

52 Cross Oak Rd
Berkhamsted,
Herts,
HP4 3HZ

Minutes of Great Gaddesden Parish Council Meeting

held at **8.00pm on Monday, 16th November 2020**

Online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84280546777?pwd=T0EyL0swQW02a3AyVFkxZGMrUGduZz09>

And by phone on: 0203 481 5237 or 0131 460 1196

Present: Councillors L Wilson (Chair), B Cosbie Ross, K Fitzgerald, J Lowrie, R MacGillivray, T Martin and M Stodell.

In attendance: Cllr B Chapman (Borough Councillor), Cllr T Douris (County Councillor), Cllr J Timmis (Borough Councillor), A Farrow (Parish Clerk).

Agenda number	Agenda subject and action
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20/112	Apologies for Absence - none
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20/113	Interests
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| a. | To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda - none |
| b. | There were no written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and |
| c. | No grants of dispensation were requested. |

20/114	Minutes
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Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th October 2020 and circulated to members be signed as a correct record. Agreed unanimously.

20/115	Outstanding Matters (not covered elsewhere)
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| a. | New litter/dog bins – Borough Councillors to advise whether the policy advised by Dacorum BC that the Parish Council had to pay both for the purchase and servicing of new bins was correct (20/089.a). Cllr Timmis is waiting for a response from Dacorum BC. |
| b. | Bradden Lane hedgerow – Cllr Martin to advise whether the landowners were prepared to cut back the overgrown hedgerow (20/090.c). Large sections have been cut back and if one farmer continues not to respond Cllr Martin will raise the issue with Cllr Douris to discuss with Hertfordshire Highways (20/102.c). Highways officers have been unable to identify a hedge it considers dangerous. Cllr Douris will meet with Cllr Martin when lockdown is over to discuss. Cllr Chapman will talk to Dacorum BC about the legal position if the parish council were to consider cutting back hedges. |
| c. | Style onto water meadow from Pipers Hill - the Gaddesden Estate would investigate how often access needed to be closed to maintain its rights and that subject to that information the Council was open to making some contribution to the repair or replacement of the style in recognition of the public benefit (20/104.b). The Estate has confirmed that subject to the style conforming with disability access legislation and retaining the right to close the footpath from time to time, |



notwithstanding that it has no intent to do so, that it is interesting in exploring the replacement of the style.

Agreed to pursue discussions subject to cost, Cllr Fitzgerald to take forward.

Agreed to consider funding a noticeboard on the water meadow next to the style acknowledging the generosity of the Estate in making it open to the public, the Estate's right to close the footpath, and with details of local history, fauna and flora if that were acceptable to the Estate.

20/116 Public Participation - none

20/117 Correspondence or other communication

- a. **HGV traffic along Water End Rd, traffic survey on the B440 and the charitable status of Great Gaddesden Village Hall.**

Agreed that there needed to be some evidence of an increase in HGV traffic along Water End Rd since the previous survey in 2016 before considering whether to incur the cost of another survey. The Clerk is to ask Nettleden with Potten End PC, who were considering the same communication at its meeting on the 19th November, whether they agreed.

Noted that the traffic survey on the B440 was part of a regular exercise undertaken by Highways for which the Parish Council was not responsible, and that there had been no change in the charitable status of the Great Gaddesden Village Hall.

- b. **Reported Japanese Knotweed**

Noted that Japanese Knotweed had been reported at Bishop's Tip and the Great Gaddesden Water Meadows; neither outbreak had been confirmed or was on land for which the Parish Council was responsible. Cllr Lowrie was co-ordinating action if required.

- c. **Gaddesden Row Methodist chapel – replacement windows**

The replacement windows which were to be partly funded by a grant from the Parish Council which was first agreed in February 2020 with the grant finalised in September 2020 have now been installed. The Chapel Treasurer had written to express his thanks for the support of the Parish Council and Cllr Douris who had also contributed.

20/118 Highways

- a. **Pipers Hill pavement**

Noted that Highways are considering plans to tarmac the footpath opposite the garden centre.

- b. **Ledgemore Lane**

Noted that there are plans to resurface the bottom of Ledgemore Lane in 2021/22.

20/119 Planning

- a. **To note** the responses made to planning applications received after the 19th October 2020 under the Clerk's delegated powers and the date on which those powers were exercised:

20/03048/FUL	Great Gaddesden Primary School, Church Meadow, Great Gaddesden, HP1 3BT	No objection 9 th November 2020
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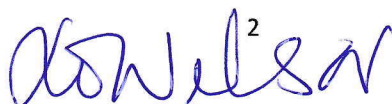
Repairs and partial rebuild of existing flint wall.

- b. **To consider** the following planning applications:

20/03256/FUL	Gade Mead, Pipers Hill, Great Gaddesden, HP1 3BY	Decision deferred
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Conversion of existing garage building into residential unit.

Agreed to defer submitting a response unto the Planning Officer had completed a site visit.



20/03324/FHA 2 Row Meadow Cottages, Gaddesden Row, HP2 6HW No objection
Construction of a new garage block.

- c. **To consider** planning applications received between the date of the agenda and the Council meeting.

20/03454/FUL Plot 2, Cupid Green Lane, Hemel Hempstead No objection
Retrospective change of use of land to mixed agricultural and equestrian use. Creation of a point of access, agricultural/equestrian buildings and hard standing

- d. **Reform of the UK planning system**

Noted the government's consultation papers on proposed changes to the planning system.

- e. **Dacorum BC planning session on 13th November 2020**

Noted that Dacorum BC were considering changes to simplify the way householder works or extensions to a dwelling would be handled and that it was proposed to increase the involvement of parish councils in pre-applications for developments of ten properties or more.

- f. **Dacorum BC local plan**

Noted that the Dacorum BC local plan should be released for an eight week consultation period later in November.

20/120 Open spaces

- a. **Defibrillators**

Agreed to approach the local schools to see whether they would be interested in providing artwork for the kiosks in which the defibrillators were located for which a cost estimate of £250 + VAT had been obtained. The clerk to take forward.

- b. **Christmas tree**

Agreed to fund the installation of Christmas trees and lights at Great Gaddesden and Gaddesden Row. Cllr Lowrie to take forward.

- c. **Allotments**

Agreed that Gaddesden Row Allotments could use £250 of the Orchard Reserve fund to undertake further fruit tree pruning.

20/121 Finance and administration

- a. **Grant and donation policy**

Resolved to approve changes to the Grant Policy to include charitable donations as circulated to members. Agreed unanimously.

- b. **Grant and donation applications**

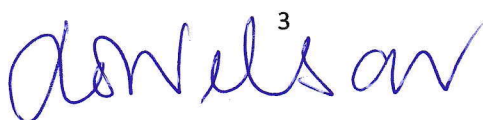
Resolved to decline a donation request from the Road Victims Trust on the grounds that it did not sufficiently meet the criteria set out in the new Grant and Donation Policy. Agreed unanimously.

- c. **Financial statement**

Noted the financial results as at 16th November 2020 as circulated to members.

- d. **Noted monies received**

Interest	October	£0.42
Sale of apples	Gaddesden Row allotments	£280.00

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e. Approved payment of the following invoices

DCVS	Payroll administration fee for November.	£25.20
DCVS	Clerk's salary for November.	£786.90
A Farrow	Clerk's expenses	£17.20
Great Gaddesden Parish Newsletter	Annual donation	£350.00
Gaddesden Row Methodist Church	Grant for repairs to windows (see 20/117.b and 20/096)	£3,560.00

f. 2021/22 Budget

Noted the draft proposals for the budget for 2021/22 prior to agreement in January 2021.

Agreed to hold an informal meeting in December to discuss possible uses for CIL income prior to agreement in January 2021

g. Changes to bank mandate

Resolved to remove A Thompson and M Stodell as signatories on the bank account and to add B Cosbie Ross and R MacGillivray. All other arrangements to remain unchanged. Agreed unanimously.

h. Parish Online

Agreed to subscribe to this online mapping service at an annual cost of £64 + VAT.

20/122 History of Great Gaddesden Parish project

Noted that a website for the project is under construction. Dates for future meetings will be published alongside council meeting dates.

20/123 Luton Airport expansion

Noted that the airport is publishing expansion plans.

20/124 Personnel issue

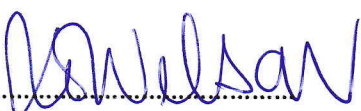
Noted that the role of Parish Clerk for Great Gaddesden Parish Council has been assessed by the Hertfordshire Association of Parish and Town Councils as spinal point 14 under the pay scales agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

Resolved that the Parish Clerk's employment contract be changed to refer to the spinal point assessment rather than an hourly rate. Agreed unanimously.

20/125 Date of next meeting:

8pm on Monday, 18th January 2021 either virtually (details to be advised) or at Great Gaddesden Village Hall, depending on Government policy regarding public gatherings at that time.

The meeting closed at 22.10

Signed 

Dated..... 20 Feb 2021