

# GLAPTHORN PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Alan Tresadern 30 Lytham Park, Oundle PE8 4FB  
Telephone: 01832 275281 Email: [parish.clerk@glapthorn.org.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@glapthorn.org.uk)  
*2018 Northamptonshire Council of the Year*

---

## **Minutes of the Glapthorn Annual Parish Meeting held at the Village Hall, Main Street on Thursday 18 April 2019 at 7.00 pm**

Present: Cllr. Malcolm Moss (Chairman) and 21 members of the public

In attendance: Alan Tresadern (Parish Clerk) and Sharn Mathews (Executive Director and Monitoring Officer East Northamptonshire Council).

Apologies: Ward Councillor Annabel de Capell Brooke, Brigitte Hilton, Heather Ball, Angie Morris and Roy Kerr.

1. Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed those present and introduced the guests.

2. Presentation by guest speaker:

How the switch from County and District Council to a single Unitary Authority will work? by Sharn Matthews. See Appendix A for a summary.

3. Ward Councillor's report:

See Appendix B.

4. Northants Police report:

None

5. Minutes of last Annual Parish Meeting:

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Glapthorn Annual Parish Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 be approved. Proposed Mike Newton, seconded Ian Davidson.

6. Reports from the Community:

The meeting received reports from the following organisations. See Appendix C to these minutes for all reports:

- 6.1. Glapthorn Parish Council
- 6.2. GAGA
- 6.3. Glapthorn WI
- 6.4. Royal Oak Club
- 6.5. Southwick & Glapthorn Village Show
- 6.6. St. Leonard's Church
- 6.7. Glapthorn Village Hall
- 6.8. Glapthorn School
- 6.9. The 100 Club
- 6.10. Windy Spire development
- 6.11. Northamptonshire Village Awards 2019
- 6.12. Glapthorn Neighbourhood Plan
- 6.13. Glapthorn Playing Field

7. Any Other Business:  
None.

8. Closure:  
There was no further business and the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.35 pm.

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date.....

**/Appendices**

## **APPENDICES TO THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 18 APRIL 2019**

### **APPENDIX A – PRESENTATION SUMMARY**

#### **Summary of Presentation on the move to a Unitary Authority**

During March 2018 – the Secretary of State (SoS) invited proposals for unitary government in Northamptonshire. In August of that year seven Northamptonshire councils submitted a joint proposal to create two new Unitary Councils for Northamptonshire and in October 2018 the SoS decided to consult on the Northamptonshire Proposal. That consultation closed on 31 Jan 2019.

The proposed North Northamptonshire Council, as it is likely to be known, will cover the geography of the current Corby, Wellingborough, Kettering and East Northamptonshire.

All existing councils will be abolished when the new Unitary Councils come into being. Each council will need to develop its own vision to create ambition and culture to match its geography.

The vision for both Unitary Councils in the proposal is to ‘Deliver high performing, sustainable public services, focussed on improving the lives of the communities they serve, whilst encouraging independence, ambition and wellbeing.’ A formal decision by the SoS as to whether two unitary councils for Northamptonshire will be created has been expected for some time. At the time of preparing this report, it is expected any day now (April 2019)! The announcement is expected to include the start date for the new councils, which must be 1st April because of finance rules implications, and is anticipated to 2020.

However, as the Structural Change Order (SCO) by Government has to pass through both Houses of Parliament and is likely to take about 40 parliamentary days to ‘make’, there may come a time when the plans slip to 2021.

Nonetheless, all discussions to date have focused on 1st April 2020 as the start date. As soon as the decision is announced the North Northants Joint Committee will be set up. The Joint Committee will have limited life and role. It can’t make decisions – only prepare papers for new shadow authority to agree at first meeting. Some key tasks include, creating a constitution, and appointing Interim Statutory Officers.

Much of what will be included in the SCO is copied from previous SCOs such as Dorset and Cheshire. So far, all the local preferences for the North have been agreed by the existing 5 councils.

The name of new Council is likely to be North Northamptonshire Council and the North Northants Shadow Unitary has held its first meeting within 14 days of SCO being made (expected to be Summer - Autumn 2019).

In the shadow phase the council will be managed by an Executive model with a Executive comprising 15 Cllrs, 3 from each of Wellingborough BC, Corby BC, ENC, Kettering BC and NCC (North Divisions). The members of the Joint Committee are expected to be, but not guaranteed this will be the case, the same as Shadow Executive for continuity.

In future, the Unitary Council may choose a different form of governance e.g. committee.

The Councillors for the Shadow Authority will be all existing councillors from the present councils and wards and they will hold post until the elections in 2020

Elections, for both Unitary and Town and Parish Councils are scheduled to take place in May 2020 followed by 2015 and every four years thereafter.

There will be 78 Cllrs for first Unitary Elections – based on 3 Cllrs per NCC Divisions (until the Boundary Review expected in 2022-23).

The focus now is very much on getting ready for Day 1 – Vesting Day on 1st April 2020 - and having safe and legal transition of services. The Shadow Executive and Councillors will have to set the budget in February. This is a huge task, to get everything ready for Day 1: Dorset had over 400 separate projects! What is likely to change on day 1? The website, telephone number – not a lot else  
All retained staff will transfer to the new council under TUPE regulations (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment)).

The NCC Services, Assets and Liabilities to be split between the two new Unitary Councils.

Some Services that might not be split on day 1, include ICT network maintenance, archives, archaeology, waste disposal because of contracts; these will be split later.

There are two strands of work to create the new Unitary Council:

1. Transition for Day 1
2. Transformation – creating a council that works in partnership to provide 21st century services that meet residents’ needs

The Programme for all this work is currently being finalised.

NCALC has been involved in two workshops to help develop the vision and culture for the new council. There will be opportunities in the future for wider Town & Parish Council involvement.

Whatever happens in relation to the Unitary Council decision the next Local Elections will almost certainly be held in May 2020 regardless. The point at which new vacancies don’t have to be filled expected to be 30th September (should be confirmed in the SCO).

It is expected that new Town Councils will be formed for Corby, Wellingborough and Kettering. It is unlikely there will be any immediate changes to Town and Parish Council responsibilities – ENC has already devolved more than other areas.

**Sharn Mathews**  
**Executive Director ENC**

=====

#### **APPENDIX B - WARD COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**

Apologies that I could not be in attendance tonight.

I attended the last parish meeting and was interested to hear what is happening in Glapthorn.

It’s been a busy few weeks since I became your new County Councillor. I know Glapthorn well, having been your District Councillor for some years. However, I now have wider responsibilities and I am very much enjoying the challenge. I’m working closely with all my parishes to look at funding opportunities and to assist wherever I can. I have been working really hard in Kingscliffe to support their wonderful Wild places and Underground initiatives, to name but a few. I’m really keen to get involved with as many community projects as possible.

In Glapthorn, I’m very happy to continue to support the playing field proposal and it’s wonderful to see the funding coming through.

In Oundle, I've been keeping a close eye on the north bridge, and the ongoing traffic implications for the surrounding villages. Never an easy solution as there will always be a knock-on effect from roadworks, but working together can hopefully minimise disruption.

It's going to be an interesting year moving towards a Unitary authority. I'm afraid that we still have no decision from the Secretary of State with regards to the shape of the new councils. This was expected before the Easter break, but the unspeakable B word has delayed things.

I'm proud to be your representative moving forward into new exciting times. Any comments or ideas which you feel could be relevant, please do feel free to feed back to me. I cannot promise to solve problems, but do always strive to listen, respond and to try to get the best possible overall outcome for our rural NORTHAMPTONSHIRE villages. We face very different issues to the southern towns, and it is vital that our voice and priorities are heard.

**Annabel Capell de Brooke**

=====

## **APPENDIX C – COMMUNITY REPORTS**

### **GLAPTHORN PARISH COUNCIL**

**New Parish Councillors** - During the year three councillors resigned from the council; Ian Hood, Tim Hunt and Liz Wilkinson. The council thanked them all for their service and welcomed Alan Barnish, David Chapple and Nerissa Buchanan as new Parish Councillors.

**Traffic and speeding** – the council received support for the Northamptonshire Community Speed Watch initiative with 12 volunteers from the village coming forward for training to enable them to use the speed device and associated equipment. The equipment will be shared in alternate weeks between Glapthorn and Cotterstock, and started on the 1st April.

A grant from our District Councillor, Annabel de Capel Brook, will be used towards the purchase of a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) to be located on Benefield Road opposite the school. This is a planning condition set by Highways for the playing field planning application. A second VAS will be installed on the same road, funded by the planning applicant, as a condition of the planning permission granted for the building of two dwellings on land adjacent to the allotments.

**Flooding** – the Pathfinder II Flooding Resilience Project, run by Northamptonshire County Council not only yielded a comprehensive report but also funded a CCTV survey of the drains and gullies under Upper Main Street by Brookside. The subsequent report revealed a mass of roots in the pipes that will require specialist equipment to cut the roots in situ. The survey also highlighted other issues such as pipe displacement and a short section that is severely cracked. Meanwhile, also funded by the Pathfinder II grant of £3,000 in total, the council arranged for the clearance of the silt and tree debris from the Brook by the bridge and excavated the nearby ditch.

Although it may be argued that the improved drainage system has not yet been severely tested with torrential downpours there has been no remote prospect of flooding in the vicinity of the Brook with the heavy rainfalls so far experienced this year. Hopefully blockage of the road due to flooding is now a thing of the past.

**Finance** – during the summer the village agreed, through consultation and a vote, to approve a long-term loan to fund part of the proposed playing field project. It is anticipated that this loan will be drawn down sometime during the current financial year. Therefore, the budget for 2019-20, in addition to usual expenses, made provision to cover the first-year loan repayments. Consequently, the Precept for 2019-20 was increased to £12,300.

**Land between No.1 Brookside and the Brook** - the council has agreed licence terms with Spire Homes, at a peppercorn rent, to use the land between Brookside and the Brook as a "pocket park", and to develop the site into an area of managed native species planting, with gated access, a pathway, wooden benches, nesting boxes etc. When completed the site will hopefully provide an area for calm relaxation for all our residents.

**Winter Roads Maintenance** – with NCC cutting back on road gritting the council took on ownership of one of their grit bins whilst adding another of their own by the school. This gives the Parish Council responsibility for four grit bins in the village. They are clearly signed. The council also has a small stock of road grit/salt but what it does not have is unlimited labour to refill the bins. It would be appreciated if those living close to one the bins make use of the stock by distributing the grit onto any nearby public path and road surface, as and when required.

**Glaphorn Neighbourhood Plan** – in July the Glaphorn Neighbourhood Plan was adopted by ENC. It received widespread praise. The whole community is indebted to those who gave their time and skills over the two years preparing the plan.

A report on the GNP will delivered separately.

**Council of the Year** –Councillors and the community at large were pleasantly surprised but proud to be informed that Glaphorn had been named as ‘2018 Northamptonshire Council of the Year’ by Northamptonshire Association of Local Councils.

**Glaphorn News Group** – communication with the residents of Glaphorn is very important to the council. As well as the website and the notice board; both Twitter and Facebook, the Clerk also holds an email group for the few occasions when it is important to send out information directly to residents in a timely manner. Please contact the Clerk if you would like your name to be added.

**Playing Field Project** –this will be reported on separately.

**Malcolm Moss**  
**Chairman**

=====

#### **GLAPTHORN ALLOTMENT GARDENERS’ ASSOCIATION**

This has been another successful year for Glaphorn Allotment Gardeners’ Association with produce being joyfully shared and consumed.

Our major task this past year has been to complete the renewal of our lease with The Church Land Trust. The new lease has been signed with some slight changes to the wording of the agreement and is for a period of 5 years at an annual rental of £750.00 per annum. The increase in annual rent has necessitated an increase in the annual rental cost to plot holders. All our plots are currently taken. The committee and plot holders would like to thank both the Church Land Trust and the GAGA committee members for their time and effort taken in reaching the new agreement.

We are grateful to all our supporters for their interest and help in maintaining the allotments. In particular we would like to thank Chris and Monica Crosby for their continuing interest, help and support with GAGA. The site continues to be in good order thanks to our volunteers who quietly do a considerable amount of maintenance.

This year we have purchased a second-hand mulching mower as the mower kindly donated to us seven years ago is now struggling somewhat although it is still working.

Our water costs are again reasonable thanks to sensible use by plot holders and also to the use of the water harvested from the roof of the communal shed.

Our finances are in good order and our accounts have been professionally audited by Bulley Davey on a charitable basis for which we are very grateful.

The allotments truly are an asset to Glapthorn Village and Glapthorn residents are most welcome to come and walk around our allotments to see how productive our site is.

To conclude, GAGA continues to be a great success thanks to all the help, support and interest of those involved. For more information about GAGA please contact The Secretary.

**Heather Ball  
Secretary**

=====

## **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

In 2022 our village WI will be 50 years old and I am pleased to report that in 2019 we are in good shape with a good mix of ages and interests. We have now embraced a more modern approach and communicate by email to reduce the business in our meetings and also have our own Facebook account/page. However, we do also enjoy the traditions of WI and each month we enjoy our spirited rendition of Jerusalem.

We currently have a membership of over 30. We of course are delighted to welcome new members. If anyone is interested to come along, they can do so as a visitor. There is a cost of £4 per visit. This of course includes the speaker for the evening and refreshments. I have with me some copies of the 2019 programme. Our meetings are also mentioned in the village newsletter. The costs are £42 per annum with a £1 fee per meeting to cover refreshments. Membership is not only open to villagers...I for example come from Apethorpe.

As well as the usual meetings we have a Christmas meal, a New Year party and a summer outing. We have a knit and natter group that meets monthly and we have a quiz team who are competing in a county WI quiz event.

We like to participate in village life. We have planted the pots outside the village hall for all to enjoy. We also provide tea and cake at the Shortwood event in May. Do please come along, eat your body weight in cake and find out a little bit more about what we get up to!

We enjoy a range of speakers and where possible we enjoy a bit of audience participation with everything from belly dancing to willow weaving.

I have with me some copies of the 2019 programme. Our meetings are also mentioned in the village newsletter.

The tone of our WI is one of fun and friendship. We do hope to see you soon!

**Sian Fox  
President**

=====

## **ROYAL OAK CLUB**

During 2018/19 The Royal Oak Club continued to flourish, holding supper nights on most Friday evenings throughout the year. Highlights were the Tropical evening, Sixties Night, and Christmas Lunch which were all attended by over 50 members.

In general attendances have increased, due in part to new members joining from the Old Farm Lane and Braesby developments and also because of continuing popularity from existing members.

As a consequence, since last year, volunteer chefs have been permitted, if they choose, to set a maximum number to encourage those who might otherwise be uncomfortable cooking for a large number of people. This has done nothing to diminish the popularity of our supper nights, and if anything has encouraged members to book early.

The year has not been without its challenges, however, when the Club came on to the radar of East Northants Council who ruled that the Club's activities, specifically, catering to 'guests' who were non-members, placed it under the heading of a 'Food Business'. As such the Club would have had to register with the Environmental Health Office, and would have been subject to its procedures and inspection. After much debate, and following an EGM, it was felt that registering would place too great a burden of inspection and administration on our volunteer chefs who are crucial to our operation, and who almost unanimously were reluctant to continue offering their services in such an environment. It was decided, therefore, to change our rules so that the Club would no longer admit members' guests, but would widen the membership criteria by allowing members' close family and former residents of Glapthorn parish to apply for membership. In this way, the majority of those who previously came as guests could attend as members, and the Club would not be obliged to register with ENC.

Financially the Club remains on a sound footing. Our activities this year have generated surplus income, this despite having to purchase a new glasswasher at a cost of £1,300. Donations totalling £1,000 have been made to The Village Hall, Glapthorn Church, Glapthorn WI and Glapthorn Village Show. This will leave a balance on hand that the Club committee have judged will comfortably support our activities for the coming year.

Following this year's AGM, a new chairman was elected, and for the first time in a number of years a full complement of ten members have been voted on to the committee. Encouragingly, this includes several younger members.

The Club would like to take this opportunity to place on record its gratitude to the Village Hall Committee, for their work in providing and maintaining a splendid venue for the Club to operate.

With a growing and enthusiastic membership, a newly invigorated committee, and healthy finances, the Royal Oak Club is looking forward to continuing to provide an enjoyable, regular meeting place for all residents of Glapthorn Parish.

**Steve Grossman**  
**Chairman**

=====

## **SOUTHWICK AND GLAPTHORN VILLAGE SHOW**

The 55th Village Show was held in Glapthorn Village hall on the 14th July 2017. The sun shone, it was again well supported and the village hall showed entries off to perfection. We were delighted that Mary Schofield presented the prizes.

The 2019 show will be held in Southwick Village Hall on Saturday 6th July. Schedules will soon be delivered to every house in both villages. New categories include 'the most misshapen vegetable', 'gluten free cake' and 'gingerbread man'.

Before then there is a coffee morning and plant sale in Glapthorn Village hall on Saturday 1st June from 10.30 to 12.00. This raises money to help stage the Show.

The Show committee has members from both villages.

- Chair Julie Hyne
- Committee members: Liz Barnish, Monica Crosby, Pauline Davidson, Joy Eastland, Paul Grandidge, Brigitte Hilton, Julie Hyne, Mary Schofield, Ursula Wide.

Our AGM will be held on Thursday 16th September in Glapthorn Village Hall – please come along.

**Pauline Davidson**

=====

## **ST LEONARD'S CHURCH REPORT 2019**

Glaphorn church is in good heart with a regular congregation averaging 25 per Sunday, the special services such as choral evensong and songs of praise are increasingly popular. The 5th Sunday pilgrims' group, which was started last year, is also very well attended. This consists of a short morning service, followed by a lay led, group discussing an aspect of faith and exploring the bible, often resulting in lively discussion.

The church maintains its strong links with Glaphorn school, with a member of the clergy taking a weekly morning worship and the children taking part in family services.

St. Leonards continue to present the school leavers with a bible, this year 18 children will receive a bible before they leave in September.

We continue to explore ways of improving the lighting and sound in church and hope to reach a decision in the near future.

The church and churchyard are well maintained and tidy, this is thanks to an army of helpers who clean the church, put flowers into church and mow the grass. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone. This really is appreciated.

**Brigitte Hilton**

=====

### **GLAPTHORN VILLAGE HALL**

The past 12 months have been exceptionally busy for the Committee. The hall is now approaching its 20th anniversary and, inevitably, both the building and its contents are starting to require extra maintenance and modernisation in order that we can continue to provide facilities of the highest order.

Externally, we have instigated a rolling programme of weeding and vegetation removal along the side pathways and on the parking area and patio area to the rear of the hall.

We have introduced hanging baskets that are changed seasonally in order to enhance the exterior of the building.

All the exterior doors have been re-varnished and the soffit boards have been repainted.

Internally, the main hall walls were repainted in early summer and this week the large crack that had appeared along the apex of the ceiling has been repaired and the ceiling repainted.

We replaced the faulty water heater in the Meeting Room and repaired the flush system in the gents' cloakroom.

A remote-controlled drop-down screen was installed to compliment the equipment purchased on our behalf by the Parish Council in the previous year. This has enhanced the service we provide both for business groups and social events, such as GPFA's horse race evening in October.

Following our Fire Inspection visit at the end of the year we have replaced the extinguisher in the kitchen with a more advanced model.

We purchased a number of small kitchen items and specialist cleaning products to assist the Royal Oak Club in its compliance with Health and Safety requirements following its interactions with East Northamptonshire Council.

We are grateful to the Parish Council for its donation which enabled us to purchase a wall-mounted panel heater for the kitchen, a set of heavy-duty steps, a multi-way extension lead and extension lead covers.

In March Committee members steam-cleaned all the banqueting chairs and folding tables, making a saving of £480, this being the lowest quotation received for the job from professional companies. We are extremely grateful to the Royal Oak committee for their recent very generous donation of £600. This will be spent on replacement of the 2 heaters in the Meeting Room and the installation of a kitchen plinth heater, ensuring that the volunteer cooks and bar staff are more comfortable in the depths of winter!

We now have sufficient funds to replace the heaters in the corridors and main body of the hall and work will commence shortly.

We have also recently applied for grant funding with a view to completing the upgrading of the hall by installing acoustic panelling. Over the past year we have become aware that many attendees at larger gatherings in the hall find noise levels difficult to cope with.

In January we commissioned an acoustic assessment of the hall which identified that sound reverberation levels are currently 2 times higher than is considered tolerable for comfort.

This work will only be undertaken this year if grant funding is made available.

Moving on to revenue, in January the committee reviewed the hire charges for the hall and decided on a small increase – the first in 7 years! This has had no adverse effect on bookings which remain strong. But it is always worth checking on availability even at short notice.

Hire charges, however, only cover basic maintenance and outgoings. In order to undertake larger maintenance and improvement projects it is essential that we organize our own fund-raising activities.

In June our highly entertaining “Chairman’s Fun Night raised over £1000

In October we hosted, on behalf of the Best Village Competition Group, the first ever Glapthorn History Day. This was another very successful event and although this was not essentially a fund-raising activity, over £200 was raised through the sale of refreshments etc.

At the beginning of December Santa visited Glapthorn to switch on the Village Hall Christmas lights. This was another “first” for the village and we are pleased to announce that he has already agreed to visit again this year for what will be a much bigger and better event!

A schedule of events already planned to take place in the Hall during 2019 has been distributed to all households. Highlights of our fund-raising activities this year are the return of the very popular safari supper at the end of July, a night at “the dogs” in September and a black-tie dinner and disco on New Year’s Eve.

We sadly said farewell to one of our Trustees, Jo Hood, at the end of 2018 and we would like to thank her publicly for her valuable contribution.

We currently have vacancies for 2 Trustees to join the Committee and help us manage this facility which is at the heart of village life. Please speak to any member of the Committee if you would like further information.

Finally, we would like to thank all our fellow residents for their continued support of the Hall and we look forward to welcoming you often over the next 12 months.

**Nick Knowles**  
**Chairman**

=====

## **GLAPTHORN SCHOOL**

A current concern for the school is the safety of the children when work on the new house across from the school site begins. Construction traffic will access the building site where there is already limited visibility, and this increases safety concerns during busy drop off and pick up times at the beginning and end of the school day. The current level of traffic is carefully managed with staggered drop off times to our wraparound care service and use of a drop off zone for older children, but adding heavy construction traffic to the mix increases safety concerns.

A solution could be that all construction traffic is parked within the site at all times, ie not on the road or verges, so that visibility is not impaired by parked traffic on the corner, and that the vehicles avoid work between 8.30-9.10am.

**Lou Coulthard**  
**Executive Head**

=====

## **THE 100 CLUB**

This is the eighth year of the 100 Club's existence and what an excellent fund raiser it has proved to be. In the early years we had seventy or eighty members and for the last few years 100, even when we have had members move away or cease their membership, we always seem to have some great villagers to take up the vacant numbers or new people to the village who would like to join.

We have at the moment three numbers available so if you are new to the village or you know a friend or family member that would like a number please contact me.

The money we make goes to the maintenance of our lovely old church in the centre of the village which is used for religious events and secular events. You do not have to be a churchgoer to join. It costs £2 a month and there is a monthly draw of £50.00 and a Christmas draw of £100.00.

The draw is made on the last Friday of the month in the village hall at the Royal Oak Club meal and social evening.

Lastly to all our faithful villagers who have subscribed for many years – it is greatly appreciated!!!!!! I look forward to hearing from you

**Sonya Moss**  
**100 Club Administrator.**

=====

## **WINDY SPIRE DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

The Parish Council has now agreed terms with Spire Homes to assume the tenancy of the site lying between the brook and Number 1 Brookside known as Windy Spire. At its meeting in March the Council agreed to the establishment of a subcommittee to take forward the project of improvement of the site on its behalf.

The subcommittee comprises David Cashmore (Chair), Liz Barnish (Secretary), Alan Barnish (Finance Officer), Ursula Wide (Project Designer), Nerissa Belcher (Community Liaison Officer) and Keith Alvey (Environment and Ecology Advisor).

The plan is for a simple, managed, low maintenance space of predominantly native species planting, with gated access, a pathway and seating area, nesting boxes and an interpretation sign.

When completed the site will:

a) provide an area of calm relaxation and recreation for all our residents.

- b) offer accessibility to our resident wheelchair, buggy and motorised scooter users.
- c) offer the potential for increased biodiversity.
- d) provide an ecology-based learning facility for use by local schoolchildren.
- e) create an attractive, yet natural link between the communities of upper and lower Glapthorn, complementing the Local Green Space, directly opposite on the north side of the highway.

The proposed timetable for the project is as follows:

By the beginning of May, we will have had initial discussions with the planning authority with a view to seeking change of use for the site. We will have received quotations for the supply and installation of the fencing and gates and for the construction of the pathway and seating area. These will be the costliest elements of the project for which we will be seeking grant funding.

Ursula will complete her initial design by the end of April at which stage we will be able to cost up the soft elements of the scheme.

We will liaise with local farmers and developers regarding the levelling and preparation of the site by the end of April and aim to complete this work by mid-July.

We intend to bring a costed initial design to the Parish Council in June. The initial design will be shared with those residents living in properties adjacent to the site at the same time.

We have identified 7th July as the date for sharing the scheme with village residents at an all-day event in the Village Hall. The final design will be informed by comments received at this event.

Commencement of the hard-landscaping work will be dependent on the Development Group securing grant funding on behalf of the Parish Council. This is unlikely to take place before mid-late autumn 2019.

Planting will begin when the hard landscaping is complete. If monies are available trees and shrubs could be planted during winter 2019/2020.

We envisage this as being essentially a community-based project. We have already received considerable valuable information and advice from residents with relevant expertise and we would encourage many others to come forward as the project develops – to fund raise and to help with planting etc.

Any residents who are keen to become more involved with the project are invited to contact any member of the development group.

**Dave Cashmore**  
**Chairman**

=====

**ACRE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BEST VILLAGE COMPETITION GROUP**

Firstly – the news that, this year, the competition has been renamed!  
 The ACRE Northamptonshire Best Village Competition is now “The Northamptonshire Village Awards 2019” and its new sponsor is C.P.R.E. (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England), Northamptonshire.

The rules, criteria and entry format have remained unchanged however, and we are pleased to announce that, after 12 months of gathering and compilation of information, our entry is complete. It has been viewed both by the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council which forwarded it to ACRE at the beginning of March. The document will be posted on the website after the closing date for entries on 19th April.

Glaphorn is eligible for entry in two categories - "Best Small Village" and "Best Newcomer to the Awards", both of which carry prizes of £250. A win in either of these categories would mean automatic consideration for the most prestigious award of overall "Best Village" with its prize of £1000.

Each village that enters the competition will be visited by a panel of judges between the end of April and early June. Their visit will last for up to two and a half hours during which they hope to meet a wide cross-section of the village community. An informal meet and greet event will take place in the village hall to which representatives of all the key groups active in the community along with a number of residents will be invited. Eleanor Kerr is currently producing a camera role of Glaphorn life which will play continuously during the event.

The judges will be looking for villages that can demonstrate enterprise, initiative and community spirit as well as how the village environment is cared for.

They will want to know not only what has been done in the past few years to help the community but also our plans for the years ahead.

We are confident that our submission demonstrates that Glaphorn meets and, indeed, exceeds the competition criteria.

The winners will be announced at a presentation evening in Northampton on Tuesday 16th July.

The Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee would like to thank everyone in the village who has contributed so willingly and energetically to this project over the past 12 months – it has been hard work, but it has been fun! Irrespective of the result of the competition in July, the work undertaken has confirmed what we all know – Glaphorn is a great place to live. Furthermore, the project has inspired us all to explore and implement ways in which the quality of life in the village can be enhanced now and in the future.

**Liz Barnish**  
**Coordinator.**

=====

## **MONITORING THE GLAPTHORN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (GNP) IN 2018-19**

1. The Neighbourhood Plan provides that the Parish Council will monitor the Plan on an annual basis. This is the first such monitoring report. Annual reports will be prepared and be available each year for the Annual Parish Meetings.
2. Key policy intentions for Glaphorn in the GNP:
  - a. Appropriate housing in appropriate locations in Glaphorn village
  - b. Encourage design of new houses to reflect local materials
  - c. Promote recreational facilities including provision of a new playing field
  - d. Protect public safety through appropriate measures for traffic calming and provision of parking.

Key actions of others with significant impact on Glaphorn;

- e. Attention paid to GNP by the Development Control Authority (ENC) when considering planning applications
- f. Emerging policies in the ENC Draft Local Plan (Part 2) which may re-enforce or undermine the GNP Policies

- g. Progress on the development of Tresham Garden Village
  - h. Progress on the Oundle Neighbourhood Plan and its implications on sites on the Oundle / Glapthorn boundary and for Oundle as a service center for Glapthorn and other rural communities.
3. The GNP provides that if all the allocated sites are developed then the additions to the housing stock over the full Plan period 2011 to 2031 would be 38. Between 2011 and July 2018 planning permission was granted for a net 16 new dwellings in Glapthorn (18 with 2 demolitions). Since then the following planning applications for additional dwellings have been determined:

Manor Farm Cotterstock Rd	Conversion of Agric Buildings to 3 Dwellings: plus 1 New Dwelling	Application <b>permitted</b>	4
Land Adjacent The Cottage Benefield Road	Erection of 2 new dwellings of 3 bedrooms	Application <b>permitted</b>	2
Leverton Oundle Road	3-bedroom detached dwelling	Application <b>permitted</b>	1

- . A planning application for the Playing Field and Car park is pending (at 31st March 2019)
  - . A further planning application for a 5th dwelling at Manor Barns is anticipated soon.
4. Glapthorn Parish Council is, of course, only a consultee in the consideration of planning applications. The Parish Council has to rely upon ENC (or the Planning Inspectorate in the case of appeals) to adhere to the policies of the GNP. The Parish Council has very limited options available to it should ENC or the Planning Inspectorate not apply GNP Policies as intended. The style of new dwellings in recent years and the materials used have generally been consistent with the Neighbourhood Plan. However, there is a very noticeable preference amongst developers for larger dwellings (4 bedroom plus) which is contrary to the NNJCS assessment of housing need and not in accordance with the GNP Policy 3 that *“proposals must demonstrate how they respond to the particular need for smaller properties and those suitable for retired villagers.”*
5. The Glapthorn Neighbourhood Plan has clearly provided an important policy context for the consideration of planning applications. As such, it has contributed towards meeting the housing needs in the Parish and wider district. The Neighbourhood Plan has set out a clear set of principles in the Policies for site location, relationship of development to the existing built form of the village and respect for the current extent of separation from Oundle. There are some matters of concern however, notably:
- . ensuring that planning decisions properly reflect Policy 11 on mitigating traffic and road safety issues
  - . the need for ENC to adopt schemes to adequately address infrastructure needs arising from both development within the rural areas (particularly in relation to the proposed development of Tresham Village) and from traffic arising from major developments in urban centres
  - . the draft East Northamptonshire Local Plan Part 2 policies on development to the north of Oundle (in Glapthorn).

**Councillor Alan Barnish**

=====

## **GLAPTHORN PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the village who has supported our efforts to purchase the land behind the village school as a recreation space for the whole village. After a lot of effort, we have had some real success in getting some of the funding we need for our project.

East Northamptonshire Council approved a £50,000 Community Facilities Fund grant to Glapthorn Council for the playing field project. We can use this, along with the £60,000 Public Works Loan Board loan, to purchase the land and any associated costs and we have until 31st January 2020 to draw both these sources of money down.

Recently we were informed that Sport England had awarded a £75,000 grant towards our project. We will have to have other funds in place to complete Stage 1 (access road, car park and sports pitch) before we are able to draw down this money, but there are no other strings attached—so no floodlighting and no use restrictions! This is an excellent start and a massive endorsement of the project for attracting further funding. We need another £50-70,000 (depending on tenders) to complete Stage 1 and we have bids in the pipeline totalling £180,000.

We received confirmation of planning consent (with conditions) on the 4th April and the Diocesan Education Board have instructed solicitors to draw up a lease for the access road through part of the school land.

At a recent Parish Council meeting it was decided that the Parish Council would see the project through to the end of Stage 1 and a "Works Committee" (including non-councillors as well as councillors) has been set up to manage the project to deal particularly with the following areas:

- agreeing detailed design issues
- conducting negotiations with land owners
- making arrangements to invite and receive tenders and quotations for work
- preparing and considering cash flow and affordability of the project
- the keeping of separate accounts for the project

It was felt important to retain financial control of the project as taxpayers had voted to increase their council tax to fund the loan repayments. It also means that the VAT can be refunded. The plan is that the PFA will form a charity and plan for the takeover of the project through Stage 2 and its management on completion.

Can you help? If you have any time to spare or skills to offer to this Working Party, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Malcolm Moss ([malcmoss@hotmail.com](mailto:malcmoss@hotmail.com))

**Sue Bradley**  
**Secretary Playing Field association**