

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON TUESDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2014

Present: Councillors Mrs Hall, Humphrey, Holt, Mrs Hunns,
Mrs Humphrey and Walpole

Councillor Alan Lay and one member of the public

Apologies: Councillors Fraser and Mrs Clark and PCSO Russ

116/14 **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public who wished to make any comments

117/14 Minutes of previous meeting held on 4th November 2014 were confirmed and signed

118/14 Additional item for consideration – Parish Street Lighting

119/14 Councillors Humphrey, Holt, Mrs Humphrey and Mrs Hunns declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item concerning the Playing Field as all are members of the Playing Field Committee. These Councillors have all been granted dispensation and will be able to speak and vote on any items concerning the playing field

120/14 **POLICE LIAISON**

There was no police presence at the meeting but the following information was sent by e-mail:

Crimes reported since last meeting:

Honey Hill Road – theft of heating oil
Allens Drove – theft of motor vehicle

Andy Bush will be the new Rural Officer for Gorefield.

121/14 **MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA**

(1) **Highway Matters**

With reference to the footway maintenance e-mail received from Matthew Pickering Project Manager Cambs CC. Contractors have been let down by one of the sub-contractors. He agrees that it is unacceptable to leave Gorefield in this way. Promised to make safe problem areas but to date this has not happened. Clerk will again chase him for action.

(2) **Play Equipment**

Seem to have had some success with repairs to the play equipment. Spinner has been repaired and the contractor has parts lined up to complete remaining tasks. Rocket seat remains on the list for repair. Councillor Holt will do this shortly. Strimming needs to be done around the Willow Tunnel.

(3) **Cambridgeshire Future Transport**

Not enough questionnaires were received in the first instance but eventually some more were received and Councillors delivered them. Collection box has been taken to Wisbech Library. Survey of people using local bus from Gorefield and Leverington has been undertaken by two residents from Gorefield and Leverington. These results to be sent on to Tom Fisher at Cambs CC and copied to Councillor Lay. The survey showed regular use of the bus, which it is hoped will help keep the subsidy going.

(4) **Rural Citizens Advice Bureau**

Letter received from Parson Drove PC asking if Gorefield PC would be interested in joining them and Wisbech St Mary PC to have Citizens Advice outreach sessions in the villages. Estimated cost for each session would be £78.70 per session. Clerk to find out more information and the item will be discussed again at the next meeting.

122/14 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Winter Dog Fouling Campaign

E-mail received from Anne Marshall Street Scene Officer asking for areas where patrols could be undertaken in the village. Agreed on High Road and Chapel Lane. Would also like to have an action morning where volunteers are invited to spray any fouling seen to highlight the amount of fouling to shock dog walkers who do not pick up after their dogs. Parish Council agreed to participate in one of these.

123/14 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning applications:

F/YR14/0868/F – erection of first-floor rear extension to existing dwelling – Meadow Farm 414 Leverington Common – no objections

F/YR14/0889/F – erection of a 2 storey 3 bed dwelling with detached car port/store – land south of Tyrell Mill Lane Leverington – support as in keeping with the existing street scene

124/14 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Parish Precepts 2015/16

Has to be set by 6th February so will need to be agreed at the next meeting. Council Tax support grant will be £1,240 and net tax base will be £359.

Concurrent Functions Grant

Fenland DC is still consulting with Parishes on the amount and method of distribution of Concurrent Functions Grants to Parish Councils in 2015/16. Cabinet should be considering this issue on 18th December.

Accounts Paid:

John Timms	(Web site registration)	£32.00
Parson Drove PC	(CPALC Councillor Training)	£77.50

Balance of Accounts

Current account	£13,635.99
Business Premium account	£2,158.95
High Interest account	<u>£801.68</u>
	£16,600.62

125/14

ADDITIONAL ITEM – PARISH STREET LIGHTING

Fenland DC has continued to liase with Balfour Beatty to finalise data on Parish Street Lights. They have come up with an offer to assist Parish Councils with replacement of lights and it as follows:

Fenland DC Obligations:

Will provide a funding package of £250,00 across all parishes. This will mean that all Category 1 lights will be replaced and the remaining funding will contribute to a proportion of Category 2 lights.

FDC will arrange and deliver the Cat 1 repairs in December 2014 in order to remove any imminent safety liability on Parish Councils.

FDC will continue to fund the energy and maintenance costs for the existing lights for the next 10 years.

They will carry out the management of the lights free of charge for a period of 10 years

They will arrange and manage the various replacement programmes for both FDC and PC funded work free of charge.

Parish Council Obligations

Parish Councils will be required to plan for and fund the balance of the Cat 2 lights along with the future replacement of all Cat 3 lights

PC's will be responsible for costs of replacement lights that are damaged or become defective during the next 10 years

Any additional lights put in by PC's ensuing energy and maintenance costs will have to be met by PC's.

Gorefield PC has 1 no light that comes under Cat 1 and 24 Cat 2 to be replaced within 1-3 years. Fenland DC grant will be £11,882 and PC will have to find £18,118.

Acceptance of this agreement has to be made by 17th December. Before a decision can be made Councillor Humphrey will try to get some more information from Fenland DC about how the £18,118 will have to be paid. Can it be spread equally over 3 years? It will need to be budgeted for on the Precept.

126/14

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Alterations to access to sewage plant at Churchill Road have been completed. Vehicles parking on the corner and next to allotments. Clerk to inform Justine Wingfield.

Agreement has been sent to the Bowls Club but no response received to date.

Chairman wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Next Meeting – Tuesday 6th January 2015

Signed Date