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GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

of the meeting on

SATURDAY 6th October, 2018 at 11.30am in the Village Hall

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Harding, Keith and Sue Hockley, Olivia Hearn, Sue Jenkins, Liz Oakley and Robert Caines.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 12th May, 2018 were accepted.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

PCSO Report

The first part was delivered by Paul Brassey, who listed the incidents during the last period. Great Holland remains a very low crime area and a full list will appear, as usual, in the next edition of Village Voice. Paul emphasised the need for additional caution in the lead up to Christmas.

The second part of the report was delivered by Sgt. Peter Gerrard. He explained that a major effort was underway to revive the community policing team and he expressed regret that community engagement had been a victim of budget cuts in recent years. Constable Watson, based at Clacton police station, had been allocated Great Holland, Walton, Frinton and Beaumont as his area of responsibility. It was confirmed that FWTC funding for PCSOs was being continued. This placed our area in an unusually privileged position in that regard. Sgt. Gerrard also explained how fortunate we were to have retained police stations at both Clacton and Walton at a time when many very large towns such as Bath had none at all. The meeting thanked the PCSOs for their continuing efforts.

Planning Report

Eddie Forrest reviewed the recent planning applications.

Detailed plans have now been submitted for the three bungalows approved on the land adjoining The Veldt.

Studio Cottage in Church Lane has been demolished and a new two-storey dwelling approved.

The appeal in respect of the land adjoining Larkswood Grove has been dismissed, as has the appeal in respect of the Hamilton Road proposal.

The application for one dwelling to the rear of Larges Farm Cottage in Kirby Road has been refused.

The application for forty dwellings at the Beaumont Home is still awaiting determination.

Another application (the third or fourth) is being made to build on the corner of Pork Lane and Orchard Avenue.

There is an application for five new bungalows on the land between Laxton Road and the new bungalows in Pork Lane.

Eddie expressed optimism that TDC will refuse applications outside the new settlement boundary in the local plan that was submitted for approval in October, 2017. The success of their appeal in respect of the Centenary Way development seems to have increased their confidence that they can indeed demonstrate a five year housing supply.

The next meeting of the Local Plan Committee will be on 30th October at 6.00 pm. in Princes Theatre, Clacton On Sea.

When Councillor Bucke suggested it might be helpful to revise the Village Design Statement, Eddie explained that we had already rejected undertaking work on their successor, Neighbourhood Plans, as the amount of work required was quite unrealistic.

Treasurer’s Report

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chair read Liz Oakley’s report. The current balance is £3,696.88. Cash held is £211.90.

Great Holland Face Book Page

As this is Sue Jenkins’ proposal and she was unable to attend, discussion was deferred until the next meeting. However, a vote was taken on the principle of creating such a page. On a show of hands this was overwhelmingly approved, with four votes against.

The main concern was whether this should be a closed group or a public page.

Village Defibrillator

The chairman apologised to the meeting for having failed to send a letter to FWTC requesting financial assistance in addition to GHRA’s contribution of £1,000 approved at the previous meeting.

Date, Time and Venue of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Great Holland Residents Association will be held on Saturday, 19th January, 2019 at 10.30 am.

Any Other Business

The meeting approved a vote of thanks to Jane and Victor Kurzweil for their efforts on behalf of GHRA at the Village Fête.

A further vote of thanks was approved for the agreement of The Manor to provide facilities for payment of GHRA subs.

Linda O’Reilly and Sandra Mooney explained their decision to stand down as producers of Village Voice after 13 years. The December/January issue will be their last. Although it was uncertain whether the existing format could continue, three people have already expressed an interest in continuing the publication, at least in some form. Denys Strich said that he was able to suggest a printer for future copies. Linda agreed to put the various volunteers in touch with each other so that discussions on the future could proceed. It was accepted that, at least, the new publication would have to be on line, probably via the new Face Book page. Although anxieties were expressed about the disappearance of a paper copy delivered to every household, it would only be possible to do what the new volunteers felt able to achieve.

The meeting closed 12.50 pm.