Minutes 1750 – outstanding action to circulate criteria for General Powere of Competence

## 1766 Matters raised by Members of the Public

A member of the public had some opinions and questions regarding items 13 & 14 on the agenda following discussion with other residents.

Re agenda item 13 – Proposal to write to residents regarding overhanging vegetation

1. What are the legal implications of writing to residents telling them what they can and cannot do on their own private land, regarding bushes and trees and excess foliage? There are no laws in place on height or width of hedges or trees and many in Great Ashby have no idea where their boundaries end! Is every resident going to be told where their boundaries of their properties start and end?

It had been brought to the resident's attention the distress and alarm letters could cause to the elderly and people with mental health issues and disabilities.

- 2. What is defined as an obstruction?
- 3. It is an environmentally challenging time and the whole world is in a distressing state due to COVID. Is it appropriate to promote destroying trees and foliage? The people asked did not wish to be advocates for destroying the natural environment and felt it could be considered insensitive after a considerable lockdown for this subject to be brought up at all.
- 4. It has been mentioned, that in the event residents receive a letter and they think they have a legal obligation, they or somebody they employ cut their trees/hedges or bushes back and their trees or bushes or hedges die as a result, where does liability lie?
- 5. Do some trees have preservation orders?

Re agenda item 14 – Adopt a road scheme , the resident made the following points:-

- Those asked felt Great Ashby has run perfectly well without a scheme like this and is kept in very good condition across the estate as a whole
- The Great Ashby Community Facebook page does not represent the whole of Great Ashby. In fact, out of the 4000 members, how many actually make comments or even look at it on a regular basis? They probably joined the page like many others when it was a recommendations page only and very helpful and informative. Is it therefore a representative tool?
- Under no circumstances, should individual roads or individual residents, be targeted or given the right to dictate to others. It is not enforceable.
- This sort of scheme could inflate prejudice against the Community Council as a whole for inciting neighbourhood conflict in some roads where there are already problems or incite problems that were never there.
- Where in Great Ashby are there litter problems on roads? The bridle paths
  aren't resident roads and the parks are maintained by the Council. The only
  litter seen occasionally is after the dustmen have been and a few little bits