**Glemsford Parish Council meeting at Glemsford Village Hall.**

**Tuesday 11th February 2025 @ 7pm**

Chair: Cllr Southgate

 Present: Cllr Tunbridge, Cllr Ansell, Cllr Hall, Cllr Michael Holt, Cllr Margaret Holt, Cllr Marks, Cllr Broadbent and Cllr Dotesio-Eyers

 Clerk: Mrs Julia Howard

 Members of the Public: Five

 **MINUTES**

**25/013 Parish Announcements**

Resignation of Cllr Mills, the Parish Council would like to thank him for all his work on the Parish Council and wish him well for the future. A letter of thanks will be sent.

Cllr Ansell was nominated by Cllr Michael Holt, and seconded by Cllr Margaret Holt. Cllr Ansell agreed to stand all voted in agreement.

**25/014 Apologies for absence –**received from Cllr Plumb and Cllr Kemp

**25/015 Declarations of interest / dispensation requests –** Cllr Michael Holt re: planning

**25/016 To adopt the minutes of the Council meeting held on 8th January 2025**

RESOLVED By show of hands all agreed that the minutes were a true reflection of the meeting.

**25/017 To receive reports:** County Councillor’s report (Mr Kemp)

 District Councillor’s report (Mr M Holt)

 District Councillor’s report (Mr S Plumb)

Cllr Holt gave his report: There has been £31k going towards 25 community projects via a grant scheme to keep warm and active throughout the winter. Visitors came from Japan to see the tree canopy at Babergh. The District Councillors have £2k each as a Councillor grant for community projects 14th March deadline for applications. The Independent living service (ILS) aims to help people live at home for longer. Devolution is going ahead, and fast track has been requested. The County Council elections have been cancelled. Mayoral elections are expected in 2026. It is unclear what structure will guide the process at this point.

**25/018 Public Question Time –** DraftMinutes for January weren’t on the website sooner, but were put up today. Thanks for the PC’s efforts in getting Solar Panels on the Village Hall.

**25/019 Planning**

 **New Applications**

1. **DC/25/00417**   TPO Factory and premises, Lower Road, Glemsford, CO10 7QS Application for works to Tree subject to Tree Preservation Order BT291/G1 - T1 Silver Birch - Fell to ground and replace with 12-14 cm girth Silver Birch within 3M of existing tree.
2. **DC/25/00370**   3 The Seabrooks, CO10 7SN. Replacement of six timber framed double glazed windows to uPVC. Replacement of three timber framed doors to uPVC and composite
3. **DC/25/00195**  23 Brook Street, CO10 7PL. Full Planning Application - Use of annexe approved under DC/24/04918 as combined annex/AirBNB holiday let.
	1. All in favour. 2. This is in keeping and all in favour, 3. Cllr Hall read out a statement of information about the application, and noted that neighbours have made objections in respect of possible noise and sewerage, the PC consider that it is unlikely that there are any planning reasons to object. The PC agreed to make no comment on the application. Individuals may make their own comments/ objections.

**Late addition - DC/23/05127 re: solar farm** – there is a page of new documents on the website. The Clerk will request an extension to the response deadline.

**Decisions**

**REFUSAL: DC/24/02101** - Condition 3 (Fenestration) 36 Tye Green, Glemsford, CO10 7RG

**APPROVAL: DC/21/00754** - Conditions 5 (Employment, Skills and Training Plan), 16 (Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy) and 18 (Noise Attenuation - part-discharge) Location: GCB Factory And Premises, Lower Road, Glemsford, CO10 7QS

**GRANTED: DC/24/05075** Proposal & Location of Development: Conversion of garage including replacement roof and porch. 26 Fourth Avenue, Glemsford. CO10 7UA

**APPROVAL: Non Material Amendment relating to DC/21/00754** - Alteration to the Loading Dock Factory And Premises, Lower Road, Glemsford. CO10 7QS

**APPROVAL: DC/24/02167** - Conditions 4 (Rooflights) and Condition 5 (Timber Facade)

5 Egremont Street, Glemsford, CO10 7SA

**Late addition**

**APPROVAL: DC/24/05082/HH** – Court Farm, Park Lane. CO10 7QP. - Erection of one and a half storey extension (following demolition of single storey extension) and single storey extension to west façade. Erection of glazed link between the main house and annexe. Internal works including removal of stairs in annexe.

**25/020 Accounts for Approval – all voted in agreement by show of hands**

RESOLVED

Main account - 0692

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| HMRC | 401.12 |
| Ansell Expenses (from Jan) | 100 |
| Greenscape Energy | 36503.42 |
| Pensions | 666.02 |
| Clerk Shadowing | 360.00 |

Village Hall account – 7960

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Clerk: VH supplies | 13.80 |
| EDF Energy | 311.37 |
| Viking  | 173.26 |

Hall hire income: £tbc

**25/021 Approval of Policies –** Policies approved last February have been circulated, for approval next month, changes to internet banking and electronic payments policy have been drafted and will be circulated, to update the RFO responsibilities.

**25/022 Porch Project Bus –** to consider allowing the bus to use the village Hall carpark RESOLVED and /or to donate funds towards the running of the bus.

The PC are happy for the VH carpark to be used. Re: Funding, the PC has £1000 in the 2024/25 budget for youth club. Cllr Michael Holt proposed that the £1000 youth club funds are used for the Porch Project Bus. Cllr Ansell seconded this and by show of hands, all Councillors were in agreement.

Cllr Michael Holt will enquire as to whether there is any other grant funding available from Babergh.

**25/023 Reports from Working groups**

**Cemetery** – Risk assessments due, this includes a wobble test on the headstones. The cemetery needs a tidy up and the wreaths collected. This will be done in March.

**Finance** – A new chair of finance is required. Adrian proposed Lesli, Alison seconded and RESOLVED all voted in favour.

**Village Hall** – an update on the village hall

TP fire came to undertake their remedial works – all works were completed and the Old Library is on the central fire system.

Reduced rates for regular bookings – it was agreed following discussion, that the PC will do some analysis on the use and costs in the Village Hall and come back to this in April / May. There are significant costs to be met within the VH at the moment, and the car park is in need of some attention, however, the PC would like to be able to offer a discount to valued customers.

**Item 1.** To consider allowing hire for the use of Puppy Classes – an additional clause and deposit would be added to the booking forms, the PC is open to this but concerned about scratching the floor, happy to trial it. Clerk to advise enquirer.

**Item 2.** To ratify the decision made outside of the PC meeting to go ahead with remedial works to the Heritage room for its rental in early March. All agreed.

Baffles are required to be put up in the hall. The clerk has sent some historic photos for an updated price.

**Item 3.** To consider the purchase of a card payment machine for rentals. It has been requested by some parishioners. Although the purchase cost is small and the %charge is low, it will add up over time and so it was decided to wait and for the Clerk will monitor the situation.

**Neighbourhood plan** – Ian Poole has advised that it has not been submitted to Babergh and a few minor changes are required before submission.

**Climate & Nature / Greening Glemsford** – there are 2 events coming up, litter pick on 23rd March, which is usually well supported, Babergh collect the bags of litter on the Monday after. The second event is The secret life of Swifts talk (by SOS swifts) on 2/4/25, in the Old Library, swift nesting boxes and a caller will be donated to the PC in return for hosting the box and can be positioned on the rear of the Village Hall. If the community would like swift boxes a donation is requested.

The Churchyard project is still running, pathways are being put in, and introduction of historic plants, along with the efforts from the Eco Church group.

**Public Rights of Way and Highways** – the fence at the bottom of Skates Hill, the concerns over visibility and safety for vehicles passing, Highways are looking into this further. Footpath sign near Greyhound Road is on the ground, it has been reported to Suffolk Council by a Member of the Public. Also one is down on New Street, which has been reported, along with a second sign.

**25/024 Correspondence to report –** Richard Stephens,VETS Volunteer Emergency Telephone System representative and Chair of Somerton Village Parish approached us to see whether the system was of interest to us, the PC doesn’t feel this is necessary in Glemsford but may be able to suggest free training available, cllr Broadbent to advise the clerk.

A report of pavement sweeping at Weavers Drive and Hunts Hill, the day after channel sweeping, leaving mud and debris in the road where it had been blown by the contractor, the clerk will email Cllr Holt to enquire whether Babergh know about this work.

**25/025 Date of next Parish Council meeting:**  Tuesday 11th March. Meeting closed 20.31