

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2016

Present: Councillors: Holt, M Humphrey, Mrs Hunns, Mrs Hall and Ms Reynolds

Councillors Lay and King and P Thatcher and 2 members of the public

Apologies: Councillors Walpole and Ms Clarke

251/16 **Public Participation**

A member of public attended the meeting to present information collected re installation of a Skateboard Park on the playing field. Equipment supplied by Wickstead guarantee their structural steel for 25 years. Prices started from £39K to £72K. It was agreed that the Council would contact Fenland DC, WREN, Tesco bag Scheme and Grange Wind Farm about eligibility to apply for their grants.

Presentation by Peter Thatcher

Mr Thatcher had been invited to attend the meeting to explain about the Gorefield in the Past Facebook page and his research into World War I soldiers who had lived in Gorefield. He has received information from the Church and is using web sites like Ancestry and Find My Past for which he has to pay annual subscription of about £120. Mr Thatcher was concerned about how all the information collected can be preserved for future use. At the moment it is all being put on the Facebook page which has a wonderful following. Agreed to give Mr Thatcher a grant to help towards the subscriptions he needs for his research. Amount to be agreed at later date.

252/16 Minutes of previous meeting held on 4th November 2016 were confirmed and signed

253/16 There were no additional items for consideration

254/16 None of the Councillors had a personal and prejudicial interest under the Local Code of Conduct to declare

255/16 **POLICE MONTHLY UPDATE**

Councillor Mrs Hall had received a report from the Police.

Speeding remains a key concern in all of the rural villages. Speed enforcement patrols are being carried out. If there are any areas of particular concern these can be reported and will be targeted on the next speed enforcement day.

They have recently received a report from members of the community about people using the allotments in Churchill Road to take drugs and leaving drug paraphernalia, mainly tin foil, which they are having to clear up. Patrols in the area have been increased but to date no evidence has been found. Any incidents should be reported immediately.

There has been an increased number of incidents of Hare Coursing in most of the rural villages. Any sightings should be reported immediately.

There have been a number of trailer thefts in the Wisbech area, owners should be encouraged to secure them as best as possible.

There were no crimes reported in the Gorefield area during November.

256/16 **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Poppy Wreaths

The Church would like to thank the Parish Council for supplying a wreath for Remembrance Sunday. The other one was laid on the memorial in the Chapel Yard.

257/16 **MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA**

(1) **Highway Matters**

Nothing to report

(2) **Play Equipment**

Clerk has tried to contact ISS with regard to the play equipment inspections, but has received no response. Councillor King offered to help, clerk will forward contact information on to him.

(3) **Streetlights**

Clerk has contacted Balfour Beatty to get a quote for the repairs to all the streetlights along High Road, they have promised that this will be available early in the New Year. Councillor King explained how some other Councils are getting another quote for the work to their streetlights. Councils must decide by end March if they wish to be included in the Fenland DC contract. Gorefield PC has already decided that they will be staying the Fenland and advised Councillor King of this fact.

(4) **Consultation on Removal of BT phone box**

BT are consulting on proposals to remove the payphone on High Road. From the information supplied the phone has been used 6 times in the last year. It was agreed that the Parish Council is not opposed to the payphone being decommissioned but would like to take over ownership. It could possibly be used for a small book exchange or similar.

(5) **Defibrillator**

Councillor M Humphrey and Mrs Hunns took no part in the decision making process for the following item as they are Leverington Feoffees Trustees.

Leverington Feoffees are offering to purchase a defibrillator for Gorefield if the Parish Council will be prepared to take on the responsibility of its upkeep etc. It was agreed that they would be prepared to do this and would be very pleased to accept this offer.

If possible the decommissioned payphone could be used to site this.

258/16 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Copies of all correspondence will be circulated to Councillors

259/16 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning application to be considered:

F/YR16/1036/F – change of use of land to site 2 x mobile homes (during construction) and to extend the existing residential cartilage to the rear and erection of a 2 storey side extension involving demolition of existing attached stables and storage outbuildings (part retrospective) – 2 Newfield Cottages Chalk Road – is more like a standard alone dwelling in the open countryside than an extension. Scale and size is not in keeping with the existing dwelling.

260/16 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Accounts to be paid:

	Cheq No	Nett	VAT	Gross
Bowles Tree Services Hedge cutting	100897	£120.00	£0.00	£120.00

Balance of Accounts

Current account	£31,934.78
Business Premium account	£2,160.57
High Interest account	<u>£802.28</u>
	£34,897.63

261/16 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Very bad pot hole on High Side Parson Drove end, to be reported

Leverington Common is in a very poor condition Councillor Lay has been pressing for repairs to be undertaken.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 3rd January 2017

Signed Date