



# GRENDON UNDERWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

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## **MINUTES of a GENERAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

*Under current Government legislation, meetings must now be held face to face by law. Dates are published to the Council web site & noticeboards in sufficient time for residents to attend & actively participate.*

The Chairman will bring the meeting to order at 19.30 and participation will be taken as consent to abiding by the meeting rules on the web site.

**Prior to the meeting being formally constituted for Council business, the Chairman may hold an Open Forum for Parishioners and for occasional external contributions (under adjournment): 15 minutes for residents and other members of the public to raise questions, make comments, suggest future agenda items etc. Items requiring decisions must be deferred for inclusion in the next agenda.**

**Matters arising:** a resident requested support resolve a dispute with Gigaclear concerning their cable on his private property.  
**Minute-** it was resolved, whilst recognising the Council has no relevant power, and pending receipt of documentation detailing the current status of the dispute from the resident, it would seek to mediate a resolution between the parties.

**The current COVID-19 status in Buckinghamshire can be seen on [Buckinghamshire Council | COVID-19 Dashboard](#)  
To Review the status of the NO MORE PRISONS HERE campaign**

Closing date for objections now closed. Awaiting the decision of the Planning Authority. Due to multiple deficiencies in the OPA, timing remains uncertain.

DRAFT Issue date – 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021

*B. Martindale* - Acting Parish Clerk

**2110.01 Attendance and apologies:** To note and accept any apologies.

**Attending;** Cllrs Moloney (Chairman), Benfield, Jackman, Fealey, Scanlon. Cllr designate Harris.

**Apologies;** Cllr Macpherson.

**Absences;**

Public: one member of the public attended.

**2110.02 Members Interests:** Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Grendon Underwood Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011. **Minute-** none declared.

**2110.03 Approval of Minutes;** To agree and sign the minutes from the Annual Meeting of Grendon Underwood Parish Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 as a true & accurate record. The Minutes are circulated prior to the meeting to allow them to be taken as read. No amendments had been requested by the cut-off date.

**Minute:** so agreed as a true & accurate record.

**2110.04 Regulatory.**

- i. **Standing Orders, Council Policies, Procedures & Protocols;** update Planning Response Policy in progress. **Minute-** pending.
- ii. **Other Legislation & NALC Advice;** to monitor changes. New Code of Conduct template under review. **Minute-** pending.

**2110.05 Finance & Accounts.**

- i) Consider the RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS OF ACCOUNTS for the period since last meeting. To confirm up to date for period. **Minute-** confirmed up to date.
- ii) VAT reclaim- meeting held 7/9/21. In progress. **Minute-** pending.
- iii) To consider the financial implications of maintaining the recreation field as a Community Recreational Asset- **Minute-** Cllr Jackman to reported on discussions at the last Saye & Sele meeting to include consolidation of responsibilities and status of replacing the grass cutting equipment. It was resolved to pursue rationalised arrangements in principal pending a fully detailed consideration. Next meeting of S&S 17/01/22. Cllr Moloney to attend.
- iv) To consider agreement with Edgcott to split contribution to anti-prison campaign publicity - 75% GUPC / 25% Edgcott PC. Invoice issued 4/10/21; cheque received & presented. TO CLOSE. **Minute- CLOSED**
- v) To review Grants – Incoming; none forthcoming **Minute-** noted.
- vi) To review Grants – Outgoing; none forthcoming **Minute-** noted.
- vii) To review contracts & loans; new 1 year energy contract start 8/11/21. **Minute-** Council ratified RRR resolution to accept a one-year fix with SSE at £30pa reduction from current.

**2110.06 Planning & VALP;** to review any major developments proposed. To consider Consultee requests awaiting response & to ratify any applications processed by fast-track protocol. All submitted as resolved.

21/0488/APP, ufm28,16 Nov 21, Fayreways, Main Street. - TO SUPPORT

**County Planning & Enforcement Service update:** remote presentation 26/10/21.

**Minute-** Cllr Moloney attended and reported on an overwhelming workload & gross under resourcing resulting in a

6-month backlog. It was noted that there is a growing imperative for Parishes to have a Neighbourhood Plan. It remains the Council's view that these represent an unwarranted transfer of planning responsibility from County to Parish; are not cost effective; are not resource efficient; do not represent good value for taxpayer money, are likely to be overruled by National infrastructure objectives in any event and will be subject to constant review according to whatever Government dictat is currently in force. It is for this reason that, whilst not formally adopted at County, the Council Planning Response Policy is actually the de-facto Neighbourhood Plan for Grendon Underwood as it can be demonstrated to represent the views of local residents to any large scale, inappropriate development in the parish.

It is also a matter of regret that Enforcement seems to be focusing resource on banning children's play equipment in back yards of Springhill residents rather than on critical planning violations.

**VALP:** Publication of the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan Inspector's Report, link circulated 3/9/21. - noted the VALP, as amended in the report, is now adopted by County and its underlying parameters can now be taken as material planning considerations for applications in the parish. **Minute-** and are reflected in the Council Planning Response Policy.

**2110.07 Environment.** To report any issues in respect of:

- a Highways under Highways Act 1980, ss43, 50 (inc footpaths);  
School report of broken utility access cover on footpath. Reported to Thames Water. Contact email received from TW Wholesale. Awaiting resolution advice. **Minute-** Thames Water have committed to fix by 29<sup>th</sup> October 21
- b Crime Prevention/ Footpath Lighting under Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3 – to report any outages. **Minute-** none reported.
- c Verges & Hedges; **Minute-** Cllr Jackman agreed to contact owner of overgrowth on bridge in Shipton Leigh.

**2110.08 Communications & Reports.**

**1. with Parish**

- i. **Springhill Residents Association.** Next meeting 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021.  
Cllr Jackman has contacted the Chair of the SRA on 3/10/21 to clarify S106 attribution arrangements from County.  
**Minute-** He confirmed S106 money arising from the development at Springwood House (aka Moat View) currently held at County must be used by 2024 and any proposals for it need to be fully costed and risk assessed and notified to Council no later than March 2023 and full documentation had been forwarded to SRA chairman. If no proposal for a Springhill project is not forthcoming in time, the funds will be allocated elsewhere in the parish to avoid it being returned to the developer (with interest).  
SRA discussions with prison. Release of the green space by MoJ and alternatives for acquisition subject to MoJ agreement. **Minute-** so far inconclusive. It was confirmed that leasing to the Council would allow VAT benefits but that effective prevention of unauthorised vehicular access would be virtually impossible.  
SRA have agreed to provide an estate light & carriageway survey to allow Council to submit a request to BC Highways. Note: it has been advised that Council is not empowered to spend public money on assets located on private property and Cllr Rand has confirmed the estate is not adopted by BC and agreed assuming such responsibility would represent an unacceptable financial, security & safety liability for the Parish Council. **Minute-** still pending after three months.  
SRA have agreed to forward Association meeting minutes, web site, membership, constitution. **Minute-** all still pending.  
Access to notice board and/or another board for the Association and church. Note: resolved to buy a public, open notice board for estate use. **Minute-** Cllr Scanlon to get two local quotes.
- ii. **Speeding:** TVP advise SpeedWatch rollout in Aylesbury Vale to start 15<sup>th</sup> November. Registration & training required. **Minute-** SpeedWatch meeting at Waddesdon Police Station on 4/11/21 @19.00. Two places are booked.  
County advise a rubber tube traffic survey would cost £420 + VAT. **Minute-** private traffic survey quote at £300. noted for comparison.  
To consider options to purchase in collaboration with Edgcott. Following on-site SID presentation, by Traffic Technology, on 15/10/21, a further two quotes are mandated by protocol. Resolution required. **Minute-** quotes are obtained from Mallatite & Westcotec. To consider jointly with Edgcott.
- iii. **Fly tipping in Broadway layby** BC Highways are scheduling plans to bund - awaiting advice due to absence. **Minute-** BC to follow up.
- iv. **Village pump;** Cllr Benfield estimates repairs at £200 & has been authorised to progress up to max £200. **Minute-** Cllr Benfield has removed for refurb.
- v. **Refurb blackboard** – Resident requested 10/9/21; resolved to replace the entire face of backboard. Cllr Benfield to progress. **Minute-** in progress. Quotes from Springhill noticeboard supplier to be considered.

**2. with other Authorities & Statutory Bodies**

- i. **BCC**
  - OxCam Arc Spatial Briefing for Parish Councils on HMG consultation [started 21-07-21 for 12 weeks] held 4/10/21. **Minute-** noted major distrust over National objectives again overriding local concerns.
  - Town & Parish Charter – **Minute-** noted.

- To consider a request for roadside mirror to aid resident egress onto Edgcott Road, received 5/8/21. Clerk has submitted to Parish Portal 5/10/21. **Minute-** County have responded with a review of parameters governing the installation of roadside mirrors. To be further pursued with the LAT & CCO.
- Kingswood traffic risk on A41 notified 14/9/21. Meeting of MP, Police Commissioner, BC Cabinet Member & residents on 1<sup>st</sup> October 21 @ 17.30 at Akeman. Cllr Moloney to report. **Minute-** reported a lack of commitment from Ludgershall. Everything pending a County Highways feasibility study to commence in November 21.
- ii. **Boundary Commission** – consultation for parishes notified 7/9/21. **Minute-** noted.
- iii. **Haddenham & Waddesdon Community Board-** Next meeting 4/11/21 @ 19.00. Cllr Fealey to attend. Contribution to church crossing application in progress. **Minute-** Contribution to playground upgrade application in progress. **Minute-** Contribution to SpeedWatch campaign suitable for application. **Minute-** Contribution to tree planting campaign suitable for application. **Minute-**
- iv. **H&W CB Freight Advisory Group** – Meeting 5/10/21 @ 18.30, link circulated 14/9/21. **Minute-** noted.
- v. **Parish Liaison Meeting** - Meeting 13/10/21 @ 18.30. **Minute-** noted.

### **3. With Stakeholders**

- i. **Community Police Team.** Walk round offered; dates to be finalised. **Minute-** Cllr Scanlon requested walk around Springhill.
- ii. **Village Hall;** to receive a report; **Minute-** Cllr Jackman reported:
- iii. **Saye & Sele;** to receive a report. **Minute-** Cllr Jackman reported:
- iv. **School:** status from school liaison - common problem with dog fouling. Signs for the gate are being dealt with by Joanne Marchant. Signage has to go through County as it has the school logo on it. Woodland Trust has just reopened their "plant trees for schools and communities". Status to be advised. Wendy Kerr is the contact and will be pre ordering the said trees imminently. Two school reps attended last meeting to advise a large number of indigenous tree species saplings are ordered from The Woodland Trust and they requested support for a 'community involvement day' and volunteers to plant them both at school and throughout the parish as space is available. Council resolved to support and offered to get signs printed to already finished artwork. Agreed to send artwork and planting days detail to the Clerk for publicity on web site & social media. **Minute-** awaiting return after half-term.
- v. **HMP Springhill & Grendon Prisons.** Request for lighting contractor received. **Minute-** noted.
- vi. **Greatmoor EfW Community Liaison Group.** Next meeting 17/11/21 live. **Minute-** noted. Cllr Moloney to attend.

### **4. With Infrastructure**

HS2, EWR; multiple road closures continue to blight the whole area. Monitoring large potential scale developments in the Arc. **Minute-** notice of traffic lights at Station Road/A41 for the duration.

### **5. With Suppliers.** Nothing to report. **Minute-** noted.

#### **2110.09 Amenities;**

- i. **Playground;** Upgrade & Dog fouling – further to a one-subject extra-ordinary meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> August, overview plan circulated and invitation for vendor expressions of interest posted to GOV.UK Contracts Finder on 1/9/21. 11 vendors expressed an interest and, on 4/10/21, all were invited to attend site visits to mutual convenience. 7 have accepted and dates have been arranged. To update. **Minute-** 5 on-site visits have been conducted; further two have been cancelled by vendors. Council resolved to offer new dates to the two cancellations.
- ii. **MUGA;** to hear an update; a preferred supplier was nominated from the 11 expressions of interest received and approved Project Manager engaged. Start date: 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021 for 3-4 weeks. Payment arrangements to be finalised. **Minute-** has commenced. Query from PM re footpath location. Query from resident re location – will adjust to conform to plan. Estimated completion, subject to weather, end November 21. Payments discussed and are not considered a financial risk at this time.
- iii. Bus stop at Kingswood – to consider refurb. **Minute-** Cllr Benfield to propose solution.
- iv. Defibrillator status; service due November 2021. Cllr Benfield to report. **Minute-** to source replacement electrode pads.
- v. War Memorial: Cllr Benfield to ask Scouts to consider forming a cleaning working party subject to risk analysis. **Minute-** Cllr Fealey will tidy up. Scouts to clean subject to risk assessment. Clerk authorised to source a wreath – Cllr Fealey to advise contact. To confirm 14<sup>th</sup> November to Cllr Macpherson.
- vi. Grassland habitat/ tranquillity zone. **Minute-** pending.
- vii. Village CCTV: requested 20/9/21. **Minute-** pending.

**2110.10 Personnel Matters - Confidential Information;** The Parish Council will make a Resolution to exclude the public from this part of the meeting in accordance with Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960. Further to the Vacancy notice for Co-opted Councillors, four expressions of interest have been considered and prospective candidates confirming eligibility have been contacted. **Minute-** mandatory new councillor forms to completed and witnessed. Cllr Moloney agreed to meet with Councillor-designate to discuss lead projects.

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**2110.11 Open forum for Members** (under adjournment); for Councillors to bring items to go on the agenda, for discussion at the next meeting. **Minute-** to consider arrangements for HM Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee.

**2110.12 To confirm the date of the next meeting;** To agree 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 at 19.30 in GU VH. **Minute-** so confirmed.

The Chairman thanked all present & closed the meeting at 21.23

Signed as a true & accurate record: .....  
Cllr K. Moloney, Chairman presiding.

Dated: .....

		GRENDON UNDERWOOD PARISH COUNCIL - transactions	October	2021
Date	Type	Transaction Description	Debit	Credit
01/10/2021	SO	MARION RYLEY professional services	£ 10.00	
18/10/2021	FPO	GM OUTDOOR verges & churchyard inv 1863	£ 275.00	
18/10/2021	FPO	PAUL BAKER INV 76 HEDGE CUT	£ 130.00	
18/10/2021	DD	OPUS ENERGY LTD 0750932	£ 93.53	
20/10/2021	DD	BUCKS COUNCIL GenWaste	£ 23.75	
25/10/2021	DEP	NIGHT SAFE		£ 184.11

APPROVED