

# GROTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 4 May 2022 in Groton Village Hall at 7.30 pm

**Present: P Roberts, G Becker, A Dixon-Smith, S McGrath, N Chapman, J Long, R Jones (Clerk)**

- 1. Election of Chairman** - P Roberts was elected as Chairman. Proposed by A Dixon-Smith. Seconded by G Becker
- 2. Election of Vice-Chairman** – Adam Dixon-Smith was elected as Vice- Chairman. Proposed by S McGrath. Seconded by Nigel Chapman
- 3. To receive apologies for absence** – R Cheeseman
- 4. To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest in any item on this Agenda** - None
- 5. Appointment of representatives (if required)**
  - 5.1. Babergh Area Committee of SALC - None
  - 5.2. Boxford Community Council – N Chapman
  - 5.3. Groton Village Hall – G Becker
- 6. Minutes of the meeting of 2 March 2022** - Approved
- 7. Chairman's and Clerk's reports and correspondence** - None
- 8. Planning matters:**
  - 8.1. Planning applications received - None
  - 8.2. Planning decisions received - None
  - 8.3. Neighbourhood Plan – Following the presentation by Paul Bryant from Babergh DC, it was agreed to hold a meeting to discuss the formal process and to invite Mike Gibson from Edwardstone PC to attend as he was leading on the Edwardstone Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk to complete the Babergh DC online application for Designated Area Status which is the first step in the process.
- 9. Highway and Footpath Matters** – It was agreed to continue with Andy Adams carrying out the footpath cutting.
- 10. Financial Matters:**
  - 10.1 Statement of Finances and Orders for Payment - Approved
  - 10.2 To approve the end of year accounts - Approved
  - 10.3 Annual Governance Statement (s1 of the Annual Return) - Approved
  - 10.4 Annual Accounting Statements (s2 of the Annual Return) – Approved
  - 10.5 Other Financial Matters
    - Notice Board – One quote received. Now looking at options for a new site. It was suggested that the wall of the old village Dog pound may be a suitable site although ownership of the wall needed to be established.
    - Charitable Donation – A late application for a donation of £500.00 had been received from Groton Winthrop Mulberry Trust. The Council was happy to approve this amount in principal, in lieu of ongoing work to trees and footpaths. A discussion took place about whether the Community Infrastructure Levy payment the Council

had received from Babergh DC could be used to help further improvements to the Groton Winthrop Mulberry Trust croft. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the trustees asking for a more detailed plan of the work need to improve the croft and the benefits this would bring to the community.

**11. Future Agenda items**

**12. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 6 July at 7.00pm**

*Richard Jones Clerk to the Council, 23 Glanville Road, Hadleigh, IP7 5SQ*  
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