall effect on the amount requested for 2013/14 was a decrease of -4.37% over 2012/13. The total amount requested was £5,405.</p> <p>ix. Council's Risk Assessment for the year 2012-13 - Council reviewed and approved the risk assessment for the year ending 31 March 2013 and confirmed that the Asset Register was up-to-date.</p> <p>x. Internal Control - Council reviewed and approved the effectiveness of its internal control and the effectiveness of its management of risk.</p> <p>xi. Internal Audit - Council reviewed the scope of internal audit with reference to independence, competence and appropriateness. It was agreed that Mr. David Hurrell be appointed to the post of Internal Auditor.</p> <p>11.0 <u>To discuss and approve the Council's Action Plan:</u> The previously circulated Action Plan 2004-2013 was approved by all. It was noted that the Church Sign was still to be actioned and that for 2013 the Council would look at the bus shelter area and had previously purchased a replacement bin to be sited near to the bus shelter. It was also agreed to add, for 2013, improvements to the bottle bank area and the cleaning of the War Memorial and surrounding area. To take the Action Plan to 2014 Council agreed to add Traffic Calming Measures within the Village.</p> <p>12.0 <u>Councillors' reports:</u> there were no reports from the Councillors</p> <p>13.0 <u>Planning Issues:</u> St Edmundsbury had notified the Parish Council of the following application: i. Granting of the retrospective application for the erection of 1.8m high boundary fence @ 6 Mere View, The Street, Great Livermere.</p> <p>14.0 <u>Correspondence:</u> particular items brought to Council's attention: i. St Edmundsbury - invitation to attend a Community Resilience Exercise on 20th March 2013 ii. Suffolk Wildlife Trust - campaign to increase barn owl numbers within Suffolk iii. SALC - Planning Application - LAIS 1348 - launch of a consultation aiming to streamline the planning application process iv. SALC - Community Infrastructure Levy - LAIS 1347 - details on the percentage of the CIL that will be given to local councils with a neighbourhood plan as opposed to those without. v. SALC - Sustainable Communities Act - LAIS 1338 - consultation which aims to extend to local councils the right to submit proposals to the Secretary of State with a connected appeal to the Selector.</p> <p>15.00 <u>Closing Public Session:</u> i. Fibre Optic - it was reported that a village in Essex had installed their own fibre optic broadband. ii. Benches on the Playing Field - it was agreed that as the benches were in a poor state of repair the Chairman would obtain quotes for their renovation.</p> <p>There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10</p> <p>Date of next meeting: Annual Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 14th May 2013 commencing at 7.00pm followed by the Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall.</p>	
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