

GLATTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 19th May 2023

Present:

Carl Stretton (CS)
Andrew Peck (AP)
Ross Weatherburn (RW)
Callum Atkinson (CA)
Miles Stephenson (MS)

The meeting was attended by 7 residents of Glatton

Tim Alban (District Councillor)

Rev. Becky Dyball

1. CS opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

2. Apologies

Simon Bywater (County Councillor) sent his apologies.

3. Resignation of Mandy Allen and Lee Juniper/ Co-opting new Councillors

Both Mandy Allen and Lee Juniper have resigned their positions as Parish Councillors. Many thanks to both Mandy and Lee for their work on the Parish Council. The process to notify HDC of the resignations has been followed. The statutory waiting period has ended without a request for an election. Miles Stephenson and Callum Atkinson have been co-opted as councillors and welcomed to the Parish Council.

3. Election of Chairman

CS elected as chairman (proposed by AP and seconded by RW)

4. Election of Vice Chairman

AP elected as vice chairman (proposed by RW and seconded by CA)

5. Declaration of Interests

No interests to declare

6. Minutes of meeting held on 10th February 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2023 were signed by the chairman as a true record of proceedings.

7. Matters Arising

There are no matters arising which are not already on the agenda.

8. Correspondence

i) Local Plan – HDC have launched a consultation on the Local Plan. To make a comment go to <https://consult.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/kse/> The Parish Clerk has received a poster advertising this which will be posted on the notice board. The closing date is 5th July 2023. HDC are also holding a meeting which can be attended in person or by zoom on 5th June by Parish Councillors.

ii) E mail received from a former resident of Glatton Andy Dunlop who lived in Mill Cottage. He was instrumental in fighting for the two bridleways in Glatton being settled as bridleways rather than byways and therefore protected from use by off road vehicles. Recently a lady from Halifax has submitted a request to change the status back to byways. Andy believes that the request will fail. He has requested that the County Court keep him informed of the progress of the application and he will also keep Glatton informed.

iii) E mail received from Chris Hempsted from High Haden livery concerning the ongoing planning application on the land adjacent to the livery. There have been amendments to the application regarding the existing entrance and the use of the land for leisure/hobby activities, rather than business. This will possibly further delay the decision of HDC which is affecting the business at High Haden Livery.

Parish Meeting

The meeting was opened for those in attendance to raise matters of concern.

1. Report by Tim Alban

- i) Local Pan – This is being reviewed again although it was reviewed only 4 years ago to 2036. However, it is advised that as a Neighbourhood Plan has been started then we should continue with the process.
- ii) HDC are proposing an annual charge for the first green bin of £50-£60. The reasoning is that this will increase composting rates.
- iii) Re-wilding – ALM (Alternative Land Management) which will only affect land owned by the District Council. Working with Parishes but they will not be cutting the grass.
- iv) Tim is organising another joint meeting at the Addison Arms. The date is to be confirmed. Tim plans to invite the Police to attend as speeding and fly tipping are high priority issues for Parish Councils.

2. Report from Simon Bywater (attached) read by CS.

3. Rev. Becky Dyball spoke enthusiastically about a new project which is going to be launched, using inspiration from a predecessor, 126 years ago “The Fenland Ark Boat” which moved around the Fenlands with essential resources and medication. The new project is “The Coffee Ark” which is a converted Landrover Defender “Daisy” serving coffee in different locations around the Parishes of Sawtry, Glatton and Holme, bringing together people who may be isolated, lonely and suffering from mental health issues with a good cup of coffee and conversation. Working with Glatton Village Hall to bring “Daisy” weekly to Glatton hopefully starting in September. Village Hall are happy to back the project and so will not charge any rent. The idea is that “Daisy” will travel to where the people who need her are.

Speeding – Remains a problem through the village. This is dealt with in the Traffic/Transport section of the Neighbourhood Plan. Further speed calming measures will be considered. The data from the MVAS cameras can influence the time of day when a speed watch team would be the most effective. Police are looking at dead journey time to use a police presence with speed guns which would give extra impetus.

Lark Fleet Development – concerns around the heavy lorry traffic serving the development in Sawtry using the roads through Glatton potentially causing damage to Grade 2 listed buildings such as “Always”. There is a weight limit on the road of 7.5 tonnes. A schedule of condition is required before the development begins. Put pressure on the developers around mitigation.

Rev, Becky Dyball left the meeting at 7.45pm

Tim Alban left the meeting at 7.50pm

Parish Council Meeting reconvened.

10. Planning Consultation - 23/00840/TREE – The Barns, Infield Road

The application concerns 10 trees of various species protected by tree preservation orders. The reduction required is up to 3 metres which is a large reduction. Although it is unknown how tall the trees are there is no justification for such a large reduction for safety reasons or because of damage to buildings. The trees are not visible from the road. For these reasons the council recommends refusal.

11. Planning Consultation – 23/00013/FUL Village Hall, High Haden Road

The meeting was opened for those in attendance to comment.

- i) The Village Hall is an old and deteriorating building with an asbestos roof. The Village Hall committee have come to the conclusion that refurbishment is not an option and that demolition and redevelopment is the only real option. The committee have received some CIL funding from Glatton Parish Council and also have a commitment from Cambridgeshire County Council for further CIL funding. The projected cost of the new building is £250,000-£300,000. An application to the National Lottery Fund has been made but cannot progress further until planning permission for a new building has been passed. There may be some funding available through the Church as St. Nicholas does not have running water/toilets and the church can use the village hall for these facilities.
- ii) One resident considers the heritage statement and the flooding statement to be weak.
- iii) Opportunities to obtain grants for green sustainability that have been included in the application, air source heat pumps, solar panels. Also charging points and accessible parking bays.

Parish Council meeting reconvened.

Glatton Parish Council unanimously recommend approval of the planning application. It is a good design, bringing the village hall up to current building standards. The plan is sympathetic to the conservation area and the Grade 1 listed building of St. Nicholas church opposite. The

footprint of the building is the same and the building only slightly higher by one metre and is not higher than the building behind the village hall. Welcome the green nature of the building with solar panels and air source heat pumps. Also, welcome electric charge points and accessible parking bay.

12. Neighbourhood Plan

- a. The Individual and Business Questionnaires are now fully ratified and will be signed-off next week
- b. Anonymous data packs will be distributed to all households showing how to complete the questionnaires online or how to request paper copies if required.
- c. We will hold a clinic to help people in any way, more clinics to be arranged if required

13. Speed Watch/ MVAS Cameras

MS will take on the speed watch and will organise the speed watch sessions. Approach Paul Cole for advice and assistance. Carl will continue to charge the batteries for the MVAS cameras.

14. Community Projects

The Big Help Out as part of the Kings Coronation celebrations took place on Monday 8th May. 40 volunteers helped with litter picking, cleaning sign posts and gardening at the church. Thank you to Doreen Perry and Felicity Ford for providing bacon sandwiches, tea and coffee.

The new Coronation bench was unveiled with the ribbon cut by Campana Stefanelli.

15. Finance Report

i) Approval of Annual Governance Statements

The annual audit having been completed the councillors reviewed the effectiveness of internal control. Approval proposed by CS and seconded by AP. Approval unanimous.

ii) Approval of Annual Accounting Statements

The internal audit having been completed the councillors considered and approved the accounting statements. Approval proposed by AP and seconded by RW. Approval unanimous.

iii) Approval of Certificate of Exemption

The internal audit having been completed the councillors approved the certificate of exemption. Approval proposed by AP and seconded by CS. Approval unanimous.

iv) Finance Report

The balance in the current account is £1,326.29 and the balance in the business reserve account is £11,940.46. the village hall rental for last year has been paid. Fittings to install the refurbished Coronation bench and the refreshments for the "Big Help Out" have been paid. This season's grass cutting is also underway.

v) Budget

Included in the budget is £300 for new councillor training. £372 has been paid for grass cutting this season to date.

vi) Assets

The fixed assets (street furniture) have a current value of £13,279. This has increased by the addition of the purchase of the Platinum Jubilee bench £472.00. These valuations are for insurance purposes only.

vii) Zurich Insurance Policy

The premium for the insurance policy remains the same as last year at £214.00. Clerk instructed to pay this.

16. CAPALC

The annual renewal of £207.90 is due. Clerk instructed to pay this. The new councillors have expressed an interest in the new councillor training. Clerk to arrange.

15. Flooding Update

AP will chase up on the brook with the Inland Drainage Board.

16. Charitable Giving

The Council will make donations as follows:

Caresco £125.00

The Coffee Ark £125.00

Clerk to arrange payment.

17. Calendar of Events

Litter picking – Autumn 2023

First Aid training and Mini Medics – TBA

AOB

There is no AOB

Date of Next Meetings

September 8th 2023

November 24th 2023

February 16th 2024

May 10th 2024

Meeting closed at 20.52.

AGM ANNUAL REPORT FOR PARISH COUNCILS - SAWTRY & STILTON
DIVISION CCC
COUNTY COUNCILLOR SIMON BYWATER

I continue to be humbled by the various voluntary groups locally who have continued to “step up to the plate” supporting individuals and their own communities and I wish to give my heartfelt thanks to you all.

It has been a busy year since my last annual update, with Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) and Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) both recently setting their annual budgets for next year. The costs of this can be seen in the recent council tax bills you will have now received.

Sadly both councils decided to increase their parts of the council tax bills to the maximum. Given the pressures on households I just couldn't support this approach by the joint administrations.

In short, I felt CCC didn't need to do this (4.99%) and our alternative budget of a reduced increase with better delivery was voted down. I couldn't support the HDC budget increase (3.31%) because I was very concerned with their Medium term financial Strategy over the next five years, in particular their plans to consider charging for Garden waste Bins along with their business plans for Leisure in the district.

I think we need to leave as much money in residents pockets as opposed to councils thinking they know better on how to spend money through taxation.

I've been dealing with countless other issues including the sad proposals by CCC to Close Gidding Primary school, which has effected many families in Sawtry and surrounding villages. Thank you to those residents who spoke with me against this at the Children and Young Peoples Committee.

I would like to say a massive thankyou to everyone in our community who have helped in providing our warm spaces through the winter. Please do take a look to see how they may be able to help and support your residents.

I have been meeting a wide variety of people, partners and stakeholders to ensure both Councils are doing their very best for us all. I have particular concerns on how CCC are budgeting and maintaining the conditions of our roads. Despite this huge frustration I have had some local success in ensuring some of our roads and pavements were treated and repaired, but it is a continuous battle to ensure we have a voice, and that our local roads, and areas where the County Council have responsibility, get the attention that is needed.

You can help me by reporting any highways faults/issues that you find here <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>

A large part of my time is also occupied by the various local planning issues in the Division. For example I attended a recent appeal to the Planning inspector regarding change of use of a commercial building in Stibbington to the withdrawal of an application for large Commercial units on the A1 near Alwalton. Both had significant impacts on local residents.

If there is a local planning issue that is important to you please do not go on Facebook to complain or have a rant, it is more effective to have your voice heard on the Huntingdonshire Planning portal here <https://publicaccess.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/>

You may be aware that the Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership (GCP) are looking at congestion charging for Cambridge. At the moment there is no clear plan on how congestion charging will work and more importantly the impact on residents. I'm yet to be convinced

what benefits we will get in particular this part of Cambridgeshire. We will have to wait and see what these proposals look like following the consultation which has now finished. I would urge you all to keep an eye on this going forward.

I support moves to improve public transport and make it easier for people to travel via means other than their car but I'm concerned this part of Cambridgeshire will be used as a "Cash Cow" for the Cambridge centric County Council. County Councillors will have the final vote on any proposals although no dates/timelines have been set.

Proposals for a 20 mph zone in Stilton and the consultation results are now being considered by CCC. Thankyou to everyone who has taken part or emailed me with their thoughts. A final decision will be made later this year by the highways committee.

This year's 20mph scheme is open and CCC are accepting applications. You can apply via the link. The deadline for submitting the applications will be by Sunday 30th April 2023 at 17:00PM. Further information on the process, funding available and application timeline is available on our website at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/20mph-funding>

Despite the many challenges please rest assured I have been working hard as your Councillor representing our communities and bringing a voice for you.

I would like to thank you all for your help and support over the last 12 months in particular our Clerks and Chairs. It is not always possible for me to attend Parish council meetings, given all my responsibilities and diary clashes, but I do try my utmost to attend as many as is possible.

Finally I would like to thank my District Cllr Colleagues, Tim Alban, Marge Beuttell and Ross Martin for their continued support.

Don't forget you can get more info on what I'm doing on my face book page [Cllr Simon Bywater "Sawtry & Stilton"Cambridgeshire County Council | Facebook](#)

You can contact me at Simon.bywater@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or 07984637553

Many thanks for taking the time to read this short report.

Best wishes

Simon

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Simon Bywater (County Councillor Sawtry and Stilton Ward)