



GRENDON UNDERWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of a GENERAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 24th January 2023 at 19.30

DRAFT Issue date – 28th January 2023

B. Martindale - Acting Parish Clerk

Prior to the meeting being formally constituted for Council business, the Chairman may hold an Open Forum for Parishioners and for occasional external contributions attending (under adjournment): 15 minutes for residents and other members of the public to raise questions, make comments; suggest future agenda items etc. Items requiring decisions must be deferred for inclusion in the next agenda.

Minute – a UKPN contractor project Manager attended to provide latest status of the upgrade of the prison electricity supply. The project plan timeline is available on request. The project is scheduled to have a rolling impact on traffic flows along the route at different times up to end 2023, major noise impacts being restricted to between 08.30 & 17.30. Works across the school entrance will be scheduled for the school holidays. He agreed to contact County Highways to explore ways of minimising disruption due to both pothole repairs and the UKPN project. He advised the cable being laid is about half of what would be needed to supply a mega-prison. Has offered to provide regular status reports and answer questions from residents submitted to the Parish Council email.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE APPEAL AGAINST DECISION of BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL TO REFUSE A MEGA PRISON.

MoJ have submitted their appeal against the Buckinghamshire Council decision to refuse planning permission for a mega-Prison in Grendon Underwood. The Appeal Hearing is on 24th January 2023, from 10.00am and is scheduled to last 10 days. **Minute-** the Chairman summarised the 1st day of the prison Appeal hearing held on 24th January 23. She thanked all speakers and commended the calibre of their input. Residents turned out in impressive numbers and this is much appreciated. The Hearing is scheduled to last a further 10 working days and representatives of the Working Group & residents will attend all days according to their availability.

2301.01 Attendance and apologies: To receive and accept any apologies.

Attending; Cllrs Moloney (Chairman), Benfield, Jackman, Scanlon, Fealey, Harris, Rand (Buckinghamshire),

Apologies; Cllr Macpherson (Cllr Rand substituting), James Sherriff.

Absences;

Public: a UKPN Project manager attended.

2301.02 Members Interests: Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Grendon Underwood Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011. Cllr Scanlon is Chair of the Springhill Residents Group. **Minute-** none declared.

2301.03 Approval of Minutes: To agree and sign the minutes of the General Parish Council Meeting of Grendon Underwood Parish Council held on 6th December 2022 (November postponed) as a true & accurate record. Draft Minutes are circulated prior to the meeting to allow them to be taken as read. There were no amendments, to the draft, requested by the cut-off date. **Minute-** so approved.

2301.04 Statutory. Nothing arising. **Minute-** noted.

2301.05 Finance & Accounts.

- i) Consider the RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS OF ACCOUNTS for the period since last meeting. **Minute-** all up to date.
- ii) To review bank payment authorities. the Chairman to report on opening an interest account. To ratify payment authorities in addition to Chairman & Cllr Benfield. **Minute-** opening an interest account is deemed inappropriate at this time – CLOSED. Need for additional authorities to be reviewed - CLOSED.
- iii) To review Grants – Incoming. The following applications are in progress:
 - HS2 Road Safety Fund – has provided two MVAS units for church crossing are available. Installation timing by HS2/Highways awaited. **Minute-** Highways have retracted their support to install & HS2RSF confirm their involvement & responsibility for them is ended as now Council assets. CLOSED.
 - Community Board allocation to village MVAS units – GUPC invoice on County, authority letter dated 9th September 2022, for an agreed allocation of £9885.00, is submitted against instruction. County invoice on GUPC for agreed contribution, in the sum of £1647.50, for one MVAS unit is received. Payment to be processed subject to payment of the GUPC invoice. **Minute-** payment pending.
 - All-weather Track- Agreed to further explore cost/ community benefit ratio once lease is in place. **Minute-** pending.
- iv) To review Grants – Outgoing- one long term active in favour of the SRG. Invoice received & progressed to agreement. The agreed 4 meetings per calendar year are budgeted, not to be carried over. Invoice for a single meeting in 2022 received. **Minute-** noted.
- v) To review expense claims – to ratify claim for notice posts. **Minute-** so ratified.

2301.06 Planning; to review any major developments proposed. To consider Consultee requests awaiting response & to ratify any applications processed by fast-track protocol. **Minute-** prison Appeal in progress.

2301.07 Environment. To report any issues in respect of:

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- a Highways under Highways Act 1980, ss43, 50 (inc footpaths). Bio-debris clearance requested. UKPN cable installation down Main Street imminent; see Open Forum above. **Minute-** Cllr Benfield suggested County constitute a flying pothole task force for rapid response to holes as they appear.
- b Footpath Lighting under Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3. Crime Prevention- to report outages. **Minute-** nothing to report.
- c Verges & Hedges; **Minute-** nothing to report.
- d To consider local flooding. **Minute-** the Chairman requested action to address local flooding.

2301.08 Communications & Reports.

1. with Parish

- i) **Springhill Residents Association.** Cllr Scanlon to update. The estate defibrillator must be relocated by March, new location tba. **Minute-** new location to 1 Park Road agreed. Cllr Benfield to action. Meeting with Prison pending.
- ii) **Speeding;** Cllr Harris to report. **Minute-** Cllr Harris reported on status: a total of 5 units are now available; two are VAS (non-mobile) for the church crossing, 3 are MVAS (mobile) for the village. He will arrange mounting on current poles in due course. Cllr Benfield agreed to cut locks off current units to allow removal and sale.
- iii) **Dog fouling on playground;** there is a Dog Fouling Order in place for the field. Collaboration with school for signage is agreed. Awaiting of advice of materials needed. School liaison to advise. **Minute-** awaited due to absence.

2. with Unitary Authority & other Statutory Bodies

- i. **BC – Clerk met with new Highways liaison on 9Jan23, on site, to highlight following long standing matters:**
 - (a) Mount 2 HS2 MVAS church crossing units on poles already put in place by Highways. County now saying GUPC to install.
 - (b) Reclaim Highways land at Main Street/ Broadway junction for community use. Currently looking into this and will respond in due course.
 - (c) Remove & dispose of 3 obsolete MVAS units along Main Street. It is the parish's responsibility to undertake removal & disposal or make arrangements for an approved contractor for the work.
 - (d) Address major and fast deteriorating pot hole problem all along Main Street. "We are working hard to address the defects in the area raised and ask for your continued patience."
 - (e) See if the utility department will contact me and liaise with UKPN when they dig up whole length of Main Street for the prison power supply upgrade - so the carriageway is not dug up yet again and long term, modern resurfacing covers their trench. "Contact either UKPN directly or the streetworks team for the area Anna Coles anna.coles@buckinghamshire.gov.uk or George Balyckyj George.Balyckyj@buckinghamshire.gov.uk"
 - (f) See if the utilities dept will rectify the extensive damage to footpath along Main Street from multiple utility dig-ups – Gigaclear & Thames Water.
 - (g) See if your street cleaning team will clear slippery leaf debris from footpaths along Main Street. "This should be reported to Street scene via FMS as advised previously."
- ii. **Haddenham & Waddesdon Community Board.**
 - Three MVAS units for the village anti-speeding initiative has been reduced to one by H&WCB, rendering the Council anti-speeding initiative ineffective. To consider alternatives. **Minute-** the Council speeding initiative is in progress independently.

3. with Stakeholders

- i. **Community Police Team.** Calling for applications for grants to prevent crime. Free crime alerts offered poster. **Minute-** the Chairman called for spend suggestions urgently. Alerts would be welcome.
- ii. **Village Hall;** Cllr Fealey to update on an on-line booking facility and web site is proceeding; charging structure review & December meeting. **Minute-** the Hall booking system is in progress; upgrade to the kitchen in progress; energy supply under review.
- iii. **Saye & Sele;** to receive a report. Status of lease for field. The GUPC draft lease proposal was submitted on 13th July. Meeting of Parties held 9th August. Draft submitted for comment. Council revision to Para 6 submitted for S&S comment & response received. Cllr Jackman to update on discussions re Council concerns. Awaiting the S&S clerk to respond hopefully reflecting para 99 of NPPF, 2021. **Minute-** Cllr Jackman summarised the Charity's Financial position; 28 grants had been made to local residents in 2022; a report regarding the lease of the recreation field was received on 24/01/23 and he recommended acceptance of the latest suggestion for lease wording as the best possible under legislation. Invoice for £946.02 is received for associated professional service, half of which agreed to be paid by GUPC. Needs to be amended to show placed on GUPC. It was agreed to progress Council due diligence procedures in consideration of the latest suggestion and the need for Council legal advice.
- iv. **School** to review collaborations. Follow up from school representatives attending last meeting. Agreed to collaborate making signs for dog walkers and speeders. School to submit grant application for raw materials, children to develop artwork. Clerk has sent application form. **Minute-** grant application awaited. The school is holding a Coronation celebration event in school on 5May23 and wondered whether Council also has plans. Clerk to advise the village is developing plans & suggest school liaise with organisers. Small grants can be requested from Council Community Fund

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in the normal way. Cllr Benfield advised a small excess of funds remaining from the Jubilee is available and maybe could be used for the Coronation.

- v. **HMP Grendon Prison** to review collaborations. nothing pending **Minute-** Cllr Scanlon advised the SRG has a meeting scheduled in February to discuss speeding & visitor parking.

- vi. **EfW** next meeting postponed. **Minute-** pending.

4. **with Infrastructure.** UKPN have advised they will dig up whole of Main Street to lay cable to prison. Plan circulated to show work starts on 16Jan23 until end 23. See Open Forum.

From previous meeting- Cllr Jackman is concerned the implications of Oxford-Cambridge arc are yet to be understood in full. Agreed to monitor development proposals along the route.

5. **with Suppliers.** nothing to report. **Minute-** footpath light maintenance plan offered. To be further explored.

2301.09 Amenities.

- a. Playground: safety inspection to be combined with PlayPark inspection. Quote received awaiting completion of minor defects on playground equipment. **Minute-** inspection scheduled end Jan23. Invoice for £234.00 awaiting report.
- b. PlayPark: Completed 20th October. Invoice paid.
- To review status of name plate "Queen Elizabeth II PlayPark". Plate received, awaiting installation. **Minute-** pending review of fixing methodology.
 - To review status of agreed additional compliance signage at PlayPark and MUGA – posts received. **Minute-** installation weather dependent.
 - To consider an official opening. Revised to Spring 2023. **Minute-** no longer considered appropriate. CLOSED
- c. MUGA footpath deterioration and link path to PlayPark. The Project Manager has contacted the installer for remedial action. Alternative quotes to be considered. Cllr. Benfield to update on proposed revised scope of work and to quote. **Minute-** Clerk authorised to formalise quote process.
- d. Notice Boards. Village Hall noticeboard – agreed to replace. Replacement ordered against resolution, due end Jan23. **Minute-** delivered 27th Jan23. Quotes for installation to be requested.
- e. Defibrillators: Cllr Benfield to supply information required to register. To consider maintenance contract quote circulated 29Sept22. Relocation of the estate unit tba. **Minute-** new site agreed. Implementation timing pending.

2301.10 Personnel - Confidential Information; to review succession arrangements. Note: The Parish Council will make a Resolution to exclude the public from this part of the meeting in accordance with Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960. Chairman has expressed concern for a succession plan to be in place for next election. To discuss at this meeting. **Minute-** succession plan to be developed.

2301.11 Open forum for Members (under adjournment); for Councillors to bring items to go on the agenda, for discussion at the next meeting. **Minute-** Cllr Fealey would like to consider a safety mirror at church crossing.

2301.12 To confirm the date of the next meeting; To agree the date, time & venue on 28th February 2023 at 19.30 in GUVH. **Minute-** so agreed.

The Chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 21.17.

Signed as a true & accurate record:

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Cllr Moloney, Chairman presiding.

Dated:

		GRENDON UNDERWOOD PARISH COUNCIL - transactions	December	2022
Date	Type	Transaction Description	Debit	Credit
01/12/2022	SO	MARION RYLEY profservs	£ 10.00	
02/12/2022	FPI	CHARLTON resident contribution		£ 250.00
19/12/2022	DD	SOUTHERN ELECTRIC 095668551	£ 88.74	
20/12/2022	DD	BUCKS COUNCIL RECWaste	£ 31.32	
22/12/2022	FPO	SPARKX LIMITED outage ex VAT INV 4434	£ 427.50	
22/12/2022	FPO	MEDIA PRINT HUB QEII sign playpark inv10268897	£ 92.40	
22/12/2022	FPO	MEDIA PRINT HUB compliance signs inv 10248072	£ 56.40	
22/12/2022	FPO	HMRC - ACCOUNTS	£ 167.60	
22/12/2022	FPO	CLERK DEC 2022 SALARY	£ 670.40	