

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT GOREFIELD SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2006

Present: Councillors Humphrey (Chairman) Mrs Hall, Davall, Holt, Carroll, and Cooke

Apologies: Councillor Mrs Hunns and PC Coales

894/06 Minutes of previous meeting held on 7th November 2006 were confirmed and signed.

895/06 Additional item for consideration – None

896/06 No Councillors had a personal or prejudicial interest in any of the items to be discussed

897/06 **POLICE LIAISON**

PC Coales unable to attend meeting

898/06 **JOHN DUBBER PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON OFFICER**

Gave out a list of contact details for Planning Officers so direct contact can be made instead of through the contact centre.

Ballot for Council House transfer taking place and results should be known by Thursday 7th December.

Next edition of Fenland Eye will be delivered shortly – gives details of recycling including procedure for disposing of Christmas trees.

Wisbech Christmas Market 18th December.

Get Fit in the New Year – special offers at local Sports Centres.

Public consultations will be taking place on the level of Council Tax to be set.

Another Fenland Forum for Town and Parish Council's is being organised.

One Stop Shops have been given a Charter Mark and Street Pride is being considered for a national award.

Nene Water Front project is progressing very well with the compulsory purchase orders being completed shortly.

IAN DEWAR CALC PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORT OFFICER

Mr Dewar was invited along to the meeting to explain to Councillors the facts about becoming a Quality Council.

Parish Council's have to pass the following tests in order to become a Quality Council:

1. Electoral Mandate
2. A qualified clerk
3. Council meetings
4. Communication
5. Annual Report
6. Accountability
7. Code of Conduct

Mr Dewar went on to explain these in more detail and gave Councillors literature to help illustrate the procedures needed to pass these tests.

MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA

(1) **Highway Matters**

E-mail received from Thomas Emmett Traffic Technician for Cambs Highways. He explained how limited budgets meant it was unrealistic to have the 4 build outs which had been proposed in the first instance. It was then proposed to erect 4 interactive signs instead. Ringways were given the order to proceed in March 2006 and it should have been completed by May 2006. But unfortunately this did not happen and now they have been superseded as maintenance contractors by Cambs Highways Partnership. They have now been issued with the signing order and hopefully the scheme should be completed before Christmas.

Clerk to advise Cambs County Councillor Brian Hardy of this situation.

(2) **Streetlight**

Chairman and Councillor Holt will tour the village after dark to look for positions for streetlights. They may consider replacing one of the old bracket lights with a column.

(3) **Parish Plan**

This is still ongoing. They will need to hold a few more meetings before the results can be finalised.

901/06 **CORRESPONDENCE**

(1) **CALC Bulletin – November 2006 edition**

Each Councillor was given a copy

(2) **Street Pride – Public Launch**

The village of Gorefield has not been chosen as a pilot area for this part of the project but could have another chance to join the scheme in 12 months time. The areas that have been invited to take part this time are Chatteris, Elm, Whittlesey, Parson Drove and Waterlees Ward.

(3) **Register of Electors 2006/7**

If any Councillor wishes to receive a copy of this they must fill in a request form.

All other correspondence to be circulated to Councillors

902/06 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning application received:

Application No F/YR06/1323/F – Siting of a mobile home – Avoir 308 Leverington Common – Outside the Development Area Boundary and no justification given

903/06 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Clerk authorised to issue the following cheque:

Agriscap (UK) Ltd (village grass cutting)	£517.00
John Tims (Parish Plan expenses)	£22.32
Councillor Carroll (Travel expenses)	£12.80

Balance of Accounts

Current Account	£626.51
Business Premium Account	£5,401.74
High Interest Account	£6,267.89
	<u>£12,296.14</u>

Concurrent Functions Grant 2007/2207 application

Increases for these are to be 2.5% thus the 2007/08 estimate for Church Yard maintenance is £870 and Playing Field grass cutting is £984. The application for an additional item (footway lighting) will be £739.

Reports from Councillors

Councillor Carroll gave details of the new set up for CALC this will now be run by an Assembly and a Board.

Christmas Tree – Councillor Cooke had some details on obtaining a Christmas Tree for the Church Yard. Unfortunately it is not possible to obtain a container grown tree more than about 5 to 6 feet high. Therefore he proposed that a sawn off tree should be purchased every year and pushed into a sleeve in the ground. Chairman and Councillor Cooke will decide on how to proceed next week.

Councillor Cooke asked if it was possible to plant some trees in the village. It was agreed that the Parish Council could provide some trees if a suitable position can be found but this has proved quite difficult in past years.

Hedge at Pocket Park has been cut and the hedge cutting left behind, these need clearing up.

There have again been some incidents of vandalism in Back Road – planters damaged etc. Details to be put in the Newsletter asking people to report incidents to the police.

Chairman wished everyone a Happy Christmas

Next Meeting – Tuesday 2nd January 2007

Signed Date.....