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GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

of the meeting on

SATURDAY 19th January, 2019 at 11.30am in the Village Hall

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from David Masters and Chris Keston.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the Meeting of 6th October 2018 were accepted.

Matters Arising

The Chair stated it has been agreed that Frinton and Walton Town Council would deal with the installation of a defibrillator at the Village Hall. Sue Jenkins confirmed that the precise location had now been agreed.

PCSO Report

The PCSO Report was delivered by Stafford and Amy.

After The Rain was a victim of a burglary.

The driving licence of an elderly man driving erratically in Pork Lane was taken away.

There was no news about the missing swan, but the matter was being looked into by the Wild Life Officer.

Speedwatch was reported as being active and there had been one session in the village conducted by a police officer in which a number of speeding tickets were issued.

Amy agreed to take up the request that Pork Lane should be included as a Speedwatch location.

There was a general discussion about speeding in Pork Lane and it was agreed that the removal or relocation of the sign indicating the 30 mph limit should be referred to Mark Platt.

The hedge at the corner of Pork Lane and Main Road has still not been cut, although a resident saw a Council inspection which apparently was made after dark!

It was agreed this should be referred again to Councillor Bucke.

Planning Report

The 41 new dwellings at Beaumont Care Home have now been approved.

A second bungalow next to Farndon in Pork Lane has been approved.

In Pork Lane an application to build five bungalows behind the new ones,(The Paddocks), was refused by TDC and is now at appeal. A second application to build another five bungalows adjoining these and using the same access was recommended for approval by the planners but refused by the Planning Committee, this will probably promote another appeal. Why the planners recommended approval is a mystery and a matter of great concern to us. The application to build five more bungalows behind the two new ones has been refused in spite of a recommendation by the Planning Officer that it should be granted.

The conversion of an existing farm building to residential use at Birch Hoe Farm was approved.

A further application has been made to build at the rear of Larges Farm cottage. This is almost identical to the previous application which was refused.

An application has been made to demolish Seaview opposite the Manor and build a detached house of sympathetic design. GHRA will submit observations and ask that firstly consideration be given to restoration of the existing building, which is described as a “positive building” in the Conservation Area Management Plan and the Village Design Statement.

There are a number of important pending appeals.

The three bungalows adjacent to the current development next to The Veldt.

Two self-builds in a field in Pork Lane beyond the two new bungalows.

It was commented that both of these proposals follow on from TDC to allow ribbon development in both Pork Lane and Little Clacton Road. Both represent a major threat to the village.

The next Local Plan Committee will take place at TDC’s offices at 6.00 pm on 29th January, 2019.

There was a general discussion of infrastructure, particularly sewerage capacity and roads. The agenda includes a revised timescale for the emerging Local Plan with

the likely adoption date of winter, 20/21!

There was a general discussion of infrastructure, particularly sewerage capacity and roads. It was pointed out that developers can be asked for Section 106 contributions toward improvements to facilities and services.

Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer began by thanking Denys and Lindy Strich for their help in managing the changeover of the Treasurer’s role.

The existing balance is £3696 with £242 cash.

There were 73 members at the end of the financial year.

The treasurer explained the new membership forms and appealed for permission to use email addresses to facilitate future distributions.

Great Holland Facebook Page

Sue Jenkins reported that this is now operating satisfactorily and it is hoped that it will be another means of broadcasting local news and allowing residents to ask questions, for example, regarding reliable traders.

Paul Withams, our webmaster, confirmed that there is a link on the website to the Facebook Page.

Village Noticeboard

Sue Jenkins reported that Frinton and Walton Town Council decided in December that the village noticeboard should be moved from the old post office, which has been converted into two flats, to the village hall. She will ask whether a key can be made available locally.

Village Voice

Vanessa Giles explained the intentions of the new team. The existing format will be retained for the time being, although professional printers will be used, since the church printer is getting rather old and the cost is not much greater.

The new team comprises:

Vanessa Giles, editor

Hazel Martin, production

Pauline Batten, distribution

John Beale, printing

The Chair recorded the thanks of the community to the whole team.

House to house distribution will be retained.

Date, Time and Venue of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Great Holland Residents Association will be the AGM which will be held on Saturday, 11th May, 2019 at 10.30 am in the Village Hall.

Any Other Business

Sandra Mooney reported that many of the daffodil bulbs planted years ago at the expense of the Town Council (FWTC) had been destroyed by the developer of the new bungalows along the main road. They were located on the kerbside opposite the new properties by Larges Farm. It was agreed to ask Councillor Bucke to ask the developer to replace them.

Sandra also reported that she had complained regarding vehicles being parked in the field in Pork Lane beyond the two bungalows. Some had been removed and she asked that residents keep an eye on this and report any further incidents to the Planning Enforcement Officer, Neil Foreman.

The new playground is structurally complete and should be opened shortly after the final inspection.

The Chair put to the meeting David Masters’ suggestion that the grass triangle at the bottom of Little Clacton Road should be converted into a mini roundabout. This received widespread support and Denys Strich pointed out that this would resolve the present, narrow access from the main road. It was agreed to ask Mark Platt to put the suggestion to Essex Highways, as well as the easier alternative to simply widen the road on to the existing grass verge. The hedge has still not been cut

There was a general discussion again about the problem of infrastructure, particularly the lack of medical facilities and the impact of the hundreds of new homes in the area. The Care Commissioning Group of the NHS had objected to the Beaumont development on these grounds but still states that its policy is not to ask for any section 106 contribution for any development under 50 dwellings. The meeting felt this was an illogical position.

A resident complained that the light from the new LED bulbs which are now being placed in street lights produce a harsh intrusive white light. He had complained in writing to the County Council and, having once suggested they could install baffle plates, they were now refusing to do so. The Chair suggested that the correct procedure now is to take the matter up through either Councillor Bucke or Councillor Platt.

The meeting closed 12.50 pm.