

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

	<p>Members present: Councillor Hartley in the chair, Clay, Coates, Hudson and Johnson along with Borough Councillor Simon Brown, Mrs. Waples (Clerk) and one member of the public.</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>1.0 <u>Opening Public Session:</u> there were no comments to be brought before the Parish Council.</p> <p>2.0 <u>County Councillor's Report:</u> apologies of absence had been received from County Cllr. Hopfensperger as she was at a conference. Council was made aware of the Devolution Bid that had been submitted by SCC with the support of all the District and Borough Councils. It was acknowledged that Suffolk had got ahead of the game and had submitted an early bid. Norfolk had also submitted a separate bid although both had indicated that they would be keen to collaborate on a number of services.</p> <p>3.0 <u>Borough Councillor's Report:</u> Borough Cllr. Brown was invited to submit his report in which he commented on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter - it was confirmed that St Edmundsbury was responsible for the litter on the Highways within its boundaries. There was no dedicated budget for dealing with the cleaning or collection of litter rather it was undertaken on an as and when basis. No timescales could be given as to how quickly reported incidences would be dealt with and there was no-one in particular who was ultimately responsible. Affected areas should be reported to Customer Services.</li> <li>• Mere View - confirmed that works to the parking area were not a high priority and therefore not on the list for 2015-16 and 2016-17. Costs were estimated to be around £15-20k. It was noted that this was an issue for existing residents and that he would assist with seeking out other sources of funding which might make the scheme more viable for Havebury.</li> <li>• Brown Bins - St Edmundsbury had confirmed that it would no longer be subsidising the cost of having the brown bins emptied by the Borough due to government withdrawal of subsidies following a vote by full Council. Borough Cllr. Brown confirmed that he had abstained on the vote based on comments and opinions received from parishioners in his ward. Charges would be in the region of £35-50 and would be charged separately from the Council Tax bills. Full details still needed to be decided and it was uncertain as to whether there would be any concessions.</li> <li>• WSOH - at a recent Council meeting, St Edmundsbury had agreed to look at other sites.</li> <li>• VAS - he reported that Troston had still not made up their minds on the way forward. There was an inference that they were waiting on Great Livermere PC and the Clerk agreed to check this out.</li> </ul> </p> <p>4.0 <u>SaferNeighbourhood Team - Bury Rural North Report:</u> apologies and a written report had been received from the SNT. It was confirmed that the dedicated PCSO was 3314 McDaid and that there had been no crimes of interest since the last meeting. Generally the meeting's attention was brought to an increase in distraction type burglaries and daytime burglaries particularly targeting elderly vulnerable residents and unoccupied homes. The meeting was reminded that elderly residents need to be wary of any unannounced visitors, especially if they claim to be from a utilities company. The SNT had also received several reports of suspicious males flagging down passing motorists at the roadside across the West of the county. They claim to have run out of fuel and ask for cash in exchange for 'gold' jewellery. The meeting was made aware that this was a scam and friends, family and neighbours were reminded not to hand over any money. Residents were advised to call 101 straight away with details of location, vehicles and persons involved.</p>
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5.0	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome:</u> The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. There were no applicable apologies of absence .</li> </ul>
6.0	<p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and local non-Pecuniary Interests for the agenda under discussion. There were no declarations of gifts of hospitality exceeding £25.</li> <li>ii. There were no requests for dispensation for the agenda under discussion.</li> </ul>
7.0	<p><u>Minutes of the last meeting:</u> Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of 11th August 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record, aif.</p>
8.0	<p><u>To fill, by co-option, the vacancies for the post of Councillor:</u> The Chairman confirmed that he had been unable to speak to the two people who had expressed an interest in being co-opted onto the Parish Council and that he would try and speak with them prior to the next meeting. It was confirmed that there were still two vacancies.</p>
9.0	<p><u>Chairman's Communications:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. A number of residents had made mention of speeding tractors often very early in the morning. It was wondered as to whether there was a speed and weight restriction that might be applicable with regards to some of the vehicles travelling through the village.</li> <li>ii. Here to Help Network - the Chairman confirmed that progress was being made and there had been lots of interest and support. A number of volunteers had come forward to be part of the team.</li> </ul>
10.0	<p><u>Clerk's Report:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. No income had been received since the last meeting.</li> <li>ii. Payment of verified invoices was proposed by Cllr. Hartley and agreed by all: a breakdown of which can be seen in the table at the end of the minutes. The Clerk was asked to request a further cut for the season of the grass in the Churchyard. It was also reported that the legs of the bus shelter, at the point where they go into the concrete, were beginning to break up. The Clerk agreed to report this to SCC. It was also noted that the Council would consider payments to be made under S137 of the LGA 1972 at the next meeting.</li> <li>iii. Council's Finances stood at £16,100.97 as of 13 October 2015. Overall the actual expenditure against budgeted for the period to date was slightly under budget. After reviewing the Council's earmarked and general reserves position it was proposed and agreed to transfer the sum of £2500 from the latter to the former to offset the costs of a VAS, aif. It was also proposed and agreed that, should funds be forthcoming from County Cllr. Hopfensperger, the Parish Council would consider purchasing their own VAS, aif.</li> <li>iv. To receive an update on works to the Car Parking Area in Mere View - the meeting was informed that Havebury had written and confirmed that having reviewed their car parking projects for the year they had had a closer look at Mere View and it was considered that it was unlikely that they would go ahead with any works in the foreseeable future. As previously discussed it was agreed that the Clerk and Borough Cllr. Brown would research funding sources.</li> <li>v. To receive an update on the purchase of a mobile VAS to be shared with Troston Parish Council - Council was in agreement that, provided County Cllr. Hopfensperger was able to assist with funding, it should go ahead and purchase a mobile VAS. The Council's preferred option was the Radarlux VAS at circa £2,900 including the additional battery and excluding VAT, aif.</li> <li>vi. To receive an update from Highways on flooding issues on The Street - it was noted that the Clerk had a meeting with Highways the following day to discuss the planned remedial measures and detailed works on the carriageway along The Street.</li> <li>vii. To receive the Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2015 from the external Auditors and to note the audit opinion given - the external audit for the year 2014/15 was presented</li> </ul>

	<p>to the Council for approval. It was noted that there were no matters arising which came to their attention which required the issuing of a separate additional issue arising report. Acceptance of the audit opinion was proposed and approved by all present. Copies of the conclusion of the audit and the annual return were confirmed as having been placed on the noticeboard and uplifted to the website.</p> <p>viii. Play Inspection Report - the meeting was made aware of the recent play inspection report which made mention of algae on the nest swing and remedial work to the rust spots on the swings. Cllr. Johnson agreed to clean the nest swing and the Clerk agreed to source a quote for works to the frame of the swing. The Clerk was also requested to source large plastic cable ties to be placed on the tops of the roles to discourage pigeons from roosting.</p> <p>11.0 <u>Councillors' reports:</u> the following matters were brought to the Clerk's attention:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Cllr. Johnson made mention that some residents had been depositing vegetation behind the garages at the entrance to the field owned by Strutt &amp; Parker.</li> <li>ii. Cllr. Coates mentioned that the work carried out to the benches was very good and they looked lovely especially those on the playing field.</li> <li>iii. Cllr. Clay mentioned that the grass in the churchyard needed a further cut.</li> <li>iv. Cllr. Clay mentioned that the footpath leading along Troston Road from the Birches to the Village Hall needed cutting back.</li> </ol> <p>It was noted that the Chairman would undertake to keep the path between The Street and The Church clear on a regular basis. This area was on the schedule for two cuts per annum by SCC's Rights of Way contractors.</p> <p>12.0 <u>Planning Issues:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Planning Application: there were no applications coming forth.</li> <li>ii. Council was informed of the following decisions coming forth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permission to carry out works to trees covered by TPOs at Livermere Hall, Church Road</li> <li>• Permission to carry out works to trees at The Lodge, Church Road</li> </ul> </li> <li>iii. Tree at 16 Mere View - it had been confirmed by SCC and St Edmundsbury that the tree in the front verge of No 16 Mere View belonged to No 16 and as such it was down to the home owner to carry out remedial works to the tree. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of concern to the homeowner highlighting concerns at the number of falling branches and also suggest that it might be worth contacting BT and Eon as there are power lines running through the tree.</li> <li>iv. Trees on Church Road - it had been confirmed by both SCC and St Edmundsbury that the trees did not belong to either organisation. The Clerk had spoken to an arboriculturist at St Edmundsbury, who had confirmed that permission from the owners of the trees would be required prior to them coming out and assessing the trees. The Chairman agreed to speak to a local landowner to see if he would be able to arrange to have the trees pruned and/or trimmed back.</li> </ol> <p>13.00 <u>Correspondence:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. A number of emails and general correspondence had been previously circulated to all Councillors.</li> </ol> <p>14.00 There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed 8.50pm.</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting would be on 24 November 2015 commencing at 7.30pm in the Village Hall</p>
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Financial Transactions as agreed to be paid (see Agenda Item 10ii).

Date	Chq No	Payee	Description	Power	Nett	VAT	Gross
13/10	390	V Waples	Salary & Expenses	LGA 1972 s111 & 112	236.80		236.80
13/10	391	R Cook	Repairs to benches	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9&10	485.00		485.00
13/10	392	ICO	Data Protection Registration	DP Acts	35.00		35.00
13/10	393	HMRC	PAYE Due	Corp Taxes Acts	47.00	0.00	47.00