

LITTLE GLEMHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Council Meeting held on
Monday 10th November 2014 in the Parish Room

1. **Present from the Council:** Mr Peter Chaloner [Chairman] Philip Hope-Cobbold; Kate Burt; Tony Eaves; Roger Blyth; Ceri Larman; Stuart Hogg; Pat Trinder [Clerk]
2. **Present from the Public:** None
3. **Apologies for Absence:** Stephen Burroughes [County Councillor] PCSO Thora Taylor;
4. **Declaration of Interest:** None
5. **Minutes of the last meeting:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2014 were unanimously adopted and signed as a correct record.
6. **Matters Arising from the 13th October Council meeting:**
 - a. **[i] Community Area Update:** Peter reported that five of the fence posts needed to be replaced; he had two spares in storage and Kate kindly agreed to provide the other three. Roger agreed to provide the necessary equipment to put the new posts in, and would liaise with Peter and Kate regarding a convenient time to carry out the work.
Replacement of cracked swing seats: The clerk was authorised to order two large swing seats from Wickstead, approximate cost £38.00 + VAT each, to be delivered to the Chairman; Peter agreed to forward the exact measurements, prior to confirmation of the order. **[A.P. Clerk]**
 - [ii] Improvements to Community Area play facilities: Circulation of revised questionnaire:** The Chairman advised that the Four village bypass survey, produced and circulated by Dr. Dan Poulter was still underway; there had been a good response from parishioners, mostly on line, and the completed paper copies returned to Peter had been collected. It was therefore agreed that distribution of the Community Area questionnaire should be deferred until the New Year, date to be agreed. Tony wished to make one or two further amendments to the form, prior to circulation, and the clerk was authorised to provide 85 copies of the final approved draft, in readiness for circulation via the Ebb and Flow. **[A.P. Clerk]**
 - b. **Maintenance of Highways/pavements/footpaths:** Nothing further to report.
 - c. **SNT – Police Report:** A written report, confirming that there had been no crimes recorded during October had been circulated. **[Copy to be filed with Minutes]**
 - d. **Neighbourhood Watch Update:** The Chairman reported that he continued to receive regular updates which were included on the Council website. He commented on recent reports about scams and asked councillors to alert elderly residents.
 - e. **Refurbishment of Village Sign:** Work still ongoing.
 - f. **Four Village Bypass Working Party:** As reported at the last meeting, plans to produce a series of signs to be put at each end of the four villages are progressing. There is enough money in the 'kitty' to cover the cost and landowners' permission to erect the signs will be sought. The Working Party did not propose to have another meeting until after the next Sizewell Community Forum. The clerk referred to the email received from Peasenhall Parish Council, already circulated via email, offering their support to the Four Village Bypass campaign. The Council very much welcomed their offer of support and the clerk was asked to reply accordingly, and to provide a brief update on the current four village bypass campaign status. **[A.P. Clerk]**
 - g. **Sizewell C Update:** The Chairman understood that EDF propose to delay their Phase 2 consultation until the New Year, when they anticipate financial approval for Hinkley will be granted. Kate remained convinced that this was yet another delaying tactic to enhance EDF's agenda, and there was a lengthy discussion on the implications of this further delay.

- h. Provision of litter bin on A12:** Still ongoing
- 7. Suffolk County Councillor's Report:** Copies of Stephen's written report dealing with general County matters had been circulated and taken as read.
- 8. Framlingham Parishes Divisional Briefing session: Friday 7th November'14:** The Chairman advised that the meeting had been cancelled due to lack of confirmed attendance, and it was planned to arrange another date during February 2015.
- 9. District Councillor's Report:** Nothing to report.
- 10. Planning:** Nothing to report.
- 11. Finance:** The clerk advised that a written request for financial support had been received from the Disability Advice Service and on a Proposition by the Chairman it was unanimously agreed to give a donation of £40 *[same amount as last year]*

a. Financial Update:

The amount in the current account is:	£ 28.86
The amount in the deposit account is:	£ <u>5,621.00</u>
Total:	£ 5,649.86

b. Invoices for Payment:

- C.A.B. Annual grant/donation.....
[LGPC meeting 13.10.14 Minute Ref: 11[a]] Amount: 60.00
- Disability Advice Service –Annual grant/donation
[LGPC meeting 10.11.14 Minute Ref: 11] Amount: 40.00

After payment of the above invoices **[£100]** the combined amount held in the accounts is **£5,549.86.**

c. Setting of Annual Budget 2015-16: Details of the proposed budget had been circulated, and the Chairman briefly outlined the reasons for his proposal not to increase this year's Precept figure, particularly bearing in mind the current economic climate. Kate questioned this strategy and felt that the Council should perhaps try to build on its contingency fund, bearing in mind potential expenditure on the Community Area and the four village bypass campaign, rather than retain the status quo year on year. On a point of information, Councillors outlined the sequence of events leading to the current legislation relating to Precept income. The Chairman referred to last year's supporting grant received from SCDC of £275.80 and explained that whilst a grant will be provided again this year it will be reduced by 25%, resulting in a figure of £185.02, assuming that the precept figure of £3,100 remains the same. In real terms this will represent a household increase of 3.18%. It was noted that no precept should be formally approved until after the Tax Base figures are issued by the Billing Authorities at the beginning of December 2014. Therefore, whilst the Council can discuss and make a decision in principle on the level of precept required at the November meeting, this cannot be formally ratified until the January 2015 meeting. The Chairman confirmed that he would be attending the SCDC Town & Parish liaison Budget Review meeting on 25th November. After further discussion on the Council's income and projected expenditure for the forthcoming year, on a Proposition by the Chairman, Seconded by Ceri, Councillors unanimously agreed that they were 'minded' to request a Precept figure of £3,100, which was the same figure as last year **[A.P. Clerk]**

12. Schedule of meeting dates for 2015 to be held at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Rooms: On a Proposition by the Chairman, the following dates were unanimously agreed:

Monday 12 th January	Monday 8 th June
Monday 9 th February	Monday 13 th July
Monday 9 th March	Monday 14 th September
Monday 13 th April	Monday 12 th October
Monday 11 th May [Parish Annual Meeting]	Monday 9 th Nov [Budget meeting]

13. Any Other Business:

- a. SCDC – Local Plan: Site allocations and area specific policies working Group – Invitation to express an interest in being involved. Details had been circulated via email and the clerk confirmed that she had declined the invitation as no one had come forward to attend the meetings. The Chairman commented that given the criteria for selection, i.e. areas where growth is most likely to take place, he was doubtful that Little Glemham would be high on the list of priorities.
- b. SCDC Adopted Statement of Community Involvement: Details had been circulated via email and the information was noted.
- c. The Chairman was very sorry to report that he had received a letter of resignation from Stuart. Councillors joined the Chairman in thanking Stuart for his dedicated hard work during his term as a Parish Councillor. *Clerk to notify SCDC and seek confirmation that whilst the Parish Council may co-opt between now and May 2015, there is no requirement to advertise the casual vacancy.*
- d. Addressing Loneliness in Rural areas: Kate provided an informative report following her attendance at the networking event held on 7th November. The workshop had been well attended. Topics discussed included a presentation by ‘Men’s Sheds’ and the perceived pressure being put on PCSO’s to undertake more policing work, which, it was felt, could undermine the drive to increase the community police force.
- e. Philip circulated details of the village annual Christmas party to be held at Glemham Hall on 5th December. He further presented his apologies for the January’15 meeting.

14. Date of next meeting: Monday 12th January 2015 at 8.00 p.m.

Signed as a correct record.....

Peter Chaloner
Chairman

DATE: 12TH January 2015