

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT GOREFIELD SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2004

Present: Councillors Humphrey, Davall, Holt, Mrs Hall and Mrs Atkins

PC Coales, Gary Garford and Karen Wicklen

Apologies: Councillor Carroll

646/04 Minutes of previous meetings held on 9th November and 30th November 2004 were confirmed and signed.

647/04 There were no additional items for consideration

648/04 No members had any personal or prejudicial interests to declare

649/04 Four members of the public attend the meeting. Chairman explained how Parish Surgeries are held regularly for the public to put their views to the Parish Council, but he would allow them to speak. They are concerned about the speed limit being changed to 30mph as they believe the majority of traffic passes through at more than 40 mph. The chairman explained how traffic surveys had been done before and after the interactive signs had been installed and information gathered showed that there was a considerable drop in the speed of vehicles. Another concern was heavy vehicles travelling through the village which shake their houses. The chairman explained that it was not possible to stop lorries, as they need to have access to commercial properties in the area. The problem is not helped by the condition of the road surface at the present time but hopefully this should be remedied in the future when County Highways and AWA have come to an agreement. They would appreciate a streetlight somewhere near Nos 27 and 29 High Road, this will be considered in the next years budget. They have noticed when using the playing field all the rubbish left behind after football matches. This information to be passed on to the Playing Field Committee.

650/04 **POLICE LIAISON**

Only one crime since the last meeting; motor cycle stolen. Mud thrown at windows and road signs in Back Road, will monitor this situation. Has visited Churchill Road and seen no evidence of stock cars. The hedge at Chiltern House can be reported on a traffic management form. PC Coles will visit the property.

651/04 **KAREN WICKLEN CAMBS ACRE**

Parish Council have agreed to go ahead with a Parish Plan. The first thing to do is arrange an open meeting at which Acre will give an overview of what the advantages are of having a plan for the village and how to set about it. A steering group of approximately 12 members to be set up. Acre will help with the group. The final document produced can be used to apply for funds for village projects. Parish Council will have to fund the project. No funds are available at

the moment but Kim Winterton may be able to help. Can cost up to £4,000 or as little as £1,000 depending on how the information is gathered and the format of the final document. This is an opportunity to get the community working together, helps to identify what local people wish to see in their village. Information gathered is available to the Strategic Partnership.

652/04

GARY GARFORD PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON OFFICER

Customer First now being put into action. Contact centre set up and running, One Stop Shops should be open by end January. Fenland DC have leased offices above the one in Wisbech and some departments are being relocated from Fenland Hall. Port Regeneration – project team appointed 4 year project. Bin scheme rolls out February/March.

653/04

MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

Village Maintenance

Seat at Richmond Green repaired. New bricks ordered for Village Sign base

Streetlights

Have been erected but unfortunately Ringways did not contact the clerk before erection as promised and now they have been put in the wrong places. Chairman e-mailed them today to sort the problem out.

Village Christmas Tree

Has now been put in the Church Yard. Tree is not a rooted one, so it will be taken away again after Christmas. John Turner is finding a rooted one ready for next year. Geof Howlett provided an electric socket and cabling free of charge.

654/04

MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA

(1)

Highway Matters

E-mail received from Fred Hardwick re hedge at Chiltern House – there is nothing he can do to alleviate the situation.

(2)

VE and VJ Days 2005

Councillor Mrs Hall has contacted some of the village people who were involved in the war and they have shown a lot of interest in marking the occasion some way. Has arranged to record some war time memories. Will have more discussions to find out what kind of celebration they would like.

(3)

Filling of the drain at the Playing Field

Costing as per attached. Proposed Councillor Mrs Atkins and seconded by Councillor Mrs Hall that the Parish Council pledge £3,750 for this project.

(4)

Repairs to Roundabout

New sections have now been ordered and should be delivered early in the New Year.

(5) **Town & Parish Council Liaison**

Thursday 6th January 2005 at Oliver Cromwell Hotel March.
Chairman, Councillors Holt and Mrs Hall to attend

(6) **Low Water Pressure Gote Lane**

Letter received from Anglian Water. They can find no problem with the pressure in the water main. Any problem must be due to internal plumbing. Copy of letter given to property owner.

655/04 **Parish Surgery**

Wild Conifer growing near Chapel Road bridge. Councillor Holt will get it removed.

Visibility at footpath at Cattle Dyke/High Road junction very poor.

Drain outside No 7 Cattle Dyke bunged up

New footpath cracking along Cattle Dyke.

656/04 **CORRESPONDENCE**

(1) **Jointly Funded Minor Improvement Scheme**

Have been awarded £10,000 for speed reduction measures. Changing the speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph. Parish Council to pay £1.00 per electorate and this is payable once details of the scheme have been agreed.

(2) **Gorefield School**

Their letting charges have been increased to £16 per letting from January 05

(3) **All other correspondence to be circulated to Councillors**

657/04 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Applications approved:

Application No F/YR04/4107/RM – erection of a 3 bed detached house with detached garage – land south of Congregational Church High Road

Application No F/YR04/3995/0 – erection of 2 dwellings land east of 5 High Road

Applications refused:

Application No F/YR04/4079/F – Change of use of barn and erection of single storey extension to side to form 3 bed dwelling

Application No F/YR04/4220/A – display of 1 internally illuminated free-standing sign and 1 no illuminated wall mounted sign

658/04 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Chairman and clerk signed the clerk's contract of employment.

Donations to be left until the next meeting

Precept 2005-6

As per attached – agreed to set at £4,250.

Clerk authorised to issue the following cheques:

Capability Groundcare (grass cutting)	£500.55
Office Key (printer cartridges)	£34.69
Village Hall (Parish Surgery)	£5.00

Balance of Accounts

Current Account	£234.04	
Business Premium Account		£7,195.09
High Interest Account		<u>£7,147.27</u>
		<u>£14,576.64</u>

659/04

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Wolf Lane pot hole at entrance to Halifax's yard.

Date of next meeting: 1st February 2005

Planning Meeting to be arranged if required.

Signed Date.....