

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL ON TUESDAY 2ND APRIL 2024

Present: Councillors: Mrs Hodgson, M Humphrey, P Thatcher, Mrs N Hemsall and Mrs E Bramley

Councillors Mrs D Cutler and S King

Apologies: Councillor G Booth

29/24 **Public Participation**

None

30/24 Minutes of meeting held on 5th March 2024 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

31/24 No additional items for consideration

32/24 Councillor Humphrey declared a personal or prejudicial interest in any item concerning the Community Hall as he is a member of the Playing Field Committee.

33/24 **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None

34/24 **MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA**

(1) **Highway Matters**

Councillor King met with the Local Highway Manager for Fenland and Huntingdon on 16th February and again on 22 March to progress the outstanding highway issues. They will be meeting again on 26th April and henceforth on a monthly basis. Although the Conservative amendment to further increase the budget for highways and footpaths was defeated by the Joint Administration more money will be spent. As part of this funding has been secured to slurry seal all the footpaths on High Road.

Churchill Road – following a complaint received it has been inspected and repairs have been ordered. It was also been put forward for slurry seal as the road has a concrete base. The problem of encroachment of gravel onto the footpath is being considered which makes walking on it difficult.

If anyone suffers an injury or damage as a result of poor maintenance, they are welcome to submit a claim:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

Highside is on the list for a retread scheme but until then temporary advisory speed signage and warning signs have been deployed.

Oxfield Drive handover is being held up by the play area which is the responsibility of Fenland DC.

Gote Lane/High Road drainage is progressing well and should be programmed in shortly.

Councillor Thatcher has recently reported pot holes at Popple Drove and Highside end of Chalk Road and has been told that action is not necessary. These pot holes are very dangerous. Councillor King has spoken to the local highway officer who is aware of these issues and be doing a site visit.

LHI speed warning signs for school area. Councillor has been asked to confirm what type of speed warning signs were requested. These were confirmed as flashing 20 mph signs.

(2) **Speed Watch**

During the March sessions in Gorefield CSW recorded 9% and 10% classed as reportable speeding for the Constabulary. This percentage is in line with most sessions. If percentage increases then I will call for police enforcement. We recorded 19% and 27% between 31 and 34 mph. These figures are not required to be sent to the Constabulary as they are considered to be within the tolerance level permitted. CSW holds the data on them.

April sessions are underway. In May and June CSW will be holding all day sessions in the five villages (volunteer availability dependant).

Recently we have had new volunteers join the team, 2 residents from Murrow, 2 from Parson Drove and 1 from Guyhirn. Gorefield and Wisbech St Mary volunteers are needed but recruiting them is proving difficult.

(3) **Reports from Cambridgeshire and Fenland DC Councillors**

Councillor Thatcher asked Councillor King to look into encroachment on the highway of a fence in front of a property on Back Road opposite the entrance to the new development on the Dennicks site. A water main, electric cable and lamp post, which is covered with Ivy are situated here behind the fence. If this light is not working contractors will not go onto private property to do any repairs. Councillor Humphrey will check to see if it is working. When the development is finished a new street light will be erected opposite the entrance by Cambs CC.

Councillor King agreed to research the situation concerning the boundary.

Councillor Mrs Cutler reported that Fenland DC have agreed to finance a judicial review for the Wisbech incinerator.

(4) **Village Voices**

No more information has been received.

(5) **Invitation to North Level View Day**

Councillor Thatcher will be attending

35/24 **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

36/24 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning application withdrawn:

F/YR23/0126/PIP – Permission in principal to erect of 4 dwellings at Land west of Costalot Hassock Hill Drove

Planning application refused:

F/YR23/1023/O – erect 1 self custom build dwelling (outline application with all matters reserved) – land south of 64-68 Back Road fronting Wolf Lane

37/24 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Accounts to be paid:

	Cheq No	Nett	VAT	
D-Day 80 Flag of Peace	101141	£28.80	0.00	£28.80
Fenland DC (uncontested election costs)	101142	£602.16	0.00	£602.16

Balance of Accounts

Current account	£19,547.65
Business Premium account	£21,571.72
High Interest account	<u>£5,892.69</u>
	£47,012.06

38/24 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Chairman will sponsor a flag pole for the school for the D-Day 80 flag

The annual ROSPA inspection will shortly be carried out and the Willow tunnel is very overgrown. Chairman will have a look at and try to have something done with it.

Co-option of another two Councillors should be considered. Councillor Cutler said she would e-mail the information concerning the criteria for candidates.

Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 7th May 2024 (Annual General Meeting) at 7 pm at Gorefield Church Hall.**

Signed Date