

GREATFORD

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

16th May 2023

Present

Cllrs Phil Britton, Jason Halsey, Natalie Pretsell, Gemma Taylor and Tony Barker. District Councillor Vanessa Smith. Helen Britton (Clerk), Nigel Ashby, Rod Campbell, Elaine Hawins, Ann Sumner, Lois Webb.

2023/24 - 23 Opening of meeting

Cllr Phil Britton welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending..

2021/22 - 24 Apologies

Ibis Channell, Chris Granville-White, Alison Horton, Richard McDermott.

2021/22 - 25 Election of Chair

Proposed by Tony Barker. Seconded by Gemma Taylor.

2021/22 - 26 Election of Vice Chair

Proposed by Phil Britton. Seconded by Tony Barker.

2021/22 - 27 Election of Responsible Financial Officer

Proposed by Natalie Pretsell. Seconded by Phil Britton.

2021/22 - 28 Declaration of pecuniary interest

None to declare.

2021/22 - 29 Approval of Minutes of APCM May 2022

Proposed by Jason Halsey. Seconded by Tony Barker.

2021/22 - 30 Approval of Minutes of GPC meeting March 2023

Proposed by Natalie Pretsell. Seconded by Jason Halsey.

2021/22 - 31 Matters arising from last meeting

Speed signs for the village

Lincolnshire County Council have written to confirm advice that a Parish is not permitted to purchase and erect speed signs as LCC needs to control their usage due to the fact that “the greater the usage, the less impact they will have where they are really required. A Parish can make a request to LCC to consider upgrading signs...their use is generally limited to where there has been an accident history.” Cllr Jason Halsey proposed that Greatford Parish Council seek a consultation and the Councillors agreed with this proposal. The Clerk will write to LCC making this request.

Village HM The Late Queen Elizabeth’s Jubilee photograph

Cllr Natalie Pretsell has acquired frames and is attending to printing the photos and also to the ‘history of Greatford’ project. There has been no response from villagers when the Clerk asked if any were interested in helping with this project.

2021/22 - 32 Report from meeting with local quarry

Cllr Jason Halsey attended a meeting led by Breedon Quarry, which was also attended by the County Councillor for Greatford, Cllr Ashley Baxter. Jason raised the issue of quarry traffic being an issue through Greatford. Breedons have a strict one-strike and out policy with drivers turning the wrong way; CEMEX, a 2-strike policy. It is therefore unlikely to be Breedons, CEMEX, or their suppliers coming through Greatford. It is worth noting that TARMAC traffic needs to attend road works, delivering at the point of need, so may account for night-time HGV disturbance.

Breedon’s quarry is shutting the current site in the next 12 months and moving location, with quieter modern equipment. CEMEX will shut in the next 2 years. These time scales include restoration work. Breedon Quarry offers match-funding to all community groups for local community projects and so GPC is considering this option. Cllr Phil Britton thanked Cllr Jason for attending. The next meeting is in June and Cllr Jason intends to attend on behalf of Greatford.

2021/22 - 33 Finances: mid-year accounts

Following a GPC meeting at the end of May, the audited accounts will be submitted . The mid-year accounts will be proposed at the same meeting. (31/5/23, to be confirmed)

2021/22 - 34 Planning matters

Cllr Natalie Pretsell raised that a section of verge along the north side Main Street adjacent to The Doghouse requires mowing, as scheduled, by LCC, as people are unable to pass by adequately. The Clerk will report this on Fix My Street.

2021/22 - 35 Flood wardens report from the Flood Wardens

Chris G-W reported (by email) that through the winter and continuing Spring, the river level has remained well within limits. The Greatford Sluice and Cut have operated normally on the few occasions necessary. As reported for the January PC, during the most recent contact with the EA it was acknowledged that there is a continuing need to reinstate the northern riverbank between Shillingthorpe and Greatford (which leads to flooding in the large field alongside the river immediately upstream of Greatford), and to reinstate the riverbank at Greatford Hall - which is the route for overflowing river water to flood the old watercress beds and thence towards Greatford Gardens. However, there is still no maintenance funding available for this restoration work. At the meeting, the winter to summer datum levels were discussed with no conclusion. The Flood Wardens are to look at advising the datum levels be changed for the summer months again.

2021/22 - 36 Parish Plan

Cllr Phil Britton suggested that the 'Greatford Parish Plan 2019' be revisited, especially as there are new parishioners. Parish Councillors will investigate other Parish Plan contents and will propose survey questions at the GPC meeting in July. The survey will then be sent to parishioners, the data collated and published by May 2024. This will provide a new plan 5 years on from the last one.

2021/22 - 37 AOB

The aim is for a Speedwatch campaign in May.

There are works happening at the end of Stow Road. This is for an Anglian Water tunneling station - part of the pipeline works previously communicated to parishioners.

It was proposed to have a bench on the verge on Main Street for villagers to enjoy. The Chair will enquire whether this would be permitted by LCC.

Cllr Tony Barker enquired about any activity by Neighbourhood Watch in Greatford. This will be explored before the next meeting.

The Clerk will get a quotation from Wicksteed and book the annual inspection of the play equipment on the Playing Fields.

Cllr Phil Britton proposed a village beer festival to raise funds for village PC projects, such as the costs of restoring/ replacing the play equipment as it is now over 20 years old. A committee of villagers will be formed to organise this.

The meeting closed at 8:40pm