

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON TUESDAY 4TH MARCH 2014

Present: Councillors Mrs Hall, (chaired the meeting) Holt, Mrs Hunns, Walpole and Fraser

Councillor Alan Lay and 1 member of the public

Apologies: Councillors M Humphrey and Mrs Humphrey

22/14 **Public Participation**

Could Annual Assembly be advertised in the Village Voices. This is already in hand. Asked if information in the Cambs Community Services be of interest to other people. This consists of mostly adverts and items about Councils etc.

23/14 Minutes of previous meeting held on 4th February 2014 were confirmed and signed

24/14 Additional item for consideration – None

25/14 Councillors Holt 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

26/14 **POLICE LIAISON**

There was no police presence at the meeting and no report has been received. Clerk had invited PCSO Russ to attend the next meeting and he had said he would be attending.

Container on the Playing Field broken into and some equipment taken. Locks etc have been replaced and it is now to be added to alarm system.

27/14 **MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA**

(1) **Highway Matters**

Councillor Fraser joined the Chairman and Neil Bank Cambs CC Highways Engineer on an inspection of the village. It was agreed that work should be carried out on the drain outside the Woodmans but to date this has still not been done.

Councillor Holt proposed and Councillor Walpole second the proposal that Councillor Fraser take on the responsibility of Highways matters. He accepted. He will be Council's direct contact with Neil Band.

It was reported that the culvert at High Road/Gote Lane cross roads is blocked.

The Parish Council has been successful with its bid for footway improvement along High Road from West End to Allens Drove under the Local Highway Improvement Initiative.

(2) **Bowls Club Lease**

Meeting still to be arranged with chairmen and vice chairmen of both Parish Council and Bowls Club to agree a lease.

(3) **Play Equipment**

Nothing to report

28/14 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Golden Age

Fenland DC are to hold a Golden Age Surgery in the Community Hall on 14th May 2014 from 10 am to 1 pm. A leaflet was circulated showing details of a similar event being held at Coates showing what services will be available. Julie Randall organises these event on behalf of the Council and she wants to encourage local groups to participate in the event. The Chairman would like the Parish Council to provide a Parish Surgery where anyone can pass on their comments to the council. Councillors Holt and Fraser volunteered to attend on the day. The Playing Field Committee have agreed to provide refreshments on the day.

Other Parish Council's who have been involved with these events have paid the hire costs for the hall. The cost for hiring the Community Hall for the event will be £50. Councillor Fraser proposed and Councillor Mrs Hunns seconded the proposal that the Parish Council pay for the hire of the hall.

29/14 **PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no planning applications to be discussed

Enforcement Matters

These were reported to the new enforcement officer at Fenland but no progress yet. Enforcement officer to be contacted again.

The site mentioned at the last meeting at Garden Lane has permission for 5 pitches for travelling gypsies.

30/14 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Donations to local causes.

Proposed by Councillor Holt and seconded by Councillor Fraser that the Village School and Pre-School be asked if they require any funds at this time for a specific project. Councillor Mrs Hall will contact them.

It was proposed by Councillor Holt and seconded by Councillor Fraser that £900 be made over local good causes all agreed

To be divided up as set out below:

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| Citizens Advice | £100.00 |
| Air Ambulance | £100.00 |
| Victim Support | £100.00 |

| | |
|--------|---------|
| FACT | £100.00 |
| Magpas | £100.00 |

The remaining £400 to go to the School and Pre-School for specific projects if requested.

Accounts Paid:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| R Gagen (clerk's salary 6 months) | £1,265.47 |
| (including statutory pay increase of 10p per hour back dated to April) | |
| HMRC (tax on clerk's salary) | £316.37 |
| R Gagen (clerk's expenses 6 months) | £79.20 |
| Gorefield Playing Field (hire of hall for 10 meetings) | £300.00 |
| St Paul's Church (Church Yard upkeep) | £920.00 |
| T A Blackmore Ltd (Village grass cutting) | £1,595.62 |
| Donations as above totalling | £500.00 |

Refund of £2,642.58 received from HM Revenue and Customs

Quotation for £1374.96 + VAT received from T A Blackamore Ltd for grass cutting this year including extra cutting around the pavilion. Clerk to confirm acceptance of this quotation.

Balance of Accounts

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Current account | £4,755.17 |
| Business Premium account | £2,157.58 |
| High Interest account | <u>£800.86</u> |
| | £7,713.61 |

31/14

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Rail missing from bridge on Wolf Lane to be reported.

Councillor Lay mentioned the FACT bus and asked if it is advertised locally as he knows of one resident who was unaware of the service,

Parking along Lynn Road Wisbech will be restricted to a 2 hour limit 24 hours a day 7 days a week from the middle of March.

The Vice Chairman passed on the following information received from the Chairman. At a meeting on 27th February Fenland DC approved its budget and Council Tax for 2014/15. With respect of Concurrent Functions Grants which we were informed were to be reduced and then phased out over the next 2 years following representation from certain Parish Councils Alan Melton Leader of Fenland DC has announced that he will be consulting with Parish Council Chairmen and clerks about future funding. There will be a further update at the April meeting when the situation regarding the streetlights should be available.

Some funding from the Rural Grants should be available to help with replacement of streetlights possibly 50% of what is required with match funding by Parish Councils.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 1st April 2014 (Annual Assembly)

Signed Date