

GLANTON PARISH COUNCIL

GLANTON PARISH COUNCIL held a special meeting on 4 September 2017 at 7.00pm in The Memorial Hall, Glanton.

Present:

Parish Councillors Angus Collingwood-Cameron, Mrs Susan Collingwood-Cameron, Jerry Dronsfield, John Guiry, Iain Hedley, John Lang, and Jon Radgick (Chairman in the Chair)

SE Rickitt – Clerk

1: Introduction

1.1 Welcome, apologies for absence and declarations of interest/grant of any dispensations and possible co-option

Councillors Angus Collingwood-Cameron and Mrs Susan Rogers had presented their apologies.

The Council was reminded of the dispensation granted to Councillor Radgick at the previous meeting.

2: Site of St Peter's Church ("The Site")

2.1 Councillor Radgick explained that the special meeting had been called following his discussions with the owners of the Site following the Council's decision to object to *Application 17/02457/OUT - Land to west of Whickham House, The Causeway - Outline application for residential development with all matters reserved* as it did not make any provision for planning gain by way of a play area. An email setting out the discussion had been circulated to all Councillors and a copy is attached to the signed minutes.

2.2 The purpose of the meeting was to enable the Council to consider whether it wished, in principle, to accept the offer of a transfer of the Site into the Council's ownership for use as a play area.

2.3 Councillors debated the issue and it was clear that all Councillors regarded this as probably the only and best opportunity to have a play area for younger children within the village, an aspiration contained in the Parish Plan.

2.4 The following points of detail were made during the discussion

a. There would be a cost in preparing the site by removing the footing of the former church, although it might be possible to have the developers clear these as part of their preparatory works

b. Councillor Hedley informed fellow Councillors that other communities were setting up fund-raising groups to access funds not available to parish councils for this type of project. He will provide details. **Action IH**

c. There was a preference for such a group to also be responsible for the day-to-day operation of a play area, albeit accepting that the Council would be ultimately responsible if the group ceased to be viable.

d. Whilst the clerk drew attention to the potential availability of a loan from the Public Works Loan Board, the Council considered that funding should be raised by seeking grants and donations.

e. Concern was expressed about access onto the road as the road width might not allow a barrier to stop children from running into the road. It was agreed to see if the owners would include a strip of land to the main entrance of the proposed housing development.

f. Councillors considered it essential that parishioners are consulted to see if they supported a play area and to gauge the level of possible use.

g. The clerk will circulate details of the permitted development rights available to the Council. **Action SER**

2.5 The Council resolved to accept the principle of the land being transferred into the Council's ownership (subject to satisfactory agreement of the details of the transfer).

2.6 Councillor Radgick was authorised to continue his discussions with the owners of the Site. **Action JR**

Confirmed as a true record
and signed by the Chairman

Date