MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF GREAT LIVERMERE PARISH COUNCIL held on 7th January 2014

	Members present: Councillor Hartley in the chair, Councillors Coates, Johnson, King and Williams along with Mrs. Waples (Clerk), County Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger, Borough Councillor Christopher Spicer and two members of the public.	
1.0	<u>Opening Public Session</u> : the Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and thanked Michelle Waterson for the interest she had shown in the Parish Council vacancy.	
2.0	 <u>County Councillor's Report:</u> County Cllr. Hopfensperger was invited to submit her report in which she brought the Parish Council's attention to the following: SCC had agreed to invest around £1.5k to support local apprenticeships and internships in particular in the creative and media industries. SCC had signed a letter of intent on how to work with Norfolk CC regarding shared services. It was noted that the two Councils already shared the services of a Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer. This could possibly extend to Health and Safety services. The Leader of the Council had met with government ministers to try and secure further investment in the Broadband Programme. The programme was 4 months into a 2.5 year programme and further investment was needed to speed it up. The Council was looking to invest more money to helping people with Dementia to lead more independent lives. It was confirmed that Risby was the nearest Nursing Home to Great Livermere and that the County had secure £960k from the government to set up 22 projects to deal with this issue. The final round of budget consultations had been concluded and it was expected that the draft budget for 2014/15 would be agreed at full Council in February. Tree outside No. 13 Mere View - it had been confirmed that morning that this tree belonged to SCC as it was within the Highway boundary. County Cllr. Hopfensperger agreed to flag this tree up to Highways as it was growing in between the phone lines to neighbouring properties and chaffing the line. Vii. Church Road - Clir. Hopfensperger agreed to flag up the surface of this road to Highways as it was breaking up and being affected by the roots of the large trees bordering it. 	
3.0	 <u>Borough Councillor's Report:</u> Borough Cllr. Spicer was invited to submit his report in which he brought the meeting's attention to the following matters: SNT Meeting Bury Police Station - Council was advised he had attended the most recent SNT meeting at the Police Station at which it had been confirmed that the SNT were concentrating on speeding and burglary. He indicated that he would be asking for records of detection rates. Shared Planning Services - he made the meeting aware of the changes to the planning service and the way planning applications would be dealt with. A number of workshops had been held by the Borough and a workshop would now be held for Parish and Town Councils. One of the changes would involve the 'member call-in' option which would now mean that a delegation panel would first consider the application that the member wanted to go to the Development Committee and decide whether it should be considered by the Council and Borough Cllr. Spicer. iii. Pot Holes - with regards to Church Road it was possible that this belonged to Highways who had taken over the responsibility for the adopted road. County Cllr. Hopfensperger would need to ascertain ownership before possible action could be taken. 	
4.0	Bury Rural SNT Report: Apologies had been received from PCSO Hollie Cogman who had produced a written report which mentioned that there had been no crimes of interest in the Parish since the last meeting. It was confirmed that there had been one change to the SNT	

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	with PC 1639 Andre De Jongh replacing PC Simon Collins. A speed check had been carried out on Great Livermere on 8 th December resulting on one verbal warning being issued. The next Tasking Meeting to discuss and decide priorities would be on 11 th March. The meeting was informed that the SNT, would, over the next few weeks, be carrying out a programme of visits to all schools in the area. They would be distributing leaflets and be available to speak to parents who drive/walk their children to school to discuss issues around parking and general road safety outside of schools.		
5.0	<u>Chairman's Welcome:</u> The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. i. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Benson due to a prior commitment. ii. Council consented to accept this apology.		
6.0	 <u>Declarations of Interest:</u> i. There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interests for the agenda under discussion. ii. There were no requests for dispensation for the agenda under discussion. 		
7.0	Minutes of the last meeting: Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 26 th November 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.		
8.0	To Co-Opt a Member to the Parish Council with Reference to Section 87 of the Local Government Act 1972 It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that, under the LGA 1972 Section 87, Michelle Waterson be co-opted onto the Council to fill the vacant seat. As she was able to attend the meeting her Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor was signed in front of the Clerk as Proper Officer for the Council. She was notified of the requirement to complete, sign and return a Register of Interests to the Clerk which would be completed after the meeting.		
9.0	<u>Chairman's Report:</u> The Chairman asked the Council to consider 1) whether it should enter the Village of the Year Competition at the next round and 2) whether it should mark the Centenary of the outbreak of WW1. It was confirmed that research was being carried out into the histories of the people who had died during WW1 and were connected to the village. It was agreed that the Clerk would seek advice from a firm of Stonemasons as to how best to clean the war memorial. It was also agreed that the Clerk would liaise with Honington to ascertain what they would be doing. This would be considered further at the next meeting.	Clerk Clerk	
10.0	 <u>Clerk's Report:</u> i. Finances stood at £14,545.61 as of January 7th 2014. It was also noted that the new dog bins at the end of The Birches and by the Village Hall had been installed and were welcomed by dog walkers. ii. No income had been received and banked since the last meeting. iii. Payment of verified invoices was proposed by Cllr. Johnson and agreed by all: Ixworth Patients Surgery £100.00 cheque 355 (LGA 1972 s137); V Waples £184.73 cheque 356 and HMRC £35.20 cheque 357 Inc. & Corp. Taxes Act 1988. iv. Play Inspection Report - the Clerk had met with the manufacturer and received a quotation for repairs to items of equipment that had been identified in the report. Agreement was given that the repairs in the sum of £830.00 ex VAT should be carried out by Action Play and Leisure Ltd. It was noted that the order for signs for the Playing Fields showing ownership etc had now been placed. The Clerk confirmed that she had reported the overflowing bin on the Playing Field and had asked for urgent action as it had not been emptied for a number of weeks. v. Bus Shelter - Council was informed that the Clerk was in the process of filling out the application forms for financial assistance from the County with regards to the installation of a new bus shelter and noticeboard. Borough Cllr. Spicer suggested that the Council also contact the Borough to see what funding may be available. 		

 vi. Parking Mere View - it was noted that the Chairman, Cllr. Coates and the Clerk had met that morning with Havebury to assess the parking situation at Mere View and in particular in the close. It had been agreed that the area did meet the criteria for the provision of more parking spaces and that 1 if not 2 designated blue badge parking places could be accommodated. Havebury would now draw up the plans and submit the proposal for funding. vii. Trees - Mere View - it was noted that Havebury had reviewed the trees in their ownership and had advised that the trees would have all dead wood removed and the crowns reduced by 30%. However at present the trees posed no immediate risk to health and to safety or to property and no urgent works would be carried out as a result. The recommendation was for the area to be reassessed in 3 months time upon which the works may be carried out if considered urgent at that point. It was noted that 1 of the trees belonged to SCC and the Clerk was asked to contact Highways as this tree was chaffing the lines to some of the properties. 	
Precept for 2014/2015: Council reviewed the previously circulated budget for 2014/2015 and in light of the correspondence received from the Borough, SALC and NALC the Parish Council agreed a precept of £5,405 for the year 2014-15. The impact of this on a Band D Dwelling would be £56.52 giving an increase of £6.19 or 12.3%. The Chairman and the Clerk signed the Precept Upon Charging Authority form which would be submitted to St. Edmundsbury prior to 31 January 2014.	
 <u>Councillors' reports:</u> i. Cllr. Johnson reported that the street light outside The Birches was intermittent. ii. Cllr. Hartley reported that the street light on Church Road was still not working. 	
Planning Issues: there were no planning issues coming forth.	
 <u>Correspondence:</u> the following items were brought to the Council's attention: i. West Suffolk - workshop for Town and Parish Councils on the Development Management Shared Service - Single Way of Working - the Clerk confirmed that she would be attending this workshop on 13th January 2014 and would report back at the March meeting. 	
Closing Public Session: no matters were raised.	
There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.58pm.	
Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 11 th March 2014 commencing at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.	
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