

# Glaphorn Parish Council

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## **Minutes of the Glaphorn Annual Parish Meeting held at the Village Hall, Main Street on Thursday 13 April 2017 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr. Malcolm Moss (Parish Council Chairman) and 10 members of the public

Also in attendance: Alan Tresadern (Parish Clerk) and PC Paul Mitchinson – Northants Police.;

Apologies: County Councillor Heather Smith (NCC Oundle Ward), Katherine Towns, Roy Kerr; Jeff Knowles, Brigitte Hilton and Heather Ball.

1. The Chairman welcomed those present.
2. Police report:  
Lead Constable Paul Mitchinson presented a report on behalf of Northamptonshire Police.

*Headlines from the report – The Force restructuring means officers patrol an area in proportion to the threat level. Recently, in Glaphorn two burglaries have been reported and there has been one safeguarding crime. PC Mitchinson said, private CCTV is not only a useful deterrent but a very helpful tool for the Police to use when trying to apprehend the criminals. Community Speed Watch rules have been relaxed and a number of villages have set this scheme up in conjunction with a neighbouring parish. The Cross-Border Police Team continues to achieve success.*

3. County Councillor's report:  
In her absence, the Clerk read a report from Councillor Heather Smith, submitted on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council.

*Headlines from the report – With over 1000 children and 8000 adults receiving support, social care absorbs almost 2/3rds of our £400million budget. Our highways teams are carrying out large scale patching of the roads but despite the Government grant of £1million in additional funding, there will never be enough money to do everything. I welcome the number of villages that have taken responsibility for the verge cutting within their parish; it certainly shows improvements. The changeover to the education system, from three tier to two tier, is now complete. Educational performance and achievements by the children in this area is already improving. I fully support the initiative from the village to try to obtain land behind the school. Hopefully repair work to the Nassington to Fotheringhay narrow road bridge will start soon. The Highways team have promised more visible 'Give Way' signs at the Cotterstock/Southwick crossroads in Glaphorn.*

4. District Councillors report:  
There is currently no District Councillor in place for the Prebendal Ward.

5. The meeting received reports from the following organisations:

- 5.1. Parish Council
- 5.2. Village Hall
- 5.3. Glaphorn Allotment Gardener's Association
- 5.4. Glaphorn School
- 5.5. Southwick & Glaphorn Show
- 5.6. Glaphorn WI
- 5.7. Royal Oak Club
- 5.8. St Leonard's Church

5.9. Neighbourhood Planning Group

*To read the reports in full please visit the village website [www.glaphorn.org.uk](http://www.glaphorn.org.uk)*

6. Any Other Business

It was agreed that the annual litter pick should take place two weeks earlier in the year.

7. Close

There was no further business and the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.30 pm.

Signed.....  
(Chairman)

Date.....

DRAFT

**Reports/.....**

## REPORTS

### Parish Council

**Neighbourhood Plan** - One of the first resolutions made by the council, back in May 2016, was to form the Glapthorn Neighbourhood Planning Group (a sub-committee of the council) to draw up a Neighbourhood Plan for the village. The work of the NP will be reported separately by the Group's Clerk, Alan Barnish.

**Traffic and speeding** - We are repeatedly reminded of the traffic problems in the parish, particularly speeding on the Benefield - Cotterstock road in Upper Glapthorn, and on the Oundle-Southwick road. The traffic through Glapthorn can only increase, with the development of Weldon and the former Deenethorpe Airfield. We are aware there is no money in the NCC coffers, therefore, the PC is currently developing a traffic plan for Highways Authority approval. Once approved the council will seek private funding. Northamptonshire Police extended an invitation for Glapthorn to join the Community Speed Watch programme in 2017 but unfortunately, when it came down to seeking volunteers to take part, we had no support from the community. It would be very useful to obtain up-to-date speeding results and we could run a one-off campaign if some volunteers were to come forward.

**Recreational area for the village** - Early in the year the council made known to NCC that there is a desire within Glapthorn to create a 'recreational space' for local children, and the school. (This came out of the early consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan). The NCC failed in its negotiations with a local land owner to secure the field behind the school and so the Parish Council decided to set up a sub-committee to explore opportunities for independent funding and open up their own dialogue with the Wilkinson family, with a view to securing land for use by both the village and the school, and possibly a local sports group. The plan is to include off-road parking for parents at school drop-off and pick-up times and changing rooms. We will need more volunteers to join the

**Grass verge maintenance** - Whilst recognising the budget constraints being experienced by Northampton County Council, the members agreed that overall presentation of the grass verges had been poor and steps should be taken to improve their appearance. It was resolved that the council take direct responsibility for the grass maintenance and following a wide consultation with residents it was agreed to fund the service from a Council Tax uplift.

**Diversion of rights of way** - An application has been made to the Rights of Way Officer for the diversion of the footpaths that run across land owned by Glapthorn Manor and Manor Farm; between Main Street and Southwick Road. The general plan will be for the paths to follow the line of the brook.

**Flooding** - Following yet another flood incident at the bottom of Brookside the Council successfully applied to be part of the Pathfinder II Flooding Resilience Project, run by Northamptonshire County Council. The project aims to assist community-led improvements in resilience and preparedness for communities who are at risk of surface water flooding. A flood survey of Glapthorn was recently undertaken and we await follow-up action.

**Planning** - The council considered several applications for planning approval, including: a replacement miscanthus storage barn at Manor Farm, the Braesby housing development and a housing development on Glapthorn road between Main Street and Leverton.

**Finance** – In preparing the budget for next year, the councillors considered the cost of taking on a higher level of grass maintenance as well as simultaneously building a reserve to pay for a future street-lighting upgrade. The budget for the financial year 2017/18, was approved and the precept increased to £9,300. This is a relatively large % increase in the precept but is actually worth only £12 extra per annum on a Band D Council Tax bill. The year-end accounts will be available at the Parish Council Annual Meeting on 18th May.

**Malcolm Moss**  
**Chairman**

## **Village Hall**

This year has been about completing the Defibrillator Project which I'm happy to say was achieved. All fund-raising projects were geared toward this end and the following report shows the success of each event and the very generous donations from individual as well as other establish group within the Parish & District.

### **Defibrillator Project 2014-17**

#### **Fund raising/donations by Parish Groups:**

East Northants District Council £1000  
Glaphorn P.C.C. £500  
Glaphorn W.I. £100  
G.A.G.A. £ 75

#### **Private donations:**

Individuals in the Village amounted to £725.

#### **Events:**

A raffle in 2014 raised £136

The Queen's Birthday event in the Nolans' Paddock raised £293.45 including profits from the R.O.C bar.

The R.O.C. one Friday evening made £90 with an ingenious coin rolling game.

Richard Hamilton entertained a good number of folk with his 'tales of a book dealer's life'. From sales of 1st edition books and sale of refreshments fun by the VH Committee £183.65 was raised.

#### **The village hall committee ran 2 events in 2017:**

The Chairman's Fun Night run by myself raised £476.83

The Safari Supper run by Roger & Shindo raised £1087

And a Village Hall saving contribution of £576.04 completed the full payment for the project.

#### **Cost the telephone box & Defibrillator:**

The old telephone box was professionally brought back to pristine condition (museum standard) including defibrillator signs at a cost of £1850.00

The defibrillator and Defib Yellow box cost £1279.34

Electrical work and setting up cost £540.00

Grand Total £3679.14 - A very successful and worthy cause. (Big thanks to Roger for installing of the Defib). Defib & Resuscitation Training which was very interesting and useful.

#### **Other activities:**

We have also start our next project a new kitchen and I'm pleased say that Shindo & Roger applied for and got funding on behalf the VH £11,000 towards this project which will be install in the summer.

We also have wind damage to the double fire doors and the insurance cover has paid out for this replacement.

Big thanks to the VH committee John, Tracey, Jeff, Jo, Roger and Shindo. We are looking for news member of this very successful committee as John and Tracey are looking to retire.

A very successful, but eventful year.

**Nick Knowles**  
**Chairman**

## **Glaphorn Allotments and Gardeners Association**

Once again, we have had a very successful year on the allotments with all plots taken.

Plants are growing well on the site and there was a good harvest last autumn.

The compost bins are being well used and the manure supplied by Chris Crosby continues to be spread on the plots. Again, our annual water costs have been low thanks to the water harvested from the roof of the communal shed.

There were several GAGA entries in the Southwick and Glaphorn Village Show.

Our accounts have been professionally audited again by Bulley Davey on a charitable basis for which we are very grateful.

There is a lovely friendly, sociable atmosphere between plot holders which is very much enjoyed and appreciated by all involved. The allotments are truly an asset to Glaphorn Village. Residents are most welcome to come and walk around our village allotments and to see how productive our site is.

To conclude, GAGA continues to be a great success. For more information about GAGA please contact The Secretary as below

**Heather Ball**  
**Secretary**

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## **Glaphorn C.E. Lower School**

We are now officially a primary school with 83 pupils on roll, and expect this to rise to around 100 over the next couple of years. Building work is completed with a great new wing for our older pupils in Years 5 and 6 and additional space provided by School House and School House garden. The only project left to complete is the installation of an all-weather surface on our playing field to ensure we can use it year-round, a project which is due to happen imminently.

Our current Head Teacher, Mrs Katherine Towns, is leaving the school at the end of May to pursue other roles and the current Associate Head, Mrs. Lou Coulthard, will be taking over as our full-time Head of School. She will be supported in this role by Mr. Rob Gooding, in the capacity of Chief Executive Officer and also by Mr Glenn Fraser, the Headteacher at Ketton C of E Primary School.

Mr. Gooding is the CEO of Rutland Learning Trust. This is a small, but extremely successful, multi academy trust, currently comprising four rural, Church of England schools, one of which is Ketton. Initially, the Trust approached the school having identified that Glaphorn was a very similar school, which they felt would fit well with the schools already in the Trust and invited us to discuss possibilities for collaboration.

The Diocesan Board of Education has now given approval for us to enter into an interim agreement with RLT. We will then be taking the next 18 months or so to make sure that the arrangements really do offer the best for Glaphorn School but at that time, we would hope to make the permanent move to joining the Trust.

As a small school, in the modern educational world, there are big challenges ahead. Being part of RLT will give us a readymade support mechanism that will impact positively across many areas of the school and which we believe will serve us well for the future. However, at the same time, we know from our work with the current schools in the Rutland Learning Trust who clearly have their own identities, for all practical purposes, Glaphorn School will not change.

Working with RLT will open up exciting opportunities and allow us to both retain and enhance the ethos, values and unique characteristics that go together to make Glapthorn such a special, happy and successful place of learning.

**Katherine Towns**  
**Head**

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### **Southwick and Glapthorn Village Show**

On the 16th July Glapthorn Village Hall was a lovely backdrop for all the produce, handicrafts, cookery and children's entries for the 53rd Annual Show. It was a bumper year for entries with a number of people taking part for the first time. Glapthorn schoolchildren's artwork was keenly admired and their petunias were flowering profusely.

The standard of entries was high and judges had to make difficult decisions when awarding 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. We are particularly grateful to Nicholas Warliker who celebrated his 80th birthday in 2016 and has been one of our Show judges for more years than we can remember.

At the Show's Annual Meeting in September we were pleased to welcome two more Glapthorn residents to the committee: Steve Grossman and Paul Grandidge. The committee is now making plans for this year's Show which is on 15th July in Southwick Village Hall. Leading up to that we are holding a coffee morning and plant sale on Saturday 13th May in Glapthorn Village Hall. Please come along and help us raise funds for the Show.

Finally, thank you to everyone who helps in any way, ensuring the continued viability and success of the Show.

**Pauline Davidson**

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### **WI**

Glapthorn WI is thriving with 31 members and an excellent committee. We are in a financially sound position thanks to all the support we receive. Our aim is to have fun and learn something new at our meetings – to this end we have had varied and interesting speakers. The talks are followed by a competition and raffle and conclude with tea and biscuits combined with laughter.

Our clubs are doing well – the Knit and Natter Group usually meet once a month and are currently knitting blankets for both Polebrook Nursing Home and Abbott House residents who are most appreciative of our efforts. We are also knitting baby blankets for the Premature Baby Unit at Peterborough Hospital as well as Beanie hats for the Samaritan's Purse Charity.

Last August we had a visit to Wadenhoe House for a superb Afternoon Tea and this summer we are planning a visit to the Parson Latham Houses in Oundle.

We will again be supplying the teas on Sunday 30th April for the Open Weekend in Shortwood and again hope to supply refreshments to many hungry and thirsty walkers.

If you would like to know more about Glapthorn WI please contact The President, Cherrill Sands on 01832 226025.

**Heather Ball**  
**Treasurer/Joint Secretary**

## **Royal Oak Club**

All Members of the Club are residents of Glapthorn Village, members may bring along guests to an evening's function (maximum of 3 guests to a member) the member must sign in their guests. Average attendance is between 20 & 30 people rising up to 60 for special nights.

During 2016, we were open on Friday evenings from January to the end of June, and the 2nd week of September to a week before Christmas. These evenings consist of a meal, cooked and served by members, and a licensed bar. During the Summer, we held a BBQ on 1st July in the Little Manor Garden with games for the family. BBQ on 5th August at the Village Hall with Boules in the Little Manor driveway. In September, we held "Party in the Paddock" at the Little Manor with a BBQ and a Live Band. All very successful events with a lot of fun had by all. During the last year 2016, we held a few special nights with a theme; we had "St Georges Night with the Queens 90th Birthday" held on the 22 April; "An Italian Night"; a "Paella Night"; "A Pre-concert Meal" in November (the concert was held in the Church); and "Our Annual Christmas Dinner.

We are so lucky to have many volunteers within our members who help put these events on, it all requires a great deal of dedication and hard work. The Club is run by a committee of up to 10 members. At our AGM in March of this year four committee members did not stand for re-election to make way for new blood on the committee and thus new ideas. We have been fortunate to have four new committee members who are already giving the Club a fresh look after just one committee meeting. It is at this point I must record the Club's thanks to Bob Brewer who stood down from being Chairman over the last 13 yrs. (since the Club started), he was the one who had the inspiration to start the Club, which has gone on to thrive.

The future looks bright and fresh with the new committee, some members taking on new roles of responsibly, the summer programme has been drawn up to the end of June, at our next committee meeting we will decide on the summer BBQs.

**Monica Crosby**  
**Chairman**

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## **St Leonard's Church**

We continue to hold services every Sunday in the church as well as occasional special services such as choral evensong and songs of praise. We continue to have strong links with Glapthorn School with a member of the clergy going into the school on a weekly basis.

Lynda Davis has now left to take up a new post and there will be a curate joining the team in the very near future.

We have had two concerts in the church this year which were a great success and very well attended.

The church and churchyard are looking very neat and tidy and we would like to thank all who contribute and take part in cleaning and grass mowing, this does take a considerable amount of time and is very much appreciated.

Our Annual Vestry Meeting will be held in church on 20th April, when the accounts and a full report will be presented. Everyone is invited to attend this meeting.

**Brigitte Hilton**  
**Church Warden**

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## **Neighbourhood Planning Group**

Work continues apace with the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. Very successful Community Consultations were held in December and January with 70 % of households and residents participating. The Neighbourhood Planning Group is developing policies for Glapthorn

which are consistent with the views which emerged from those consultations. In simple summary, the Community said some development is acceptable in the village but it should be modest in scale, in keeping with the linear nature of the village and retain the rural character of Glapthorn.

An element of the consultations was an invitation to would be developers to come forward with any proposals for new housing in Glapthorn.

15 sites have been suggested for new housing in Glapthorn Village – enough for over 40 houses; but the Community Consultations said we don't want more than 20 built between now and 2031.

The Community Consultations also gave a clear message that we must retain our separate identity and not have development creep which might join Glapthorn up with Oundle. The present separation should be retained. Developers have put forward 5 sites for housing development between the village and Oundle – enough for well over 100 houses. 3 of the sites are on Cotterstock Road and 2 on the Glapthorn - Oundle Road. We are liaising with Oundle Town Council to ensure our appraisals of these 5 sites are consistent between our two Neighbourhood Plans.

Three important sessions are coming up in the next few weeks which will enable full public participation in the key decisions on the Neighbourhood Plan not least of which will be to decide which sites ought to go forward.

The next PUBLIC FORUM is on Thursday 27th April at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. This is an opportunity to see all the sites proposed by land owners for development in the village and in the wider parish. Your Neighbourhood Planning Group will explain the proposed policies for housing and general development of the village – including the Group's assessments of how those site proposals match with the proposed policies for Glapthorn.

Land owners or their agents have been invited to attend a Special Session on Thursday 25th May at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Everyone putting forward a possible housing site will have the chance to explain their proposal and answer your questions on whether it meets Glapthorn's needs and wishes.

On Saturday 27th May in the Village Hall, we are holding an All-Day Exhibition (10 am to 4pm) of all the possible sites as well as more details of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan; there will be opportunities to ask questions, reflect on what you see and then let us know which sites and which policies best meet the long term needs of Glapthorn.

Our intention is to publish the first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan in time for the late May sessions. We would then proceed to produce the Statutory Consultative Plan in late June with a view to a referendum late 2017 / early 2018. Once approved at referendum, the Plan must be taken into account when East Northamptonshire Council is determining planning applications.

You can find out much more detail and background by visiting the Parish Council web site and reading about the meetings of the Glapthorn Neighbourhood Planning Group. You can find us on [glapthorn.org.uk](http://glapthorn.org.uk) - look for the Neighbourhood Planning link.

*If you want to receive regular copies of updates and early sighting of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan then please subscribe to our email list by sending an email to [glapthornplan@outlook.com](mailto:glapthornplan@outlook.com) with a heading of "Mailing List". Please include your name and address.*

**Alan Barnish**  
**Clerk to Neighbourhood Planning Group**