

GREAT LIVERMERE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Great Livermere Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 24th March 2021 7:30pm via zoom

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

The chairman, Cllr H Johnston, began the meeting by expressing our shock and sadness at the sudden passing of a member of our Parish Council, Brian Bryers. Brian was a valued member of the Parish Council and his input will be greatly missed. Our thoughts are with his wife, who we will continue to support at this difficult time.

1. **Apologies for absence** Cllr 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** - Minutes of Wednesday 27th January 2021 meeting agreed and approved as a correct record.

4. **Meeting open to the public** None present.

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

Cllr Hopfensperger provided a full report from Suffolk County Council. This is available upon request. Cllr Hopfensperger informed the Councillors that there will be an increase to the precept this year of 1.99% with an additional 2% increase in the budget for Adult Social Care. Adult social care accounts for 70% of the whole budget. The Parish Council were pleased to hear that Highways have allocated an extra £2m to support the fight against flooding. The drains reported previously have still not been jetted. The works have been ordered, Cllr Hopfensperger will chase this up. She will also ensure that the area goes on a schedule for regular cleansing. The pavement, along Troston Road still needs clearing, as discussed at the last meeting. Cllr Hopfensperger will follow this up with West Suffolk Council on our behalf.

6. **Report from B. Councillor:** S. Brown

Cllr Brown did not attend the meeting.

7. **Progress reports. For information, from:**

7.1. **Chairman**

The Chairman had no additional report to make.

7.2 **Clerk:**

7.2.1 Church Road. Replacement trees, update on progress.

Cllrs Hudson, S Charlton, R Charlton and the Clerk met with Natasha from the Sicon Charity. It was agreed that the Charity will plant 2 mature oak trees to replace those that have fallen down. They will look to do this around the end of October.

7.2.2 Litter pick. To discuss possibility of a village litter pick

We will be able to hold a litter pick this year but West Suffolk will not be able to provide the litter picking equipment. However they are encouraging families or bubbles of people to go out and about if they have their own pickers or anything similar. After the 29th March groups of 6 people will be allowed to meet outside.

West Suffolk could supply bags and these can be collected from a central location after 72 hours or residents could leave council authorised bags by their appropriate bin. The Clerk has sourced some litter picking equipment from another parish so it was agreed to go ahead with a litter pick on Saturday 10th April at 10am. The Parish Council will make sure it is a Covid safe event.

7.2.3 Website, to discuss options for the website.

The website could do with some work. Cllr Norburn will work with the Clerk on this.

8 Finance.

8.1 The following payments were approved for payment.

	Admin	£581.92
Tramar	play area	£395.00

8.2 The Clerk provided details of the transaction for approval, an up to date bank reconciliation and a budget report.

8.3 Internal Audit Review

Cllr R Charlton agreed to carry out the internal audit review. The Clerk will drop the accounts over.

Action Cllr R Charlton/Clerk

9 Footpaths

9.1 Post for way markers

There is still some discussion over how many post are needed for the post markers. Cllr S Charlton and Cllr Norburn will check on this. There is a company in Newmarket who can deliver the posts for a reasonable price. Once the amount of post has been ascertained, Cllr S Charlton will confirm the price with the Chairman and Clerk and then order them in. Cllr Hudson offered the use of his ride lawn mower and trailer to transport the posts etc. to where they need to be.

Action All

9.2 Update on rights of way issues

The Rights of Way officer reported that the field that Bridleway 1 (Ixworth) runs through has been 'rough ploughed' but the line of the route has been 'drilled', which marks the bridleway clearly across the field. Unfortunately, the horrible weather we had through Jan/Feb left it very wet to walk; this was a common problem across the County but something that, unfortunately, there was little SCC could do to remedy. Now the weather has improved, they have walked the route and reported that it is much firmer under foot.

Regarding the other complaint regarding the overgrown bridge the ROW Officer said they were impressed that our reporter found the bridge! It is so overgrown they had a job to spot it – they don't think anyone will have walked it in some time. They will contact the landowner and ask that action is taken to clear it.

10. Highway/village matters

10.1 Condition of Livermere Road pavement.

This was covered under item 5. C.Cllr Hopfensperger report.

11. Play area report

11.1 Report circulated.

11.2 Play area repairs

Tramar have replaced the swing post and cut back the hedge. They will come back in May, when the weather is better to paint some of the equipment. There is still a problem with moles in the play area. The Clerk will speak to David Thrower again about this. Currently it was felt that we would carry out the refurbishment before looking at getting any new equipment. The Clerk will forward details from HAGS to Cllr A Johnston so he can look at possible options for the future.

Action Clerk

12. VAS

12.1 Update on post situations.

There is no update on this at the moment.

13 Planning Matters

None received.

14 Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

No requests made.

15. Correspondence for information

None received.

19. Date for next meetings: either Monday 3rd or 26th May 2021. TBC

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

20.1 Personnel Issues. None.

20.2 Legal Issues. None.