

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT GOREFIELD SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 1ST MARCH 2011

Present: Councillors: Humphrey (Chairman), Holt, Cooke, Ridley, Mrs Hunns and Mrs Hall
Mr & Mrs Harvey

Apologies: Councillor Carroll (attending Wisbech & District Neighbourhood Forum on behalf of the Council)

22/11 Minutes of previous meeting held on 1st February 2011 were confirmed and signed.

23/11 Parish Council Elections

24/11 None of the Councillors had any personal or prejudicial interests to declare

25/11 **POLICE LIAISON**

No police presence at the meeting

26/11 **NOMINATED OFFICER FOR FENLAND DC**

Letter received from Fenland DC chief executive stating that Gary Garford will now be our liaison officer but will not attend meetings on a regular basis. He can be contacted by e-mail or telephone

27/11 **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Results from Fenland DC's Consultation with residents on Council services

The results were in priority order:

1. Emptying rubbish bins and recycling
2. Keeping streets clean
3. Protecting and helping most vulnerable residents
4. Helping people to feel safer, including CCTV cameras in community locations
5. Proving and maintaining car parks
6. Providing market town public toilets
7. Providing markets and supporting town events
8. Proving customer services
9. Supporting towns, parishes and community groups through advice and funding
10. Proving opportunities to exercise at leisure centres
11. Offering help and advice to local businesses
12. Attracting tourists to the area
13. Supporting arts and culture activities

28/11 **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

(1) Highway Matters

E-mail received from Peter Vale in response to request for estimate to construct a hard standing and erect a bus stop sign. Neil Band should be providing the information.

Letter received from Cambs CC Highways and Access explaining how two pilots of Highway Wardens schemes have been running within Duxford and Whittlesey. The idea is that one councillor acts as a single point of contact for local highway services. The Parish Council is invited to register an interest in the scheme. Councillor Ridley offered to take on the role.

(2) Play Equipment

As Councillor Carroll was undertaking other duties he has passed on the following information:

Adult exercise equipment will be installed from Monday 14th March and should take 3 days to complete.

Things to be done following last inspection by Phil Peacock – concrete left by OGGO to be removed. This was done on 25th February. Back filling and reseeding is required on several bits of equipment. This will be done at the end of March depending on the weather. Roundabout and disc spinner need the mud washing off. Willow tunnel needs the new growth woven into the structure. More rubber matting is required around the disc spinner, tea cup and twister and all 5 pieces of toddler equipment. Playing Field Committee to be asked to help with these. Another Councillor is required to help with inspections. Councillor Mrs Hall volunteered. The yearly independent inspection has been booked with RoSPA for April.

(3) Parish Plan/Street Pride

Street Pride Group met at the Pocket Park on Saturday 19th February and a committee was formed under the chairmanship of Councillor Ridley. The group will be known as Gorefield Street Pride. The next event will be held on Saturday 19th March at 10 am at the Pocket Park.

(4) Playing Field/New Pavilion

Clerk has received information from Glasdon about novelty bins for use in children's play area. They have also sent a discount voucher for £50 towards the next purchase from them. A Tidy Bear will cost £212.38 less £50 discount. Proposed Councillor Mrs Hunns and seconded by Councillor Holt that one be purchased all agreed.

Chairman has been contact with the Football Foundation and upon their recommendations the plan for the new Pavilion has been considerably altered to make the changing rooms up to Football Foundation standards so it may be possible to apply to them for a grant. Once the plan is finalised a planning application will be made.

(5) Child Protection Policy

Proposed Councillor Ridley and seconded by Councillor Holt that the child protection policy circulated with the correspondence should be adapted to suit the Parish Council. Clerk to prepare a copy.

(6) Fenland Arts Association

They are a locally based arts organisation partly funded by Fenland DC that promote arts events and offer opportunities to get involved in arts based activities. Agreed to invite them to attend a meeting to give a talk about their services and support they can offer.

Buckingham Palace Garden Party

Information received from CPALC asking for nominations for a Garden Party to be held on Wednesday 29th June 2011. Councillor Mrs Hall to be nominated.

Quotation for Grass Cutting on the Playing Field

Quotation received from T A Blackmore. Groomfields the present contractors should be asked how much they will be charging this year and Stephen Brown should be asked if he would be interested in doing the work. The final decision on this should be taken by the Playing Field committee.

All other correspondence to be circulated to Councillors

30/11

PLANNING MATTERS

Wind Turbines

The Parish Council is not being consulted on these as they are not in the parish but councillors are aware that the majority of people in the village object to the development because they are concerned about the affect it will have on the village roads and infrastructure during the construction period.

Enforcement

The chairman has been consulting with Fenland DC about enforcement issues. All the ongoing ones such as Hassockhill Drove and Chalk Road are still on the list and nothing seems to be happening. Chairman will continue to press for action to be taken.

31/11 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Church Yard Maintenance

A letter has been received from the Parochial Church Council for help with the upkeep of the church yard. The amount allocated for this was £940 agreed to give this amount.

Donations

Agreed to give Citizens Advice Bureau and Air Ambulance £250 each. Agreed to give Victim Support and Fenland Association for Community Transport £100 each.

Also discussed the Fenland Volunteer Centre and the Shreivalty Trust but decided not to make further donations at this time.

Accounts to be paid:

R Gagen	(Clerk's salary 6 months)	£1,275.82
R Gagen	(Clerk's expenses 6 months)	£82.20
Councillor Carroll	(Travel expenses)	£12.80
St Paul's Church	(Church Yard maintenance)	£940.00
Citizens Advice Bureau	(Donation)	£250.00
Air Ambulance	(Donation)	£250.00
Citizens Advice Bureau	(Donation)	£100.00
FACT	(Donation)	£100.00

VAT refund of £3,715.83 has been received.

Clerk's Salary

HM Revenue and Customs have issued new guidance on tax treatment for clerk's salaries. It is now the responsibility of Parish Councils to register as an employer and operate PAYE on the clerk's salary. Clerk will arrange to get this set up.

Balance of Accounts

Current Account	£1,478.23
Business Premium Account	£9,150.96
High Interest Account	£76,130.31
	<u>£86,759.50</u>

32/11 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Chairman has received some positive response from Fenland DC about the allotments at Churchill Road and will continue to pursue the matter.

50 mph sign Wolf Lane/Leverington Common junction needs attention

More cases of fly tipping have been reported to Fenland DC

Culvert needs cleaning out at Gote Lane/High Road junction.

33/11 **ADDITIONAL ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION – COUNCIL ELECTION – 5TH MAY 2011**

Each Councillor has received an e-mail with a link for the nomination pack. It can be filled in on line then printed off for signing and sending off to Fenland DC by noon on Monday 4th April. It is the responsibility of each Councillor to see that his nomination is delivered to Fenland DC. There is a briefing session on Tuesday 8th March at 6 pm at Fenland DC Council Chamber for candidates. Any information needed from the electoral roll is available from the clerk or chairman.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 5th April 2011 (Annual Assembly)

Signed Date.....