

GLAPTHORN PARISH COUNCIL

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Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 19 July 2018

Reports

Agenda item 7 - Referendum report

Purpose of report

This report provides an update on result of the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum held on 5 July 2018.

Result of the Referendum

Following the Referendum held on 5 July 2018, the Returning Officer, David Oliver, announced the result, as follows:

The question asked was, "Do you want East Northamptonshire District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Glapthorn Area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood planning area?"

From an electorate of 228, 140 ballot papers were returned, this being a **61% turnout**.

The number cast in favour of **YES was 123 (88%)**. The number cast in favour of NO was 17 (12%)

The number of ballot papers rejected was zero.

The Neighbourhood Plan will be 'made' at the next ENC meeting which I believe is 30th July, meanwhile I am advised that the Glapthorn Neighbourhood Plan has 'full development plan weighting' with immediate effect.

Since announcing the referendum result I have received many congratulatory messages complimenting the council, not only on the result but the magnificent turnout. Danny Moody said, "The Yes vote (88%) is in line with what we see elsewhere, but the turnout (61%) is huge!! It shows that people were really engaged with it and value having an NP [in Glapthorn]. Well done GPC... punching above its weight yet again!

Agenda item 10 - A report about Land owned by Spire Homes

Purpose of report

To consider taking on responsibility of the piece of land, owned by Spire Homes, adjacent to 1 Brookside and the Brook, on a licence basis for a rent of £1 per calendar month.

Land adjacent to the Brook, owned by Spire Homes

Spire Homes are willing to let the piece of land next to the bungalow on Brookside, by the bridge for a peppercorn rent. This land is unsuitable for development but would make an interesting pocket park or just a wild flower meadow - rather than an ugly piece of waste land as it is now.

The rent is proposed at £1.00 per calendar month. A licence will be drawn up along the lines of the following:

Licensee's obligations (that'll be the Parish Council)

1. Pay the fees
2. Keep the area clean & tidy
3. Not to use the area for anything other than the permitted use (we would need to define this)
4. Not to alter or add to the area
5. Not to display any advertisements/billboards etc
6. Not to use the area for illegal or immoral purposes
7. To indemnify the licensor (Spire Homes) against all losses & claims arising from the licence or breach of the licence.

Members are asked to review this proposal and suggest any changes as appropriate, then decide if this is something the Council wishes to pursue.

The Clerk is advised that the ACRE Best Village Competition Team are willing to support the proposal.

Agenda item 12 - NCC reduced winter maintenance

Purpose of report

To consider the impact of the NCC reduced Winter Highways Maintenance programme for 2018/19 and in particular the reduction in gritting routes and provision of salt bins.

NCC Revised Winter Maintenance Programme

Northamptonshire County Council has announced its plans for their Winter Maintenance Programme for 2018/19, which includes cut backs on road gritting and the replenishment of grit bins.

For Glapthorn, the only road that will be gritted as a 'Precautionary' measure will be the Oundle - Southwick road. The Benefield to Cotterstock road, and Main street are downgraded to 'Adverse'. So, what does this mean?

'Precautionary' routes are treated if the temperature is forecast to be plus 0.5 deg between midday and midday in any 24 h period.

'Adverse' conditions are when there is an accurate forecast of snow, or the forecast of zero temps for 48 hours or more.

The grit bin by Shortwood House on Benefield Road is due to be removed because it failed reach the required minimum 'score' of 5 when considered against the following criteria: on a sharp bend; at a junction; on a steep gradient; not on the precautionary salting network; there is another bin within 150m; it is nearby to a community facility (Doctors, Schools etc.)

I have written to ask if it may be left in place to allow the Parish Council to replenish it along with the three we already look after on Main Street. The bins will need to be self-filled with an authorised product (as per our red bins). We have a small stock of grit stored by Jonathan Reading in a barn just inside his farm.

The Members are asked to consider if they are in agreement to take ownership of the said grit bin.

Agenda item 13 - CallConnect Bus Service

Purpose of report

To receive an update on the CallConnect Bus Service.

Call Connect Bus Service

I received notification that ENC will release £10,000 to support the CallConnect Bus Service, provided that written assurance of contributions from Town and Parish Councils was received by 30th June 2018 of at least £15,000 for 2018/19 and £30,000 in 2019/20.

I wrote to ENC, acknowledging that there is a need for this service in some areas more than others, whilst reaffirming that Glaphorn Parish Council is unable to pledge any financial support. I reiterated the council's view that if the service is to be retained it should be funded by the County and/or the District council(s).

16 July Latest news

To date only c.£7,000 has been pledged from the towns and villages so it is looking likely the CallConnect Service will end on 31st August. The final decision rests with the Executive Director of ENC.

Agenda item 14 - Flood Warden

Purpose of report

To receive an update from the Flood Warden on activity to alleviate flooding on Main Street by Brookside.

Flood prevention measures

We await the results of the CCTV survey which was recently conducted on Main Street examining the state of the gullies and drains leading into the Brook.

The Chairman and I visited the team during their survey and became aware that there are a number of places where tree roots have broken through the pipes and some areas of pipe damage. The team also confirmed the silt level in the bottom of the brook so high, water in the pipes/gullies fails to run away.

As part of our Pathfinder II project grant (still to be obtained but promised) we shall not only pay for the CCTV survey, but, rather than clear the whole stretch of the Brook from the Main Street to Southwick Road, just clear the area around the bridge. I await a revised quotation from Landtech for this work.

Agenda item 15 - Playing Field Association

Purpose of report

To receive an update from the Playing Field Association

Following the Parish Council's resolution in May to consult with the electorate, to seek approval for an application for a Public Works Loan Board loan to cover part or all of the upfront costs of applying for grant-aid, and to consider partly or wholly covering the cost of the land and access road, with the repayments being added to the annual Precept (Council Tax), a consultation letter has been delivered to the village residents. This will be followed up by a personal visit by a 'Playing Fields Association' team member who will explain the position the procedure for voting on the options to raise funds. T

he consultation period will conclude with a secret ballot beginning the week of the 30th July with the official count on Friday 3rd August in the village hall at 7.00pm. The results of that ballot will be brought to the Parish Council who will decide on the way forward.

Meanwhile, the group are preparing a bid to the East Northamptonshire Council's Community Facilities Fund. Our application to Grantscape's Mick George Community Fund was unsuccessful.

Agenda item 16 - ACRE Best Village Competition

Purpose of report

To receive an update from the ACRE Best Village Competition Committee.

Report following the third meeting of the group

At earlier meetings the activities and services currently available in the village was considered and a wide-ranging list of new ideas was agreed.

ACTIVITIES

- An informal Art group.
- A "Singing for Pleasure" group.
- Monthly coffee mornings.
- A Glapthorn History Day.

SERVICES

- The "Welcome to Glapthorn" leaflet for new residents to be reviewed and updated, if appropriate.
- The establishment of an information centre in the church.
- The Community Newsletter to be upgraded.
- The establishment of a "Handy Andy" Team to carry out small, one-off household/garden jobs, mainly for the more elderly residents, but also to undertake small maintenance jobs that are costly for the Parish Council to fund.
- The establishment of a "Tech Team", again, mainly to help the more elderly with I.T. support, TV tuning etc.
- The establishment of a "Green Team" to identify, plan, plant and maintain areas in the village for future enhancement.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

- A "Share your Spare" scheme whereby gardeners offer their excess produce to residents free of charge.
- Establish a "Tidy Up Week" to coincide with Litter Pick Week when residents will be encouraged to mow and weed their frontages, trim back hedges and overhanging shrubs and clear gutters of plant debris.
- Encourage the use of companies such as "Milk and More" to reduce plastic usage and reduce the carbon footprint.

All these initiatives are now underway.

The Art group will begin early in the Autumn, as will the singing group, if a suitable leader is found. The first coffee morning will be held on Friday 10th August. All will be welcome, especially mums with young children – toys and books will be provided.

Pauline Davidson has tweaked the “Welcome to Glapthorn” booklet and is working on developing the information centre in the church. Pauline hopes to have the new look format for the community newsletter ready for the next edition, in the Autumn. A “Handy Andy” team has been assembled and is ready to undertake the redecoration of the bridge railings, if the Council is prepared to finance the purchase of the materials. The month between 22nd September and 20th October has been set aside for the project.

The “Green Team”, led by Ursula Wide, is to organise an open gardens event in June 2019 to raise funds for the Cransley Hospice.

Plans are in place to plant up three strategic locations with spring-flowering bulbs this Autumn. These are:

- the triangle at the junction of Main Street and Southwick Road,
- the church frontage and
- the Brookside banks

We envisage that the cost of bulbs and plants will be around £350 and £400 and it is likely that we will be approaching the PC for financial support for the project. We hope to make the planting process a community event with many people from the village getting involved.

The ACRE Best Village Group would like to see better use made of the open space between the brook and No 1 Brookside, at present a neglected area, owned by Spire Homes. Therefore, the group urge the Council to agree terms of use with the owners (as per the council’s agenda item 10 on 19 July).

The team has a number of ideas for its future use, including a low maintenance, formal park area; a small community orchard or a managed wild flower area. The group is ready to draw up plans for the space and assist with fund raising etc.

A leaflet describing the “Share your Spare” has been produced and distributed throughout the village.

Liz Barnish, on behalf of the Village Hall Committee, and the Parish Council, would like to thank everyone who has volunteered to serve on the ACRE Best Village Group for their support, their time and their remarkable commitment which has enabled us to achieve much in a very short time period.

Agenda item 19 - Clerk’s report

Purpose of report

This regular report provides a brief update on activity since the last ordinary council meeting, which may not be covered under the meeting agenda.

Clutter in field by Braesby Lane

I am receiving more complaints about how the entrance to the village from the north on Southwick Road is blighted by the presence of discarded machinery and outbuildings etc. in the field by Braesby Lane. I have written to the landowner and asked him to tidy the area, reiterating the concern that if there was to be a flood, some of the items may well float and cause an obstruction of the waterway etc.

The removal of the items from the old Braesby site was a requirement of the planning application for Braesby Lane. This was complied with, but the clutter has been brought

back to a new location which I suggested to the landowner was not within the spirit of the order.

I also pointed out to the landowner that during the making of the Glaphorn Neighbourhood Plan (Policy 5) the view of the village when approaching from Southwick was deemed as one of the protected views of Glaphorn and suggested this will be something that will be considered, if and when an application is made to develop site B15.

My letter went on to say, the selection of machinery and other items are slowly being consumed by the hedgerow and wild vegetation, until winter liberates it again and wet conditions prevent its removal. Therefore, the Parish Council would like to see everything removed whilst weather conditions are good enough to enable the work to take place. This should be completed by 30th September. I await a response.

NatWest Bank

Following the closure of the Oundle Branch of NatWest Bank, the Parish Council account has been moved to the Corby Branch at 25 Corporation Street.

Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

As directed, I have set up membership of the ICO and submitted a Direct Debit instruction to obtain the reduced annual fee of £35.00.

Footpath Warden's Report

I have submitted to Footpath Warden's report to the Rights of Way Officer for this area, Sarah Cureton, and contacted various landowners as appropriate.

Agenda item 21 - Finance report:

21.1 To receive a report on the financial position as at 30th June 2018:

Opening balance (as at 1 st July)	£ 10,794.47
Receipts during period	£ 3,824.13
Payments during period	£ <u>3,110.83</u>
Balance as per Cash Book	£ 11,507.77

21.2 Bank reconciliation as at 30th June 2018:

Balance per bank statement	£ 11,507.77
Less un-presented cheques	£ <u>0.00</u>
Net balance	£ 11,507.77

21.3 To receive an update on performance against performance as at 30 June

- Receipts are on budget – no change.
- Payments are under budget – surplus £245.86 plus contingency sum of £342.32
- There remains an allocated reserve of £4,000 for this year, if required, plus an unallocated reserve of £5,700.72

21.4 To approve the following receipts & payments:

Payments:

Date	Payee	Details	Amount £
01-Jun	SALIX	Loan payment	300.00
01-Jun	Vincent Sykes	Fees letter to landowner Playing	307.20
04-Jun	Inkwell Printing	Neighbourhood Plan leaflets	59.00
19-Jun	Futura direct (A	Storage safe for projector remote	54.90
19-Jun	Alan Tresadern	Clerk's Honorarium from NP Group	160.00
19-Jun	Inkwell Printing	Neighbourhood Plan leaflets	61.00
19-Jun	Colemans	Stationery	163.91
29-Jun	The Print	Copies of Neighbourhood Plan	300.00
29-Jun	Alan Tresadern	Clerk's Salary April to June incl.	535.74
01-Jun	Alan Tresadern	Clerk's Expenses April to June	95.43

Alan Tresadern
Clerk to the Parish Council