

# GLAPTHORN PARISH COUNCIL

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## SUPPORTING THE VILLAGE HALL – 7 AUGUST 2017

*On the agenda for the Parish Council meeting there are three items that directly or indirectly relate to supporting the Glapthorn Village Hall.*

### Authority

Where a local council does not itself provide or manage a village hall, it has wide powers to help any other person or body in doing so. These powers are mostly contained in section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 (see below); they include the giving of grant aid and the provision of loans. The council may also be able to save a village hall committee VAT by purchasing and donating goods rather than giving cash (local councils can generally recover the VAT; however, one important point here is the goods must be bought in the name of the Parish Council).

*Note: Where the local council provides assistance to a village hall, it should require that the trustees provide a copy of the annual accounts, so that the council can see that its financial aid is being properly spent.*

At its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July the Glapthorn Parish Council (GPC) agreed to procure a projector and screen for the display of documents at meetings. It was further agreed to make the equipment available within the village hall for use by others.

Item 8 is a natural follow up to this and as Gigaclear has offered the installation of broadband and 12 months rental for free; AND confirmed the minimum contract period is 12 months, this seems like a win win situation. However, assuming the adoption of broadband proves successful the GPC will be committed to paying the line rental of **£413 a year** after the initial 12 months, so is it affordable?

Following the decision to upgrade the street lights with part capital, part loan there is a budget surplus this financial year of c.£3,500 (see the revised budget lighting document I sent for the last meeting). In next year's budget, there will be a further surplus of c.£2,100 (see budget 5-year lighting); and further surplus sums year on year for the next five years of £1,700; £1,950; £1,500, assuming previous year's surplus is spent otherwise there will be more spare cash.

Moving on to item 9, the request for financial support, now and in the future. The figures above confirm there is a surplus of funds to meet the village hall request as well as funding the Gigaclear rental; and my opening statement confirms your authority, should you wish to agree to the bid.

At present the GPC pay a modest sum of £150 to the village hall for room hire so this will be an immediate off-set against any new regular outgoing sum. I think the request for an annual sum of £500 to be a worthy and reasonable request (**net increase £350 a year**).

There are sufficient funds at present to meet the request for support towards the new kitchen, however, rather than say give £500, I suggest an offer to purchase and donate goods to the value of £500 may prove more beneficial to the GPC, assuming the items are VAT rated (**net cost £417 a year**).

I have demonstrated there will be funds available for the next five years to pay for Gigaclear (**£413**); plus, an annual grant to the village hall (**£350 net**) plus an ad-hoc payment now (**£417 net**) towards the kitchen project. I recommend you approve the two payments this year to the village hall and the Gigaclear contract for year two. However, I suggest the budget for next year **includes** for a further ad-hoc donation to the village hall but the item is available on request, subject to funds being available.

Summary of cost this year - £767, still leaving a sum in excess of £2,000 for other projects.

**Alan Tresadern**  
Clerk to the Parish Council

## Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

### No. 19 - Places of entertainment

(1) A local authority may provide, inside or outside its Recreational area, such recreational facilities as it thinks fit and, without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by the preceding provisions of this subsection, those powers include in particular powers to provide-

- (a) indoor facilities consisting of sports centres, swimming pools, skating rinks, tennis, squash and badminton courts, bowling centres, dance studios and riding schools;
- (b) outdoor facilities consisting of pitches for team games, athletics grounds, swimming pools, tennis courts, cycle tracks, golf courses, bowling greens, riding schools, camp sites and facilities for gliding;
- (c) facilities for boating and water skiing on inland and coastal waters and for fishing in such waters;
- (d) premises for the use of clubs or societies having athletic, social or recreational objects;
- (e) staff, including instructors, in connection with any such facilities or premises as are mentioned in the preceding paragraphs and in connection with any other recreational facilities provided by the authority;
- (f) such facilities in connection with any other recreational facilities as the authority considers it appropriate to provide including, without prejudice to the generality of the preceding provisions of this paragraph, facilities by way of parking spaces and places at which food, drink and tobacco may be bought from the authority or another person ; and it is hereby declared that the powers conferred by this subsection to provide facilities include powers to provide buildings, equipment, supplies and assistance of any kind.

(2) A local authority may make any facilities provided by it in pursuance of the preceding subsection available for use by such persons as the authority thinks fit either without charge or on payment of such charges as the authority thinks fit.

**(3) A local authority may contribute-**

- (a) by way of grant or loan towards the expenses incurred or to be incurred by any voluntary organisation in providing any recreational facilities which the authority has 24 c. 57 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 PART I power to provide by virtue of subsection (1) of this section; and**
- (b) by way of grant towards the expenses incurred or to be incurred by any other local authority in providing such facilities; and in this subsection "voluntary organisation " means any person carrying on or proposing to carry on an undertaking otherwise than for profit.**

(4) The Inner London Education Authority may provide swimming pools inside or outside the Inner London Education 1972 c. 70. Area; and sections 120 and 121 of the Local Government Act 1972 (under which local authorities may acquire land by agreement or compulsorily for the purposes of their statutory functions) shall have effect for the purpose of enabling the said Authority to acquire land for the purposes of its functions under this subsection as if the Authority were a principal council within the meaning of that Act.

(5) Any property which, immediately before the date when this subsection comes into force, is held by a local authority or the Inner London Education Authority for the purposes of section 1936 c. 49. 221(b) of the Public Health Act 1936 or by a local authority for 1937 c. 46. the purposes of section 4 of the Physical Training and Recreation Act 1937 or, in pursuance of section 144(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, for the purposes of recreation shall on and after that date be held by the local authority for the purposes of this section or, as the case may be, by the said Authority for the purposes of the preceding subsection.

(6) In section 222(1) of the Public Health Act 1936 (which relates to charges in respect of any baths, wash-house, swimming bath or bathing place under the management of a local authority) for the words " washhouse, swimming bath or bathing place " there shall be substituted the words " or washhouse ".  
Provision.