

**GREAT CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of **GREAT CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL**

held at The Stevenson Centre at 7:00pm on Monday 10th July 2023

**PRESENT** Councillors Cllr Tom Keane **Chairperson**

 Cllr Marjorie Bark Cllr Tony Bavington Cllr Sharon Bowman Cllr Jane Brooker Cllr Kevin Graham Cllr Stewart Sheridan Cllr Jane Wakeman Cllr Pamela White

Cllr Colin Wright Cllr David Young

 District Cllr Ruth Hendry

District Cllr Mark Newman

Council Manager Mrs N Tamlyn

Council Administrator Mrs S Kubat

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Melanie Keane. Cllr Judith Wilson did not attend the meeting.

1. **CHAIRMAN’S ADDRESS**

The Chairman thanked Great Cornard Community Association for organising the Fete this year and all those Cllrs who had been involved on the day. He reminded Members that the Community Association is always looking for more helpers.

Cllr Young advised that three people had come forward at the Fete and were interested in becoming Members of the GCCA, including Cllr Bowman. He thanked everyone who helped, especially Cllr White.

1. **To consider Declarations of Interests and Councillor Requests for Dispensations relating to items on the Agenda**

Cllr Bavington declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 8 as he and the applicant are members of the Labour Party.

Cllr Graham declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 8 as he and the applicant are members of the Labour Party.

Cllr Young declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 8 as he and the applicant are members of the Labour Party.

Cllr Wakeman declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 8 as the applicant is her husband.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY**

**NONE**

1. **To confirm the Minutes of the FULL COUNCIL Meeting held on monday 12TH JUNE 2023**

**AGREED** that the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 12th June 2023 are confirmed and signed as a correct record.

1. **POLICE MATTERS**

Nothing to report.

**7.** **TO RECEIVE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORTS**

District Cllr Mark Newman advised Members that he had nothing to report as he has only attended one meeting so far, the last one having been cancelled. The next meeting is due to be held on 18th July 2023. Cllr Newman also confirmed that he is on the Licensing Committee.

**7:08pm Cllr Jane Brooker arrived at the meeting**

District Cllr Ruth Hendry advised Members that a Cabinet meeting was being held tonight, 10th July, at which they hoped to refine points including climate change, sustainability - especially in planning, renewable energy, sewage and water. Also being discussed are the need for Anglian Water to be included in discussions about the locations of new housing developments and the possibility of penalties for developers who do not complete planning requirements before moving on to another site.

The Cabinet will also be discussing affordable housing and retrofitting older council homes to meet modern energy efficiency standards.

Two new vacancies have been created within the Cabinet for People and Places (East and West) to work on reviving market towns.

There are new EV chargers being installed at Girling Street car park and Kingfisher car park.

The Family Fun Day is due to be held on 31st July at Belle Vue Park.

Members discussed the untidiness in Great Cornard and Cllr Hendry suggested a joint “clear up action day” such as those held by BDC. A small area of the village could be cleared by Cllrs and residents, Cllr Hendry will see if BDC could offer any help.

A Member asked whether there were plans to implement sustainability standards for all new build houses. Cllr Hendry explained that there was an issue to be discussed regarding quantity over quality and the balance between having more cheap but not up to standard homes or less, more expensive but higher standard homes.

1. **TO CONSIDER APLICATIONS RECEIVED IN RELATION TO THE CO-OPTION OF A NEW MEMBER TO THE SOUTH WARD**

Members reviewed Mr Tim Hurst’s application letter to be co-opted to the vacancy on the South Ward following the recent Uncontested Election in the South Ward.

A Member advised that this was the fourth opportunity for anyone to come forward and apply for the role and that the Labour Party were responding to the need.

**AGREED** to co-opt Mr Tim Hurst to serve as a Parish Councillor and to represent the South Ward.

Mr Tim Hurst made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting. The Council Chair welcomed Councillor Hurst to the Parish Council.

1. **TO CONSIDER THE ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD LIST – FOR NOTING**

The Items Brought Forward list was **NOTED**

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**
2. **Royal British Legion: Remembrance Sunday Poppy Wreath application**

Members reviewed correspondence from the Poppy Appeal Organiser for Sudbury and District Branch Royal British Legion and **AGREED** to purchase one Badged ‘C’ wreath to be laid during the Remembrance Day parade at a cost of £27.50.

1. **FIFTEEN MINUTES FOR THE PUBLIC TO ASK QUESTIONS**

**At 7:19pm the Council invited electors of Great Cornard Parish Council to put questions to the Council.**

A member of the public, who lives in Heckford Road, advised Members that a piece of land off Radiator Road has been sold, which includes land which forms Melso Close.

Members discussed whether this piece of land was intended to be used for green space or a play area in the original planning application and what the buyers intend to use the land for.

Concerns were expressed regarding the ownership of Melso Close and the access rights of the existing homeowners there.

The Council Manager advised she had spoken to the Auction house who confirmed the land was sold, post auction, to a land holding company. She has looked at the original planning application but was unable to find any information regarding the proposed use of the space but will contact Babergh District Council to ask whether it was designated a public open space.

Members confirmed to the member of public that the Parish Council would be consulted on any future planning applications.

Cllr Sheridan declared a non-pecuniary interest in this matter as a family member lives on Radiator Road.

Members discussed the existing vehicular access from Radiator Road onto Broom Street which cannot be closed with bollards as two properties have access rights. This access onto Broom Street is considered dangerous as a number of school children use the road, which has no pavements, to access the school. Any development on the land could possibly increase traffic flow on Broom Street.

The member of public expressed concerns over the wildlife which is present on the land and in the trees which border it.

The Chairman thanked the member of the public for bringing this matter to the Council’s attention and assured them that matter would be looked into.

A second member of the public reported that the hedge around the litter and dog bin located on the pathway between Kings Hill and the railway line needs to be strimmed back, also that there had been rubbish dumped at the corner of Kings Hill and Cats Lane several weeks ago which has not been removed.

**The business of the meeting resumed at 7:35pm.**

1. **TO CONSIDER GRANT APPLICATIONS**

The following Grants were **AGREED**

**Under Section 137 LGA 1972**

Suffolk Accident Rescue Service £ 500.00

Kernos Centre £1,100.00

Rotary Club Sudbury £ 350.00

**Under Section 142(2A) LGA 1972**

Sudbury & District Citizens Advice Bureau £1,200.00

**Under Section 19 LGA 1972**

Cornard United £ 650.00

**Local Government and Rating Act 1997, Section 31**

The Porch Project £1,000.00

Members discussed the format of the current Grant spreadsheet and **AGREED** for the Council Manager to adjust the history to show only 5 years of previous grants.

Members discussed the current application forms and the need to obtain more information from applicants including what the grant funds are to be used for and what proportion of the funds would benefit the people of Great Cornard.

A Member advised that the remaining grant of £2,350 for FY22/23 for the Great Cornard swimming pool will not be paid over until a new agreement has been formalised with BDC. The Council Manager advised that the Grant Application Policy states that “Regular (annual) applications should be submitted by 31st June each year”, however, Members **NOTED** that many groups are still not up and running following COVID and that there are several grant applications which have not yet been received but are expected later in the year.

1. **DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**
2. **Confirmation and adoption of the Minutes of the meetings held on 12th June and 26th June 2023**

**AGREED** that the Minutes of the Development and Planning meetings held on Monday 12th June and 26th June 2023 are confirmed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

**12th JUNE 2023 PAGE 1 ITEM 2. TO CONSIDER DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

**FROM:** Cllr Bark declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 5d) as 182a Bures Road borders her own private residence.

**TO:** Cllr Bark declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 5d) as 182a Bures Road is in close proximity to her own private residence.

**26th JUNE 2023 PAGE 1 PRESENT Councillors - Cllr Sharon Bowman removed**

1. **Questions to Committee Chairman**

**NONE**

1. **ART, SPORTS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE**
2. **Confirmation and adoption of Minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2023**

**AGREED** that the Minutes of the Art, Sports and Leisure Committee meeting held on 26th June 2023 are confirmed as a correct record.

1. **Questions to Committee Chairman**

**NONE**

1. **Ratification of Recommended Items**
2. **PAGE 2. ITEM 7. TO CONSIDER A QUOTATION FOR REPLACEMENT WOODEN SIGNS AT THE COUNTRY PARK**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it accepts Report No. G02’s proposed design and that it instructs sign 1 as soon as possible, with amendments to the position of the wording, at a cost of £1,740 plus VAT, including memorial plaque, and that further funds for sign 2 are either vired or allocated in the FY24/25 budget.

Members **AGREED** to purchase the replacement wooden sign and memorial plaque at a cost of £1,740 plus VAT.

Funds to be allocated from Earmarked Funds.

1. **PAGE 3. ITEM 9. TO CONSIDER A QUOTATION FOR THE ANNUAL TREE INSPECTIONS**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it accepts the quotation from Evergreen Landscapes and Fencing to carry out the Parish Council’s annual tree inspections, at a cost of £1,026 plus VAT.

Members **AGREED** to accept the quotation from Evergreen Landscapes and Fencing at a cost of £1,026 plus VAT.

Funds to be allocated from the Agency Services Budget.

1. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**
2. **Confirmation and adoption of Minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2023**

**AGREED** that the Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 26th June 2023 are confirmed as a correct record.

1. **Questions to Committee Chairman**

**NONE**

1. **Ratification of Recommended Items**
2. **PAGE 2. ITEM 6. TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FOR A MEMBER TO BE THE PARISH COUNCIL’S ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it establishes the role of Environmental Champion and that Cllr Bark is appointed to that role.

Members **AGREED** to establish the role of Environmental Champion and to appoint Cllr Bark to that role.

1. **PAGE 2. ITEM 7. TO CONSIDER A MOTION FOR GREAT CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL TO CHANGE TO USING GENDER NEUTRAL DESCRIPTORS**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it proceeds with the Motion subject to the following amendment at point 3:-

3. Anyone taking the chair of the Council, one of its committees, sub-committees, working parties or other formally constituted bodies shall be addressed as ‘Chair’

**SHOULD BE CHANGED TO:-**

3. Anyone taking the chair of the Council, one of its committees, sub-committees, working parties or other formally constituted bodies shall be addressed as ‘Chair’ or ‘Chairperson’

Members **AGREED** to proceed with the Motion subject to said amendment.

1. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**
2. **To approve the latest list of payments**

Members reviewed and **NOTED** the latest list of payments **(see Appendix A).**

1. **To review an Action out of Meeting NO: 03/2023-2024 BHL Pavilion**

**NOTED** the Council Chairman authorised an “Action out of Meeting” no. 03/2023-2024 to instruct the purchase of building materials to the value of £4,319.71 to carry out essential roof repairs to the Cornard United Clubhouse.

Funds to come from Earmarked Funds.

The Chair suggested that, in light of the recent expenditure, it would be prudent to arrange a site visit for Councillors at both Cornard United and Cornard Dynamos. Councillors Bowman and Young agreed to attend with the Chair. The Council Manager to confirm a date and time for the site visit.

Cllr Brooker apologised for her late arrival and gave her apologies for meetings for the next two to three months due to a medical matter.

**Meeting closed at 8:22pm**

**Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Chairman Cllr Tom Keane**

**APPENDIX A**

