

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF GREAT LIVERMERE PARISH COUNCIL
held on 13th January 2015**

	<p>Members present: Councillor Hartley in the chair, Councillors Coates, Johnson, King and Waterson, along with Borough Councillor C Spicer and Mrs. Waples (Clerk).</p> <p>A statement was read out indicating that, in accordance with the changes in legislation, the public and councillors were permitted to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of the meeting. <i>A full transcript of the statement is available from the Clerk upon request.</i></p> <p><u>Opening Public Session:</u> there were no members of the public present.</p>
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2.0	<p><u>County Councillor's Report:</u> no report had been submitted from County Cllr. Hopfensperger although it was recognised that she had offered assistance in the past for the purchase of a mobile Vehicle Activated Signs. The Clerk was asked to chase the Highways Officer for an assessment of the roads involved.</p>
3.0	<p><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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Finance Settlement - very unhappy with this and future proposals • generally quiet in the Borough over the Christmas break. • Rural Initiative Grants Scheme - still open for applications up until late March. He suggested that in the first instance County Cllr. Hopfensperger be approached for funding for the VAS and then a further grant could be sourced from RIGS.
4.0	<p><u>Bury Rural SNT Police Report:</u> A written report on behalf of PCSO 3314 McDaid had been submitted in which it was confirmed that there had been three crimes of note since the last meeting: theft from motor vehicle; theft from motor vehicle on Troston Road and theft other - double axel for Ifor Williams trailer. The next tasking meeting to discuss and decide priorities which is open to the public, will be held at 7.00pm Tuesday 10th March 2015 at Bury St Edmunds Police Station.</p>
5.0	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome:</u> The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. There were no apologies of absence applicable. Council was informed that the Chairman had received in writing the resignation of Cllr. Benson with immediate effect. The Chairman had accepted the resignation. The meeting was informed that as the Parish Council elections were less than 6 months away it was down to the Council itself to co-opt members to its vacant seats and that no further elections would be called in this period.</p>
6.0	<p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and local non-Pecuniary Interests for the agenda under discussion. ii. There were no requests for dispensation for the agenda under discussion.
7.0	<p><u>Minutes of the last meeting:</u> Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of November 25th 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record, aif.</p>
8.0	<p><u>Chairman's Report:</u> The Chairman confirmed that he had received in writing the resignation of Cllr. Benson with immediate effect. The Chairman had accepted the resignation. The meeting was informed that as the Parish Council elections were less than 6 months away it was down to the Council itself to co-opt members to its vacant</p>

	<p>seats and that no further elections would be called in this period. The Clerk would notify the Borough of the additional vacancy. It was noted that there were possibly 2 members of the public who would be interested in the post of Councillor. He confirmed that a number of new people had moved into the village and he would be delivering the Village Welcome Sheet over the coming weeks. It was agreed that this should be reviewed and any missing information added or inaccurate information corrected.</p> <p>He made the meeting aware that he had noticed a number of large vehicles moving manure throughout the village to Street Farm. It was agreed that there was a general concern over the speed of large vehicles throughout the village and the Clerk was asked to flag this up to the Bury Rural SNT.</p> <p><u>Clerk's Report:</u></p> <p>9.0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Council's Finances stood at £13,349.31 as of 13 January 2015. Council was aware that it was currently operating at a small under-spend for the year to date. It was noted with the resignations of Cllrs. Benson and Williams there was only one signatory on the account. It was proposed and agreed that a new mandate be signed and that the following signatories be placed upon the account: Cllrs. Coates; Hartley; Johnson and King. ii. No income had been received since the last meeting. iii. Payment of verified invoices was proposed by Cllr. Hartley and agreed by all: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> V Waples - Clerk's Salary and Expenses to date £124.22 cheque 376 (LGA 1972 s111 & 112); SPS - Subscription £25.00 cheque 377 (LGA 1972 s111) St Edmundsbury - Grass Cutting for 2014 £1039.54 cheque 378 (Open Spaces Act 1906 s9&10) HMRC - PAYE to date £28.20 cheque 379 (Corp Taxes & Income Acts) iv. To receive an update on works to the Bus Shelter & costs associated with its installation: Council was advised that, weather dependent, SCC was planning to demolish the old shelter and do the ground works starting on 9th February 2015. v. To receive an update on works to the Car Parking Area in Mere View - Council was made aware that, Havebury currently had a number of projections upon which they were working and the outcome of those would determine whether they could progress with Mere View this financial year. The estimated cost of Mere View would be around £15,000. The Clerk was asked to continue to follow this up. vi. To receive an update on the issues raised with Highways relating to drains and drainage issues - Council was informed that a very positive meeting had been held with SCC's Highways Department and a number of issues had been discussed. It was agreed that works needed to be carried out to the drainage system and that certain roadside works might be appropriate to ensure the large vehicles did not foul up the soak-aways and grips. The Clerk agreed to ask for the road-sweeper to pass through the village once again. It was noted that the ditches at the bottom of the field along Troston Road were currently being cleared and it was hoped that this would avoid further flooding in times of excessive torrential rain. vii. To note costs involved in the sharing of a mobile VAS with Troston Parish Council - Council was in agreement that the Clerk should ask SCC to assess The Street and Troston Road for suitability and noted that Troston Parish Council would be interested in discussion the possibility of sharing such a device. It was also agreed that County Cllr. Hopfensperger be approached for financial assistance from her Locality Budget. viii. S137 Payment - Council agreed to make a donation of £100 to the Samaritans in Bury St Edmunds under the power of S137 of the LGA 1972. ix. Transparency Code for councils with an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000 - Council was made aware of the provisions within the new code which would require financial information to be published in a recognised format along with 	<p>Clerk/ Havebury</p> <p>Clerk/SCC</p> <p>Clerk/SCC</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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	<p>draft minutes of a meeting of full council no later than one month after the meeting had taken place. The recognised format as specified in the Code is on a website.</p> <p>x. Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2015/16 - Council was made aware of a number of statements made in the settlement which included references to parish council precept rises and automatic precept referendum consultation.</p> <p><u>To consider & receive the budget for 2015/2016:</u></p> <p>10.0 Council reviewed the previously circulated budget for 2015/2016. It was noted that the proposed budget would, as in previous years cover the running costs of the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Parish Council would set a budget of £5405 in total for the year 2015-16 which would equate to a precept of £4169 being levied, aif. Council understood that the financial impact this would have upon the parishioners would be an estimated increase of 1.03% or £0.58 on a Band D property. The relevant details and forms would be passed to St Edmundsbury as the Billing Authority.</p> <p><u>Councillors' reports:</u></p> <p>11.0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Cllr. Johnson asked for an update on the removal of the clothes bank. It was confirmed that the clothes bank was to be removed either by the operative direct or by St Edmundsbury on behalf of the Parish Council. It was noted that it had actually been Forest Heath District Council who had given permission for the siting of the bin. The Clerk would monitor the situation but it was anticipated that the bin would be removed by the end of the following week. ii. Cllr. Johnson reported that the BT kiosk light was still out. <p><u>Planning Issues:</u></p> <p>12.0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Planning Application for works to trees in a conservation area - to remove 2 Holly trees immediately adjacent to the house beside the highway and replant with 3 Holly trees @ The Cottage, Barton Road. Council was in agreement to support this application, aif <p>St Edmundsbury had advised the Parish Council of the following applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Permission to remove Leylandii hedge @ Chyangwel, The Street iii. Permission for the replacement of overhead wire with underground electric cable @ Street Farm, The Street <p><u>Correspondence:</u></p> <p>13.0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. West Suffolk - NPPG on planning obligations - noted that changes to amend the threshold for contributions to affordable housing and tariff style contributions meant that financial contributions should not be sought from developments of 10 units or less and which have a combined gross floor space of no more than 1000sqm. ii. there were no further issues to be brought to the Council's attention <p><u>Closing Comments from the Public:</u> there were no members of the public present.</p> <p>14.00</p> <p>There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.50pm.</p> <p>Date of future meeting: 3rd March 2015 commencing at 7.30pm in the Village Hall; Annual Parish Council Meeting on 12th May 2015 at 7.00pm followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm.</p>	
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