

GREAT BEDWYN PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF GREAT BEDWYN PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 08 MARCH 2018, AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllr. Howell (Chair), Cllr. Barry, Cllr. Clack, Cllr. Nicholson, Cllr. Bushby and 26 members of the public.

186.17 – 1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nick Wilkinson provided an update on the Great Bedwyn Neighbourhood Development Plan:

- The intention of the Crown Estate towards development on the Brown's Lane paddock is still not clear. They seem to be in no rush, and neither are we now.
- Views of local Housing Associations were discussed, further to NW's article in the recent Parish News. The two main HAs are now more ready at least to discuss a potential major GB development.
- The Bedwyn Dyke field to the north of school in Great Bedwyn is probably the only large site adjacent to GB Settlement boundary for possible development of enough new social and other affordable housing to meet the identified needs. It has reasonable access and is close to the GB school and other GB facilities. Although it is administratively within the parish of Little Bedwyn that does not prevent the GB owner applying for planning permission to develop. It is owned by St Mary's Church who may wish to raise capital from its sale for restoration of local church property. Boundary changes would be required prior to including this as a development site within the GB Neighbourhood Plan so for the moment it can only be identified as a potential future site. An administrative change of Parish would require a separate procedure with Wiltshire Council.
- Wiltshire council has now extended its development plan beyond 2026 to 2036. The Great Bedwyn Neighbourhood Development Plan is now considering adjusting to this longer time period. Tourism development, parking and traffic management, safe pavement and lighting improvements, flood prevention, youth facilities, and renewable energy are items will be enabled by the NDP but need to be taken forwards by the Parish Council.
- The development of Tottenham house and its estate had been written about by Nick Wilkinson and Cllr Howell in the Parish News and the impact on the Neighbourhood plan will not be clear for some time. A sizeable Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment would be due to the Parish Council should the development of Tottenham House proceed

A resident talked about the impact of the closure of Forest Hill for utility works. Cllr Howell proposed seeking information from Wiltshire Council. Wiltshire Councillor Stuart Wheeler stated that Wiltshire Council was obliged to provide approval for utility works upon request.

Cllr Barry confirmed that the North Wessex Downs Sustainable Development Fund had kindly agreed to grant the Parish Council circa £1,800 towards the refurbishment and

redevelopment of the Great Bedwyn Phone Box into a visitor information point. Thanks to Susie Brew who was instrumental in supporting the grant application.

Judy Haynes confirmed that Bedwyn Footpaths Group received a grant for £497 Pewsey Area Board towards publicity around the footpaths and restoration of the signs in and around the parish.

Cllr Howell relayed a complaint received from a resident in The Knapp about damage to a wing mirror, unauthorised parking in disabled bays and HGVs entering The Knapp due to confusion with the Forest Hill closure. The resident had apparently been told by the police that complaints about parking in disabled bay was a matter for the PC which is not so. A member of the public said that they had seen the HGV concerned and that it was actually making a delivery to The Knapp.

187.17 – 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr Stone.

188.17 – 3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 January 2018, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. All voted in favour.

189.17 – 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

190.17 – 5. RESIGNATION OF PREVIOUS CLERK

Cllr Howell and Cllr Barry gave an update on the progress of this investigation. Progress has been very slow on this due to difficulties with correspondence being available. This investigation will continue and an update will be provided at the next full meeting.

191.17 – 6. APPOINTMENT OF A NEW CLERK

One application has been received. However the applicant does not have clerking experience and this is something that is thought to be required. Current approach is to continue to advertise this position so that the Parish Council can consider the existing application amongst others.

192.17 – 7. APPOINTMENT OF NEW COUNCILLORS

Five applications from prospective councillors have been received. Four of whom were present and were asked to give an introduction covering what they would like to bring to the Parish Council:

Adrian Brunskill has lived here for 22 years and his children were at Great Bedwyn school. He enjoys bell ringing and works for a housing association in Newbury (his responsibilities do not cover Wiltshire housing).

Elise Younger has lived in Great Bedwyn for 4 years and has had family in the village since the '70s. She is a coordinator for the Link Scheme, a member of Footpaths Group and a WI member. She is retired and worked previously for NHS and Childline.

John Sheerin (JP) has lived for 17 years in Great Bedwyn. He has supported the trains action group and local charities through the band he plays in. He works as a Business Analyst in a large company.

Sue Kershaw has lived in the village for 20 years. She's recently retired as Head Teacher of a school of 500 nursery and primary school age children now works as a Safeguarding Lead in Swindon. She is a member of the Pantomime Society.

All prospective councillors spoke of the need and their desire to make efforts to maintain the parish of Great Bedwyn as a great place to live for all its residents. A vote took place to co-opt the above four prospective councillors and this was passed with all in favour. There is still one place available on the Council which it hoped will be filled at the next meeting.

193.17 – 8. COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Councillor responsibilities were allocated as follows:

- Data Protection – Sue Kershaw to investigate the Council's Data Protection responsibilities.
- Planning – Cllr Clack (Chair), Cllr Howell and Cllr Stone to be joined by Elise Younger, Cllr Bushby and Sue Kershaw.
- Finance – Cllr Barry (Chair) and Cllr Howell to be joined by Adrian Brunskill and John Sheerin.
- Allotments – Elise Younger to join Cllr Clack to support Allotments.
- Highways – Adrian Brunskill to work with the future clerk on this area.

194.17 – 9. PROPOSED DIVERSION OF FOOTPATHS

A vote on Network Rail's proposed diversion of footpath behind Bedwyn station siding was held. All voted in favour.

195.17 – 10. BEST KEPT VILLAGE

A vote not to enter into Best Kept Village competition in 2018, having won in 2017 and due to the need to focus on other areas. All voted in favour.

Concerns were aired about general tidiness in the village.

196.17 – 11. GREAT BEDWYN PRE-SCHOOL

Great Bedwyn Pre-School will attend the next meeting in support of a grant request.

197.17 – 12. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from a member of the public claiming to represent a group that states that it intends to 'take possession' of the war memorial on the Memorial Playing Field. A list of signatures was attached. It was proposed to write to the author to inform him that any alteration to the site would be reported to the police for charges of theft and/or criminal damage. All voted in favour.

198.17 – 13. PLANNING

CLlr Clack presented planning decisions as follows:

17/11765/FUL – The Glebe House – garden room, pergola, shed. No objection.

18/014171/LBC – The Glebe House – new internal door. No objection.

18/D1162/TCA – 7 Forest Hill – tree work. No objection.

18/019161/TCA – 14 Forest Hill – tree work. No objection.

18/02169/TCA – 9, Fairfield – tree work. No objection.

17/12485/FUL & 18/00201/LBC – Wessex House, 7 Church Street – first floor extension under roof over driveway. No objection with conditions.

18/00195/LBC & 17/12461/FUL – Tottenham House – change of use to residential. No objection with conditions.

Information regarding other plans was presented as follows:

18/00496/ – 16 High Street (previously the Cross Keys). Withdrawn.

Appeal re. 17/04617/FUL– 5 Spaines – retrospective planning application for erection of an ancillary annex and decking. The appeal was dismissed and the enforcement notice requiring demolition was upheld the planning inspectorate.

199.17 – 14. FINANCE

The finance report was approved and the following cheques were approved:

<i>Pay</i>	<i>Cheque #</i>	<i>£ Amount</i>
Youth Club (Jan-Feb 2018)	1400	200.00
Groundwork UK (GBNDP Unused Grant Return)	1399	505.04
Playground Services Ltd (Playground Maintenance)	1401	3,733.20
Village Hall Committee (Sound system)	1403	260.00
<i>Total</i>		<i>4,698.24</i>

The meeting closed at 9pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 12 April 2018.

The next full council meeting is the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 10 May 2018.