

## **GREAT BLAKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE PARISH ROOM, MILL LANE, GREAT BLAKENHAM ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2011**

**PRESENT:** R. Edrupt, Mrs S Fairburn, Miss L Martin, Mrs P Robinson and R. Simpson

#### **6.1 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No questions were received from the public.

#### **6.2 REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

There were no District Councillors present.

#### **6.3 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER**

No PC or PCSO were in attendance. PCSO Brill's report is attached.

**6.4 Apologies:** No apologies had been received.

**6.5 Declarations of interest appropriate to any item on the agenda** – None were received.

**6.6 MINUTES** of the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011 were approved and signed.

#### **6.7 CO-OPTION OF TWO NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS**

It was agreed that Philip McLauchlan be co-opted onto the Parish Council. Mr McLauchlan signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Chairman informed Councillors that she had received notification from Darren Webb that he could not attend the meeting. Therefore there was still one vacancy for a further Parish Councillor.

#### **6.8 WORKPLAN**

All Parish Councillors present received an update on the outstanding matters.

#### **6.9 PLANNING**

1502/11 – Erection of 37 Residential Dwellings comprising 9 x 3 bedroom and 8 x 2 bedroom houses and 8 x 2 bedroom and 12 x 1 bedroom flats, together with associated parking/garaging and the construction of an on site pumping station – Former Masons Cement Works and Adjoining Ministry of Defence Land, Gipping Road

The following comments were forwarded to MSDC –

The Parish Council is not happy that the pump station was not included in the original set of plans and questions why this has been included at this late stage. There are no plans included to show the external appearance of the pump station or any measurements for the pumping station.

The Parish Council has studied the law/guidance surrounding amendments to planning applications and whilst each individual change could be considered "minor" and not require a new planning

application, the Council are also required to consider the cumulative effect of all amendments in total. The Parish Council is not convinced this has been done.

The Parish Council raises grave concerns over the access road to the railway station car park passing through a residential area and with the associated residential parking along this road and whether this access road will be able to take all the traffic to and from the proposed railway station car park. There is no other access.

There are no pedestrian pavements or access paths for nos 62 and 67 and is concerned that with the amount of traffic movements to and from the station car park a pavement is essential.

The new proposed parking bays are cramped with some having no visibility splays, especially those against buildings.

Concern over access for emergency vehicles to the rear of the proposed flats, having to manoeuvre under an archway.

## **6.10 FINANCE**

Monthly Payments – It was agreed to sign cheques to the value of £1,560.37.

Churchyard Maintenance – The Chairman reported that when the main contract for the Grounds Maintenance of the Cemetery was awarded to Impact Landscaping, the grass cutting of the Churchyard had been omitted from the tender documents. It was therefore agreed to contact Impact Landscaping to ask them to provide the Parish Council with a quotation. The quotation had been received for £1900 + VAT for each year. It was agreed to accept the quotation from Impact Landscaping.

## **6.11 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Village Hall Committee AGM Meeting – The Chairman reported that she had been elected Vice Chairman with Derek Lockwood remaining as Chairman.

Viridor Credits Environmental Company – The Chairman reported that the Parish Council was being invited to nominate a representative to sit on the decision making Steering Group in our area. The Steering Group considers applications for funding for community or environmental projects in the vicinity of landfill sites. It was agreed that Pam Robinson be nominated as the Parish Council's representative.

Railway Barriers, Gipping Road – Following the recent visit by Dr Poulter MP he had requested information regarding the number of occasions that the barriers were down and for how long. This was still outstanding and therefore it was agreed that the Clerk prepare a spreadsheet as an aid to help gather this information and email a copy to each Parish Councillor so that when they could spare an hour they would attend the site and take down the details. This information will then be forwarded to Dr. Poulter MP. It was agreed that the similar information showing the amount of times the barrier was down in 2007 be forwarded also.

Chairman

Date