

GREAT LIVERMERE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Great Livermere Annual Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 21st July 2021 7:00 in Great Livermere Village Hall

Present. Cllrs H Johnston, A Johnston, S Charlton, R Charlton, A Norburn & C.Cllr R Hopfensperger.

1. **Apologies for absence** Cllr A Hudson & W.S Councillor S Brown

2. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. None.

2.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act. None.

3. **Minutes** – The minutes of the Monday 3rd May 2021 meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. **Meeting open to the public** 2 members present.

The issue of overgrown footpaths was raised. This was discussed under item 5, Cllr Hopfensperger's report.

5. **Report from County Councillor:** R Hopfensperger.

To include update on Bus stop, condition of Troston Road pavement and Drains.

Cllr Hopfensperger reported that all verge cutting would be completed by the 16th August. This would include the works to the pavement on Troston Road. The footpaths should also be cut. The drainage works should be completed by the end of July. Cllr Hopfensperger asked that we inform her if this was not the case. SCC are speaking to the bus operator to ensure that the bus stops, at Park Farm, upon request. Cllr Hopfensperger will let the Parish Council know once this has been confirmed.

Cllr Hopfensperger told the Councillors that she could offer some funding for a local event and towards costs of repair to the village sign.

6. **Report from West Suffolk Councillor:** S. Brown

To include update on Funding for Community & Village Support and Boundary Reviews.

Cllr Brown was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report:

Funding for Community & Village Support

I'm really keen to offer support financially to the village and local facilities, whether it be use of Village Hall or Church premises, for any events or activities. This could be a one off or weekly/monthly. Breakfasts, Lunches, BBQ or weekend gathering. Money is tight for many and so are the options for coming together. If there is anything that comes to mind, please do let me know. Key for this, is that there's continuation of activities after Covid. I'm happy to be part of a separate group involved with organising some things and can meet at the weekend to get kick things off.

Boundary Reviews

Information about the review and the proposals can be viewed on the [BCE website](#) and [Eastern | BCE Consultation Portal \(bcereviews.org.uk\)](#). The consultation is open until 2 August 2021 and responses can be submitted [here](#). If you have any queries regarding the review please contact the BCE team on 020 7271 1102, or email information@boundarycommissionengland.gov.uk.

Grass Cutting

West Suffolk District Council are working through the requirements of grass cutting. Please visit www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/grasscutting for updates.

Supportive free activities for young people

An initiative to provide a summer of free activities is available for young people. Delivered by Abbeycroft Leisure, there are a range of activities including archery, campfires, orienteering, terrible-tales, fresh pizza making (and eating) amongst others and holiday camps. Please visit www.infolink.suffolk.gov.uk or Families can book via an interactive map at [Holiday Activity and Food \(HAF\) programme | Community Directory \(suffolk.gov.uk\)](#) If they have any queries they can email families.communities@westusffolk.gov.uk

7. Progress reports. For information, from:

7.1. Chairman

7.1.1 Refurbishment of village sign.

The village sign is in a poor state of repair. The Clerk has been in contact with a contractor, from Troston, who recently refurbished the sign there. Cllr Hopfensperger also suggested that we contact Gt Barton Parish Council as they have recently had their sign refurbished. **Action Clerk.**

7.1.2 To discuss a possible jubilee event 2022

It was understood that the village hall committee are planning an event in on the 4th June 2022, between 2 and 5pm. It will be a family occasion with activities for the children. The committee are looking at getting some professional catering; they are working on putting a budget together and will then be looking for help with funding. As mentioned in Cllr Hopfensperger's report, she should be able to make a donation . It is also likely that Cllr Brown would be able to make a financial contribution. Cllrs S & R Charlton said they would be happy to volunteer to help out with planning and help on the day. Cllr H Johnston will ask the committee if they want a joint event with Troston.

Action Cllr H Johnston

7.1.3 Great and Little Livermere Feoffment Fund members

Cllr H Johnson confirmed that, although a member of the parish council would be welcome to come on the committee of the Great and Little Livermere Feoffment Fund, there was no constitutional requirement to have a Parish Council representative.

7.2 Clerk:

7.2.1 Update on new bench

The new bench

The new bench has been delivered. A working party was arranged for the 5th August, at 5pm to look at moving and installing the new bench. **Action All**

7.2.2 Confirmation of Insurance renewal.

Following a comparison of cover and costs, it was decided to change to a new provider, as they seem to offer the best value for money. Our insurance is now held with BHIB. As part of the deal, we have received a free year's subscription to Parishonline, which is a useful mapping app.

7.2.3 Confirmation of submission re SCC boundary review.

Following an update from the Boundary Commission, showing another option, the Clerk made the following submission

The Parish Council are pleased to see that Great Livermere are being recommended to stay in a ward with our close neighbour Troston. We have built a close relationship over the years. In particular, we have recently worked closely completing a footpath project together and we are still working on a new footpath link between the villages. In addition, both Great Livermere and Troston employ the same Parish Clerk.

We share common issues with our other, rural, neighbours that we would not necessarily share with the more urban areas that we would find ourselves linked in with in the Brandon ward.

Transport links in our area are with Bury St Edmunds and we have little connection with the Brandon Area. We feel that the most appropriate placement for both Gt Livermere and Troston

would be in the Blackbourne ward. Both are served by their main hub at Ixworth which currently sits and is proposed to remain in the Blackbourne ward.

Our County Council, Cllr R Hopfensperger supports our recommendations to keep Troston and Great Livermere in the same ward. The current communality she experiences between her urban parishes enables her to peruse shared solutions to shared issues. This would not be the case if we were moved in to the Brandon Ward. We object to being moved in to a ward to 'make up the numbers' rather than to best meet the needs of our residents.

In summary we would like to see Great Livermere and Troston stay together and be included in the Blackbourne Ward.

8 Finance.

8.1 The following accounts were approved for payment

BHIB	Insurance	£427.84
Realise futures	Improvements	£473.56
Various	Admin	£543.20
Jeff Wells	Bus shelter	£20.00
D Thrower	grass Cutting	£496.00
D Thrower	grass Cutting Church	£200.00
Tramar	play area	£120.00

8.2 Bank reconciliation and accounts update.

The Clerk provided and up to date budget report, schedule of payments for July and a bank reconciliation.

8.3 AGAR update

The Clerk has received confirmation that the AGAR has been received by PKF Littlejohn. She has uploaded all the required documents to the website.

9 Footpaths

9.1 Post and rights of way makers, update.

Most of the way markers have been put up; there are a couple of posts still to go in.

9.2 Update on rights of way issues

The damaged wall, on the footpath between the Church and The Street, has been reported again to SCC Rights of Way.

Footpath across the field towards Ixworth is now passable.

The footpath across the field, off Bury Road, just before Woodgate Cottage, is not passable, because of the sown crop.

Action Clerk

The bridge, previously reported as overgrown, is in a poor state of repair. The path on either side of the bridge is very overgrown.

Action Clerk

The footpath behind the church is very overgrown.

It was suggested a meeting with the Rights of Way Office would be beneficial. The clerk will set this up.

Action Clerk

10. Highway/village matters

10.1 Condition of Livermere Road pavement.

This was discussed under item 5, Cllr Hopfensperger's report.

11. Play area

11.1 Play area report, monthly and annual, circulated.
Noted.

11.2 Play area repairs, update

The play area repairs have been completed. Cllr A Johnson will look at the next phase of works for the play area. This will include options for the hedge. **Action Cllr A Johnson**

12 Planning Matters to include any applications/decisions received since the agenda was posted.
None received.

13 Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

It was agreed to look again at positions for some new VAS posts. The Clerk will circulate the map used previously and an exercise will be undertaken to look at sites. **Action Cllr A Johnson/Clerk**

14. Correspondence for information

The Clerk has received information regarding Emergency Plans. She will do some work on a template supplied and forward this on to Cllr H Johnson so that she can do some further work on the document. **Action Cllr H Johnston/Clerk**

15. Date for next meetings: It was agreed that, going forward, we would plan on meeting on the third Wednesday of every other month. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th September 2021.

16. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:

16.1 Personnel Issues.

16.2 Legal Issues.