

# UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

## Great Elm Parish Council

(Website: [greatelmparishcouncil.webs.com](http://greatelmparishcouncil.webs.com))

### Minutes of the Great Elm Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 25 July 2016 at 7:00pm

**Present:** Edmund Thompson Chairman (arrived 8.45pm)  
 Ric Swann Vice Chairman  
 Jim Duffus Council Member  
 Kevin Whitmarsh Council Member  
 Gerry Peachey Council Member  
 Joy Book Clerk to the Parish Council

1. **Apologies:** None

2. **Public Participation:** None

3. **Declarations of Interest:** None

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Agreed as correct and signed by the Vice Chairman

5. **Matters Arising or Outstanding from the last meeting:**

5.1 *Maximum number of councillors permitted:* MDC has responded 'There is no set maximum. To change the number, the District Council would have to undertake a community governance review. This takes about a year, and any change would come into effect at the date of the next election in May 2019.' This process will not be pursued.

5.2 *Improvements to the duck pond area:* The owner of the land is unknown. Jackdaws are looking at their deeds. Agreement and co-operation between the owners and the Parish Council is required before any works can be undertaken. Area requires a general tidy up rather than a massive overhaul although the bank has become eroded due to run off from the road and does require building up. Farmers have been noted driving large containers down to the pond to syphon off water. Ric Swann will talk to the farmers.

During periods of heavy rainfall surface water runs off Elm Lane, over the bridge to the 'beach'. Jim Duffus will assess whether there is a channel here and will also check the existing gully for blockages.

The process of how to move the improvements forward will be put in place at the next meeting.

5.3 *Noticeboard Perspex:* Clerk had tried to get several quotes but contractors either failed to respond or reported that they did not do Perspex. Jim Duffus has collected the Perspex and will install it. Ric Swann proposed a vote of thanks to Jim for doing this as this will save over £40 on contractor installation costs.

5.4 *Parish Path Liaison Officer for GEPC:* Gerry Peachey agreed to be the Parish Council representative. Clerk to send him a map of the parish footpaths. An advert will also be placed on the websites for any parishioners who would like to help undertake PPLO duties.

As a result of comments made at the Annual Parish Meeting regarding the reserves held, the Parish Council will look into ways of using some of the money to improve the village. Jim Duffus said he would be happy to carry out small maintenance tasks. The offer was gratefully accepted.

6. **Highways/footpaths**

6.1 *Reinstatement of white lines – The Beeches to Cooks Lane:* Clerk to chase.

6.2 *Large lorries – Elm Lane/Vallis:* Awaiting the installation of the signs.

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 Somerset BA11 1JX

## 7. Financial report and matters

### 7.1 Accounts

- |    |  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| a) | Clerk's salary January-July 2016 plus backpay to April | £208.98 |
| b) | HMRC PAYE Periods 4-6                                  | £25.80  |
| c) | Perspex for noticeboard                                | £46.12  |

7.2 *Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England*: Document had previously been circulated and comes into effect for the 2016/17 audit. All approved.

7.3 *Precept*: Clerk reported that the precept had not been paid into the account. On investigation it was found that the cheque book bank details used to complete the application form differed from the account details on the statement. Clerk has been in contact with Mendip DC to trace payment and the bank. Clerk will obtain a new cheque book with details that tally with the statements.

## 8. Planning

Location	Application No & Type	Proposal	Mendip DC decision
The Barn, Elm Lane	2016/1521/APP	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 1 (landfill gas protection measures) on prior approval 2015/0613/PAA	Approved
The Barn, Elm Lane	2016/1694/CLP	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed use to carry out building work reasonably necessary to effect for conversion of agricultural building as per approval 2015/0613/PAA	Approved

## 9. Correspondence

- 9.1 *Mendip District Council withdrawal of Council Tax Support Grant*: This grant will be withdrawn next year. This will result in a reduction in income of approximately £30-35.
- 9.2 *Email from resident regarding Great Elm slip road*: Clerk to refer matter to Highways.
- 9.3 *Somerset County Council's Chairman's Award nominations*: No action.

## 10. Clerk's matters - None

## 11. Any Other Business:

- 11.1 *Tree on grass triangle*: Jim Duffus will remove the three lowest branches so signs can be seen.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

### Date of the next Meeting

Monday 26 September 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Signed by E Thompson  
(Chairman)

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Date

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