

GRANGE PARK PARISH COUNCIL

Community Centre, School Lane
Grange Park, Northampton NN4 5FZ

Parish Council: 01604 702938

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER 2014 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK.

Present: Cllrs M Smith (Ch.), S Ash, D Harris, A Walker, M Aluko, K Clarke, S Allen, N Stansfield and J Davies

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Parish Clerk).

Prior to the meeting the Chairman of the Parish Council outlined the background, possible solutions and financial investments required to deploy superfast broadband to Grange Park. He also read out the proposal which had been considered the night before at SNC Committee meeting. Copy can be viewed at

<http://modgov.southnorthants.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=117&MIId=2070>

14/186 Public Questions

186.1 Approximately 12 residents joined the meeting to discuss the consideration of a financial contribution towards meeting the identified funding gap for a solution to deploy superfast broadband to Grange Park.

Discussions took place on the following:

- Using a different supplier and exploring options
- The impact of not having superfast broadband , i.e. reduction in house prices.
- Is there any return on our contributions
- Concerns expressed about how the parish council were going to fund this within their budget constraints

14/187 Apologies for Absence

187.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors :Cllrs W Shakespeare , C Fry and County Councillor M Clarke .

14/188 Declaration of Members Interest

188.1 No declarations were received.

14/189 Finance

189.1 The Parish Council considered and voted on the following proposal:

To consider a financial contribution of £20,000 towards meeting the identified funding gap for a solution to deploy superfast broadband to Grange Park.

Vote Results : 8 approve , 1 abstained

It was agreed and approved that the Parish Council would be willing to contribute the above sum of monies to the scheme once they receive reassurance, commitment and clarification on the following points:

1. Commitment from BT regarding the schedule of works outlining the commencement and completion dates.

2. Commitment from Northampton County Council that they ensure BT meets the subscribed deadlines as detailed in the above schedule and if not penalties are put in place and the contract between BT and the County Council is changed accordingly.

3. Clarification from SNC regarding the actions that were minuted at their meeting on Wednesday 17th December which are as follows:
That the Director of Resources be requested to explore the option of a levying a special expense in relation to the parish of Grange Park to cover the financial contribution and to report back to a future meeting of Council on the final funding source identified .

Copy can be viewed on:
<http://modgov.southnorthants.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CID=117&MID=2070>

4. To make sure that the technology installed is future proof and resilient to upgrades

5. Regular updates from District/County elected representatives

6. Clarification is sought as to the technology to be used , is it going to be (FTTC)Superfast Broadband to the Cabinet or (FTTP) Fibre to the premises. If it is the latter why are 50 premises unable to be part of the scheme and what is the proposed solution to enable this house to have superfast broadband.

7. What disruption / interruption will there be to the existing service while these works are being carried out

14/190 Administration & Service Request

Nothing to report

14/191 Date of the Next Meeting

- 191.1 It was noted that due to the Christmas/New Year holidays that the next Parish Council meeting will be on the 8th January 2015.
- 192.1 Agenda item : To discuss the draft budget and make the appropriate changes to incorporate the sum of £20,000 as detailed above.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.