

Minutes of Great Gaddesden Parish Council Meeting

held at 7.30pm on Monday, 26th April 2021

At <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82803784803?pwd=MnVpSlVwU1o0b0NRdzJtOTlWjFLZz09>

Present: Councillors L Wilson (Chair), B Cosbie Ross, K Fitzgerald, C Griffin (from item 21/043), J Lowrie, R MacGillivray and T Martin.

In attendance: Cllr B Chapman (Borough Councillor), Cllr T Douris (County Councillor), A Farrow (Parish Clerk) and two members of the public.

Agenda number	Agenda subject and action
21/039	Duke of Edinburgh Noted that the condolences of the Parish Council and the residents of the parish had been expressed to Her Majesty The Queen and members of the Royal Family on the death of His Royal Highness, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.
21/040	Apologies for Absence - none
21/041	Interests a. There were no declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. b. There had been no written requests for dispensations for declarable interest. c. There were no requests for grants of dispensation.
21/042	Minutes Resolved that the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 16th March 2021 as circulated to members be signed as a correct record. Agreed unanimously.
21/043	Councillors a. Cllrs Wilson and Lowrie proposed and seconded respectively the co-option of Corran Griffin as a councillor. Agreed unanimously b. Cllr Griffin declared an interest in item 21/048.a (21/01236/FHA). c. Agreed to re-advertise the remaining vacancy on the Council.
21/044	Outstanding Matters – none
21/045	Public Participation a. Noted that the bells of St John the Baptist, Great Gaddesden, had been tolled for the Duke of Edinburgh.
21/046	Correspondence or other communication a. Noted that concern had again been expressed about parking on the junction of Gaddesden Row, Bradden Land and Clements End making the turn dangerous. Cllr Douris agreed to chase the painting of the white 'H' bar outside the Methodist church, noting that parking over it was not an enforceable offence.
21/047	Highways

- a. **Noted** that the layby on Nettleden Road remained under consideration.

21/048 Planning

- a. **Noted** the responses given to the following planning applications under the Clerk's delegated powers.

20/04061/FUL	Land at Cupid Green, Hemel Hempstead	Objection (15 th April 2021)
Construction of polytunnels, agricultural storage building and associated works		

21/00798/FHA	Marsh Farm, Ledgemore Lane, Great Gaddesden, HP2 6HA	No objection (23 March 2021)
Construction of porch		

21/01063/FUL	St John the Baptist Church, Church Meadow, Great Gaddesden, HP1 3BU	No objection (15 th April 2021)
Construction of a wooden railings fence on the north boundary of the Churchyard.		

21/01096/FUL	Ragged Hall, Gaddesden Row, Great Gaddesden HP2 6HJ	No objection (26 March 2021)
Proposed change of use of land to equestrian (sui generis) and provision of 60 x 20m manege with associated access track.		

21/01236/FHA	The White House, Potten End Hill, Water End, HP1 3BN	No objection (20 th April 2021)
Construction of garden room		

- b. **Agreed** responses to the following planning applications.

21/01346/FHA	Gatherley, Potten End Hill, Water End, HP1 3BN	No objection
Two storey front extension and single storey side extension. New shed on existing base.		

21/01344/RET	The Croft Farm, Dagnall Rd, Great Gaddesden, HP1 3BP	No objection
Change of use of agricultural land and retention of existing buildings for short-let holiday accommodation.		

21/01515/FHA	5 Bradden Meadow, Gaddesden Row, HP2 6BN	No objection
Renovation of existing shed to accommodate a leisure gym		

21/0140/AGD	Lower Gade Farm, Great Gaddesden, HP1 3BP	No objection
Four bay open sided hay barn		

20/03295/FUL	Bury Farm, Cupid Green, Hemel Hempstead	Object
One barn and one polytunnel		

- c. **Agreed** the following response to the planning application received between the date of the agenda and the Council meeting.

21/01642/FHA	Dropshort Cottage, Ledgemore Lane, Great Gaddesden, HP2 6HB	Deferred
Two storey side and single storey rear extensions		

- d. **Local Plan**

Agreed

- i. That Cllr Wilson would write to the leader of Dacorum Borough Council seeking a response to the letter issued by twelve parish and town councils including Great Gaddesden Parish on 22nd February.
- ii. That the Clerk would ask those candidate standing for election in May for the Bridgewater Division of Hertfordshire County Council for a written statement on their views regarding the Local Plan in so far as it affected Great Gaddesden Parish
- iii. That the Clerk be authorised to investigate the cost of obtaining professional advice for the consultation exercise for the next draft of the local plan.
- iv. To keep the Local Plan as a standing agenda item.
- v. To provide regular updates for parishioners through the Parish Magazine.

21/049 Open spaces – nothing to report

21/050 History of Great Gaddesden Parish project

Noted that work was progressing on an editorial calendar

21/051 Finance and administration

a. Financial statement

- i. **Noted** the draft end of year accounts as at 31st March 2021 as presented to members.
- ii. **Noted** the financial report as at 15th April 2021 as presented to members.

b. Grants

- i. **Considered** a preliminary request for grant funding from the Trustees of the Gaddesden Row Village Hall. The Parish Council was broadly supportive but the amount involved would deplete the Council's available funds for the rest of the year and it was considered advisable that the hall ask for a grant from Dacorum BC to cover some of the cost. There was concern that the kitchen should have higher priority than the re-decorating, and that there should be more focus on a business plan to generate more income.

Action: the Clerk would communicate the Council's views and work with Cllr Cosbie Ross to help the trustees.

- ii. **Considered** a request to pay Dacorum BC £1,171.49 in respect of annual maintenance for the work carried out at the churchyard of St John the Baptist, Great Gaddesden.

Noted that this would be the first payment made under s. 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 in the current financial year. There are potential commitments outstanding of £1,800 to the Methodist Church and £2,970 to St John's for the replacement of railings, both of which will also have to be taken under s. 137 taking total commitments to £5,941 where the council has a cap of £6,635 leaving a margin of £694 if all the commitments are taken up in full.

Resolved that in accordance with the council's powers under s. 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 that it should incur the expenditure of £1,171.49 being the cost of grass cutting from April 2020 to March 2021 for the churchyard of St John the Baptist, Great Gaddesden, which in the opinion of the council is in the interest of the area and its inhabitants, and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

Agreed unanimously.

iii. Great Gaddesden Village Hall

At its meeting on 17th February 2020 (20/018.a) the Council agreed to a grant of £1,000 to the Village Hall toward the cost of repairing fencing with an estimated cost of £3,163. The final cost was £2,090 and so the Council's contribution has been reduced pro rata to £660.

c. Noted monies received

Interest	March	£0.36
Allotment rent	Online	£57.36
Dacorum BC	Comprising precept (£8,992), Council tax support grant (£60) and Concurrent Services Grant (£5,503).	£14,555

d. Approved payment of the following invoices

DCVS	Payroll administration fee for April 2021 and annual membership	£96.00
DCVS	Clerk's salary for April 2021.	£786.21
A Farrow	Clerk's expenses	£17.20
Campaign to protect rural England	Annual subscription	£36.00
HAPTC	Attendance of Cllrs Wilson and MacGillivray and the clerk (50% of whose costs will be covered by Nettleden with Potten End PC) at a course on the revised Code of Conduct.	£90.00
HAPTC	Annual subscription	£532.46
Dacorum BC	Cost of grass cutting from April 2020 to March 2021 for the churchyard of St John the Baptist, Great Gaddesden	£1,171.49
Great Gaddesden Village Hall	Grant toward repair to fencing	£660.00

e. Bank account mandate

Noted that RBS have confirmed that Mr Thompson and Mr Stodell have been removed from the bank mandate and Cllr MacGillivray and Cllr Cosbie Ross have been added as agreed on 16th November 2020 (20/121.g).

e. Internal Audit

- i. **Agreed** that Cllr Wilson may sign the attached letter to the Internal Auditor confirming the dates that were applied in respect of the Exercise of Public Rights for 2019/20 in 2020-21.
- ii. **Noted** that the internal audit for 2020/21 has been scheduled for 7th May 2021.

f. Future meetings

- i. **Agreed** changes to the Council's meeting schedule as proposed to members as a result of the impact of the Government's decision not to extend the right of Parish Council's to hold remote meetings from 7th May 2021.
- ii. **Agreed** the response to the Government's call for evidence on the future use of remote meetings as proposed to members.

21/052 Resolved that under section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press should be excluded from items 21/053 of the agenda of this meeting as disclosure of the commercial interests of the council. Agreed unanimously.

21/053 Resolved that the motion presented to the Council with regard to the appointment of a Parish Warden be adopted. Agreed unanimously.

21/054 Dates and times of next meetings:

7.30pm on Thursday 6th May (replacing the meeting originally scheduled for 18th May) – to be held virtually.

7.30pm on Tuesday, 22nd June at Gaddesden Row Village Hall

7.30pm on Monday 19th July at Great Gaddesden Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.42pm

Signed

Dated