

Glemsford Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 14th November 2017@ 7.15pm at Glemsford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: Brown (chairman), Southgate, Plumb, Sewell, Cain, Leopold and Stephens
CCllr Kemp, DCllr Holt. The clerk.
14 members of the public.

01.11 Chairman's announcements

There have been two resignations from the Parish Council, Cllrs Bloomfield and Bangs. Thanks were given to them both for the work they have put in.

Pauline Jones the village hall cleaner is to retire at the end of November after over 30yrs service. Many thanks were given for all her involvement with the village hall and youth club of some years ago.

Thanks were given to Richard Kemp for his contribution from his locality budget. This has allowed for the hedging at Spring Meadow next to the substation to be cut down.

Thanks to the scouts for carrying the flag at the Remembrance Day service.

There have been two break-ins at the village hall and damage to the CCTV system. Steps are being taken to make the hall more secure.

There is a part II meeting for councillors.

02.11 Apologies for absence

None

03.11 Declarations of interest/dispensation requests

Cllr Plumb declared an interest in all planning matters due to being a member of the planning committee at BDC

04.11 To adopt minutes of council meeting held on 10th October 2017

It was resolved to adopt the minutes.

05.11 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

Cllr Plumb was asked for clarification as to when the Neighbourhood Plan will become effective.

It was confirmed that as the document gathers more content it would have more impact, however, it will not be fully considered until it is complete.

It has been confirmed with David Pizzey at DBC that there are no tree preservation orders on trees in Chequers Lane.

The pump at Foundry Close has now been removed.

06.11 To receive reports

CCllr Kemp – a full report can be viewed on the website or at the clerk's office.

CCllr Kemp met with the owner of Lodge Farm regarding right of way over his land. He does not wish to negotiate at this present time.

The delay in obtaining the S.I.D's (speed indicator devices) is down to Suffolk County Council.

DCllr Holt – the availability of council houses at Schoolfield has been delayed. It is more likely to be mid January.

The deep pothole at the bottom of Hobbs Lane has been reported.

The merger of Babergh and Mid-Suffolk is still being discussed. There is some controversy over this with mixed opinions as to whether it should go ahead.

DCllr Plumb – continued discussion on the merger. It appears there is a lack of accounts to prove the merger is beneficial. Cllr Plumb believes it should go back to referendum.

07.11 Planning

New applications:

DC/17/05215 – 46 Hunts Hill

Application for lawful development certificate for existing use or development – change of use of garage to additional living accommodation

No recommendation required as only a certificate

DC/17/05406 – 17 Chequers Lane

Notification of works to trees in conservation area – remove to ground level 1no alder, pollard to 20’ 1no alder and reduce by 50% 3no silver birch trees (T3-T5)

It was resolved to recommend approval

Granted applications:

DC/17/04119 – St Andrews, Bells Lane

Erection of a detached summer house

DC/017/02318 – 84 Kings Rd

Erection of a two storey rear extension and garage conversion to form additional living accommodation

BDC do not wish to object to the following application and work may be now carried out:

DC/17/04825 – 4 Stanway Close

Fell 1no tree in rear garden

08.11 Public question time

A better understanding of the village envelope was requested. It was explained that an extension to the village envelope would be a consideration within the planning application process.

It was asked why the Parish Council response to the Local Plan consultation was not showing on the BDCMSC website. It was confirmed this had been submitted and that perhaps the website was not up to date. It was noted that Glemsford villagers had put in a lot more comments than other villages.

09.11 Accounts for approval

It was resolved to agree the accounts.

10.11 Boundary review

BDC review is to propose a reduction of councillors from 43 down to 32. It is proposed that Glemsford, Hartest, Stanstead, Boxted, Fenstead End and Sommerton goes from a two member ward and one single member ward to a two member ward. The consultation closes on 11th Dec.

11.11 Village Hall – possible: extension of, development/rebuild of or building of community centre with new doctor’s surgery

Cllr Cain discussed a proposed plan to extend the hall. Concerns were raised about previous plans not being actioned. It was asked why the hall could not be extended past the library. It was explained that there is a restriction in the deeds.

DCllr Holt suggested the possibility of incorporating the doctor's surgery with a new community centre on the site of the village hall. This would help with parking issues. Cllr Plumb had discussed this with Dr Piccaver. No official approach has been made by the surgery. Cllr Plumb re-instated discussion about building houses together with a new village hall. Cllr Plumb suggested that all three options were looked into at the same time. ***It was resolved*** for Cllr Cain to investigate further an extension to the village hall and put forward for planning permission (with the help of Cllr Plumb).

12.11 Purchase of poppy wreath – retrospective vote

It was resolved to purchase a wreath

13.11 Report from finance meeting

Budget figures:

Budget figures for the last six months were produced. All appear to be in order with a slight overspend on professional fees and telephone costs.

Village hall maintenance/expenditure and additional hedge cutting requirements were discussed.

The clerk is to check to see if a tree risk assessment needs to be carried out.

Precept 2018-19

The draft precept was discussed. It is to be proposed to full council to increase the precept by 1.9%. This is an increase of £1,751.00 to £93,910.00.

It was suggested the increase to be used for additional waste collection costs @ £422 plus increases in salaries, telephone costs, training costs, tress/grass/hedge cutting costs, professional fees, village hall maintenance and donations.

Insurance budget to be reduced by £500 on previous year.

It was resolved to increase the precept by 1.9%

14.11 Hedge cutting at cemetery

It was agreed to get some quotes for hedge cutting

15.11 Brook St/Crownfield rd – enquiry about new lay-by

Enquiries had been made by residents about the possibility of a new lay-by. More details are required as to where the lay-by needs to be positioned.

16.11 Additional key holders – village hall

Cllrs Plumb and Stephens agreed to be key holders

17.11 Village hall main doors – replacement of

Cllr Brown explained the doors are in a poor state. It was agreed to get some quotes together. Cllr Plumb is to check with BDC as to what can be installed as the hall is within a conservation area.

18.11 Wayman & Long – fees Old Man's Field

It was resolved to pay Wayman & Long £810.00 as final settlement to Ellison's solicitors and between £500-600 for fees to Wayman & Long.

19.11 BT Way leave agreement over village hall land

It was resolved not to agree the way leave agreement until it had been advised what compensation payment would be made to the Parish Council.

20.11 Annual return – approval and acceptance

It was resolved to approve the annual return

21.11 Meeting dates – to be agreed

It was resolved to agree the meeting dates

22.11 Correspondence to report

Correspondence had been received regarding continuing access problems at Lodge Farm Rd.

Cllr Stephens is to contact Royal Mail to ask about amending the postcode.

A letter had been received regarding the possible closure of The Black Lion Public House. This is to be an agenda item next month.

Mr Ian Homer wishes to be considered as a Parish Councillor. He made a brief presentation at the Parish Council meeting.

18.10 Date of next meeting

12th December 2017

Meeting finished @ 8.45pm