**Glemsford Parish Council**

 **Notice of meeting to be held at Glemsford Village Hall**

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

Minutes

Chair: Cllr Adrian Southgate

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

Clerk: Mrs Julia Howard

Members of the public: Six

**25/025 Parish Announcements –** thanks to Tim Tunbridge and Laurie Milton who have put up picture frames at the village hall

**25/026 Apologies for absence –** apologies received from Cllr Plumb

**25/027 Declarations of interest / dispensation requests –** Cllr Holt re: planning, Cllr Southgate re: grass cutting contract.

**25/028 To adopt the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th February 2025**

**RESOLVED –** agreed as a true record by all and signed by the chair (two typo amendments initialled).

**25/029 To receive reports:** County Councillor’s report (Mr Kemp)

 District Councillor’s report (Mr M Holt)

 District Councillor’s report (Mr S Plumb)

Cllr Michael Holt gave his report, which had been circulated to Councillors. Discussions on devolution followed.

**25/030 Public Question Time –** One Member of the Public spoke to the Council regarding the library service which has just received news that it will be taken back into Suffolk County’s control, due to go to cabinet for a decision on 18th March, the member of the public advised of a petition and asked for support, people can offer support by signing the petition and making their views known to the County Council.

Another Member of the Public spoke to the PC regarding the proposal for Boxted Solar Farm, they sit on the ‘save Glem valley’ group and have objections to the application for several reasons, in particular the equivalent size being larger than Glemsford village, 100acres, 85,000 solar panels, up to 5m off the ground with 12 sea-container sized lithium batteries. It will be much more visible than the other solar sites in the area. There is much valued wildlife including skylarks. There is no direct community benefit from the installation, and connection to the grid could take 10 years. This is a second submission. ‘Save Glem Valley’ has submitted their response on the planning site, which can be viewed by the public. There are 9 solar farms within a 4 mile radius (2 in operation, 7 in planning) there are other sites which would be more efficient and on land that can’t be used for other things like farming or housing.

**25/031 Planning**

**New Applications**

**DC/25/00533** Proposal: Householder Application - Replacement windows to front of property Location: 40 Hunts Hill, CO10 7RP - ***The*** ***PC approves, by show of hands***

**DC/25/00745** Proposal: Submission of Details, Reserved Matters, Application for Outline Planning Application DC/23/01486 Allowed under Appeal APP/D3505/W/23/3325891. Access, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale to be considered for 1no dwelling following removal of extension. Location: 20 Tye Green, Glemsford, CO10 7RH, - ***The PC approves, by show of hands***

**DC/25/00512 *(consultation extension granted*)** Proposal: Full Planning Application - Erection of 1 No. Self-Build Single Storey Dwelling, with associated Parking (amended scheme to withdrawn Application DC/24/02350). Location: Greenlawns, Tye Green, CO10 7RH – ***The PC does not support this application, particularly due to lack of garden space, all agree by show of hands and an objection will be submitted to the planning authority***

**DC/23/05127** Proposal: Planning Application. Construction of a solar farm with all associated works, equipment, necessary infrastructure and biodiversity net gains. Location: Land West Of Boxted

***The PC agreed to object to this application for several reasons and in support of the neighbouring village, the Chair abstained from voting. All others voted by show of hands – the clerk and Cllr Hall will formulate an objection statement and submit***

**Decisions**

**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. – **Granted**

**DC/24/05313**    2 Long Pastures, CO10 7SS Erection of a porch extension following removal of existing canopy - **Granted**

**25/031 Accounts for Approval**

RESOLVED The accounts were circulated; additional upcoming payments to Altek for legionnaires testing and risk assessment and the remaining half payment for the War Memorial painting will be paid out next week. All approved by show of hands

Main Account (0692)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| HMRC PAYE | 401.12 |
| CRHAMPTON | 750 |
| Clerk - Shadowing | 360 |
| Greenscape Energy | 36503.42 |
| Pension  | 666.02 |
| Bins | 67.11 |

Village Hall account (7960)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Wages | 235.52 |
| Viking | 173.26 |
| Jetforce | 180 |
| EDF Energy | 311.37 |

Rental income: £726.50

**25/032 Confirmation of Internal Auditor –** This year SALC will be used again for the RESOLVED internal audit, all voted in favour by show of hands

**25/033 Confirmation of RFO –** The Clerk was employed to be the Council’s Responsible RESOLVED Financial Officer (RFO), each year the PC needs to agree to this again. All voted by show of hands to approve the clerk to be RFO.

**25/034 Approval of Policies –** The PC’s policies were all reviewed last year and the Parish RESOLVED Council has since reviewed and changed its ‘Internet Banking and electronic payments’ policy. The remaining policies will be reviewed over the coming year. All Cllrs voted in favour to review over next year.

**25/035 Risk Assessment reviews –** The Parish Council has recently reviewed a number of risk RESOLVED assessments and made changes to the following ones;

Financial risk assessment - done, Cemetery risk assessment – done, Fire Risk Assessment - done, Legionnaires Risk assessment – Scheduled for Friday 13th March, Play Park Risk Assessments have been requested and will be done soon. All Councillors voted by show of hands to accept the Risk Assessments.

**25/036 Reports from Working Groups –**

**Grass cutting Tender –** the responses to the Tender were assessed ‘blindly’ to short list them, then the applications were reviewed further and the PC selected applicant number **three** from the process, due diligence will follow and then the contract will be offered to applicant 3. The Councillors voted to move forward with this, by a show of hands. Chair Cllr Southgate abstained from voting.

**Finance –** The insurance renewal is due on 1st April however the Insurance company has not yet provided an updated quote to include the solar panels and batteries.

**Allotments –** Next year’s rent is due by the end of this month, rent emails have gone out to allotment holders.

**Village Hall -** the acoustics panels are due to be delivered in the next week or so and then installed

**Cemetery –** the risk assessment of the cemetery was done last week, there were no concerns requiring immediate action. A working group will be attending the cemetery on 22nd March from 10.30-1pm to tidy up the areas ready for the grass cutting and to make it tidy for Mothering Sunday. It is a lawn cemetery, which means that items may be left on the plinths only; parishioners are asked to remove anything else if it has value to them before the tidy up.

**Planning / Neighbourhood Plan** – the village Neighbourhood plan has been submitted today to Babergh and the PC website will be updated with the new documents.

**Public Rights of Way / Highways –** The recent tarmac work to the pavements from Hunts Hill has caused upheaval by having both sides of the road worked on.

There are issues with vehicles parking with wheels up on pavements and greens causing damage to the pavements and greens.

Windmill hill has also been resurfaced which is generally very good, with one dip, which Cllr Holt will take back the feedback for.

**Greening Glemsford –** The Litter Pick is coming up, on Sunday 23rd March 10am-1pm meeting at the village hall, volunteers are needed and welcome, hot drinks are being provided in the Angel Pub afterwards. Babergh District Council is supplying the bags as they usually do and we have equipment.

Two surveys have been done with the thermal imaging camera and a 3rd is planned for Saturday. There is a Swift Talk at 7.30pm on 2nd April at the Village Hall, all welcome.

A tiny hedgehog was rescued from a resident’s garden weighing just 300g, it was taken to hedgehog hospital where it doubled its weight and was returned to the garden where it was found.

**25/037 Correspondence to report**

**The Porch Project Bus** came to visit the Village Hall last week, and the PC hopes to support it with a financial grant, Cllr Michael Holt is looking into further other funds to also assist with the costs.

**The Tye Green Bus shelter** needs some roofing repairs once the trees/growth have been removed

**Support of Honours application**, on behalf of a long standing member of the community who has been involved in running many groups and projects. Cllr Margaret Holt and Cllr Hall will write the recommendation but have asked the clerk to get more details about the application and dates/ deadlines.

**A resident at Fairgreen** has reported lorries turning and causing damage to the green. This has been looked at and there is vehicular damage / welts at one end. If they could send in some photos of the culprits we may be able to take some action.

**MP James Cartilage** – has a surgery in the village hall on 21/3/25 4.15-6pm, by appointment only. The Parish Council will be allocated a slot.

**25/038 Date of next Parish Council meeting:**  8th April at 7.30pm directly after the Annual Parish Meeting at 6.45pm.