GREAT ELM PARISH MEETING MINUTES

Date: 2024 MONDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 7PM **LOCATION: GREAT ELM VILLAGE HALL**

ATTENDING CHAIRMAN - Anand Seegobin ADMIN - Gemma Brooking

☑ Jim & Judy Duffus
☑ Richard Swann (Planning)
☑ Roger & Judith Smart
☑ Dan Smith
☑ Gwyneth Evans
☑ Ricardo & Sally Rosa
☑ Jean Hirst

APOLOGIES

☒ Stephen & Sarah Bradshaw
☒ Richard King
☒ Clare Baker Smith
☒ Ruth Lindars

#	REMARKS	ACTION
1.	**INTRODUCTIONS** ♦ The Chairman thanked the members for attending and noted that there it was a shame there were not more attending.	
2.	**MINUTES READ & AGREED** ♦ Available on Village website- http://greatelm.org/news/. It was agreed that they accurately reflected the meeting and are therefore approved by Richardo Rosa and seconded by Rick.	
3.	**FINANCIAL UPDATE** *a.* Financial Statement accepted and confirmed *b.* Funds available – £11,793 in parish meeting account remaining from the parish council. **Funds Paid out** *c.* Cheque #334 £102.59 Web Hosting *d.* Cheque #333 £108.38 Mowing *e.* Cheque #332 £286.26 6 months of Insurance *f.* Cheque #335 £412.00 Council Liability Insurance for two years *g.* Santander Bank Account name changed, address changed and signatories changed to Annand, Emma TC and Gemma Brooking. *h.* The meeting voted with a majority for online banking in May 2023 this needs to be implemented. If possible. *i.* **AGAR** Form audited by Roger Smart was unanimously approved and signed by Chairman. *j.* Roger Smart suggested that Grants should be made to the PCC and village hall for future costs. *k.* It was suggested by email that the remaining balance be gifted to the village hall management committee. This will require discussion and approval from the members at the next meeting – Chairman to investigate implications. *l.* The village have unanimously agreed to share the funding of mowing of the triangle, the webhosting and liability insurance for the village hall.	G.B
4.	**PLANNING** *a.* Rick Swann planning member had no outstanding planning applications. *b.* Ric will post the planning applications on Whatsapp, but planning application objections should be submitted via Ric - richardswann@me.com *c.* All applications are available using link below. https://publicaccess.mendip.gov.uk/online-applications/simpleSearchResults.do?action=firstPage *d.* The Barn Meadow development has an open day on 14th September.	

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5.	**AOB-MAN in TENT** *a.* He moved to Bluebell wood (Old Down Wood) and is still defecating and causing rubbish on this site. It is believed that Bluebell is owned by HM Materials therefore a letter will be sent to HM to ask if he could be moved on. *b.* 10 bin bags removed by the Chairman and Richard from the last site.	**GB to send letter to HM + Mells Estate**
6.	**AOB-VALLEY TREES** *a.* Hanson will continue the Ash Die Back felling from September. There are another 300 trees to be felled. Although there should be no disruption to footpaths the tree felling company will close paths if/when deemed necessary. *b.* Trees in the river are posing a flooding risk especially at the bridge. Letter to Alex & Andy from HM to suggest they clear debris *c.* Environment Agency are responsible for the flow of the river, but structural damaged may be caused by large tree debris against the bridge.	**GB to get map with owners** **GB to send letter to HM**
7.	**AOB-FOOTPATH ACCESSIBILITY** *a.* HM had meeting in April with the village to liaise about the continued felling of ash. The paths that are not rights of way will be left to rewild, but the existing paths will be kept clear. There was also a suggestion from HM that they will leave trunks in river to slow the flow. They would also like to prevent the erosion of the riverbanks and are looking into ways to achieve this. *b.* Update from HM – available on village website. http://greatelm.org/local-news/ *c.* Mells estate own the part where the river is flooding towards Mells, west of Elm Lane– another letter to Oliver to ask if the tree can be removed.	**GB to find map with owners** **GB to send letter to HM** **GB to send letter to Mells Estate**
8.	**AOB - BANKING** *a.* The banking issues now sorted out. With 3 signatories, The Chairman, The Treasurer and the Administrator. *b.* New cheque book has been requested. *c.* Change of address needs to be checked	
9.	**CHARITY STATUS** *a.* Ric has updated the Administrator with an email of info. *b.* The administrator to check that the village hall management committee trustees are not liable as charity trustees. (Jim, Annand, Emma & Gemma) *c.* Should the management committee be changed to a Charity limited by guarantee – a CIC. *d.* Likewise, should the parish meeting become a charity would this be useful or should the funds from the parish meeting be gifted/granted to the management committee and that changes to a village management committee not specifically the village hall management committee. *e.* Options to be looked at. *f.* The parish is fully supported of the Great Elm Village Hall Management Committee and unanimously supports the GEVHMC.	**GB to check**

10. AOB - VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

a. Village hall now useable and almost finished. It requires decorating – painting and the a new window.
b. The Chairman thinks we should accept the insurance claim amount of £15,895. However, the insurance company, Sedgwick have suggested we get an independent surveyor to clarify the rebuild cost. If this is reduced the insurance amount will increase from the existing 51.1%
c. Sedgwick rebuild cost £4,250 per m2, but never surveyed in person giving a rebuild cost of £630,000. The current insurance states a rebuild cost of £312,000.
d. The builder's estimate was £52,786.92. Sedgwick, insurers questioned this amount and agreed on £45.792.79 inc VAT.
e. Email from Sedgwick - "Following further referral to our surveyors following comments made on the points raised questioning the estimate, they advise that the repair costs to the property should be for the sum of £38,160.79 +VAT (£45,792.79). Given this information, we would be able to propose settlement on that basis.
f. Additional sums for the emergency works already completed at the property were agreed at £5,511.60.
g. This would give a total claim figure of £51,304.55.
h. After the application of the condition of Average at 51.09%, this leaves a figure of £26,211.49.
i. Taking into account the policy excess of £250 and previous payments made, a final payment will be due under this claim for the sum of £15,895.62.
j. To date a sum of £32,732.20 paid to the builder.
k. Painting and window repairs still outstanding.
l. The chairman would welcome help to paint and decorate the hall. The paint has been donated but helpers are required.
m. Window repairs Quotes per window. Additional grant application has been made to National Lottery.
n. Estimate from Roy - £3,600
o. Estimate from Monarch Joinery - £4,062

11. DEFIBRILLATOR

a. Heidelberg Materials have offered to grants the village funds to purchase a Defibrillator.
b. A position outside the village hall and down in the valley was deemed the most suitable, however it needs power.
c. Purchase a phone box £3,840 + delivery (or could be collected in horsebox) and use solar power for one in the valley?? https://www.x2connect.com/Shop/K6/Kiosks/K6%20Red%20Telephone%20Box
d. Members unanimously agreed - purchase will go ahead.
e. There is no service cost but the unit must be connect to power to stay warm and dry.
f. Unit + Locked Cabinet - £2,070 inc. VAT – village unanimously agreed to purchase a unit. The village meeting to pay.
g. Parish buying provide defibrillators at a cost of
h. https://defibrillators.bhf.org.uk/zoll-aed-3-fully-automatic-defibrillator-and-locked-external-cabinet-package
i. Richard King via email – 1/9/24 – 'At a previous meeting there was mention of installation of a defibrillator (presumably near the Village Hall). I don't know the feasibility of that from a technical perspective. However, if it is feasible, I think Heidelberg Materials would be prepared to fund it from their community fund. So, I'm just wanting to raise this for discussion if you think it appropriate'

12.	**SPEED SIGNS** *a.* Email to Diane roadsandtransport@somerset.gov.uk 20/9/24 *b.* If all members could report signage issues using fix my street https://www.fixmystreet.com/ *c.* OR Somerset highways https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/report-a-problem-on-the-road *d.* The faded road sign reported reference 821184 *e.* Falling over sign next to Wadbury view reference 821185 *f.* 30MPH hidden on approach from Hapsford Hill reference 821186 *g.* Suggestion to lay new red high friction surface pad with 30 roundels over it plus install dragon teeth marking on high friction surface as traffic calming measure. Email sent to Highways.	
13.	**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** *a.* Would like to more people to be involved with the village. It is important to realise that villagers need help maintain the village and to give suggestion that would improve the village. *b.* It would be good if the village could be a little more hands on and do a little more self-help. *c.* Please let the chairman know if you are able to help with mowing, road clearing, painting the village hall. *d.* The Administrator to collate a list and ask for helpers – date to be set with suggestion of BBQ or Lunch afterwards or Pie and a pint.	**GB**
14	**TREE SAPLINGS** *a.* Judy reported that saplings have been given to Heidelberg Materials for use in the woodland replanting. *b.* Please do continue grow saplings for use replanting the valley woodland.	
15	**WEBSITE** *a.* Village website has now been updated. But please do let Gemma know if there are any amendments or additions.	
	https://www.somerset.gov.uk/newsroom/ **Any Somerset council news is published here.**	
	Next meeting TBC – Meeting finished at 8.45pm	**Date un-decided**