

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2015

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

Apologies: Councillor Mrs Clark

99/15 Public Participation

No members of the public attended the meeting

100/15 Minutes of previous meeting held on 1st September 2015 were confirmed and signed

101/15 There were no additional items for consideration

102/15 Councillors did not have any personal and prejudicial interests under the Local Code of Conduct to declare

103/15 **POLICE LIAISON**

Letter received from Inspector Will Davis Operations Police Inspector in Fenland. In it he sets out his objectives for the future to deliver the best, most effective service. There will no longer be police presence at Town and Parish meetings. A brief summary of recent crime trends and policing activity will be sent via e-mail to support the meetings. Any queries can be raised directly with the local policing team via e-mail.

104/15 **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

North Level IDB Day Visit 14th October

Unfortunately neither Councillor Holt nor D Humphrey are now able to attend. There were no other Councillors available to attend. Clerk to advise North Level.

Notice Board

The Post Office proprietors will be re-siting the notice board shortly. If this does not prove suitable a new position will have to be found. The condition of the board is very poor and should be replaced when finances allow.

Playing Field

Councillors M Humphrey, Holt and Mrs Hunns declared an interest in the following item as they are members of the Playing Field Committee and took no part in the decision making process.

It is the intention of the Playing Field Committee to erect a canopy on the back of the Community Hall at an estimated cost of £10,000. The Committee will finance this

project from their own funds but as the Parish Council is the owners of the building the planning application should be made by them. All the other Councillors were agreeable to this.

Councillor M Humphrey gave an overview of the finances of the Community Centre. At September 2014 funds of £5,600 were held and at September 2015 it had increased to £18,000. The sinking fund now stands at £1,904.

105/15 **MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA**

(1) **Highway Matters**

Letter received from a resident of Churchill Road pointing out the poor condition of the road surface. Clerk will contact the Highways office for his response and then respond to the resident.

Pot hole reported along Gote Lane near the junction with Glebe Close to be reported. Decoy Bridge still has not been repaired. To be reported again.

Local Highway Improvement Initiative 2016/17 – application to be made by 2nd November. Councillor Ms Reynolds suggested that speed reduction measures are required on Wolf Lane on the approach to the Playing Field from Leverington Common. It was agreed that Matthew Pickering be asked for suggestion and then the clerk was to submit the application.

Cattle Dyke/High Road junction has very poor visibility because of the hedge there. Occupiers of this property to be asked to get it cut back.

(2) **Play Equipment**

Councillor M Humphrey met with the inspector and looked at the zip wire post. The whole post moved so following on from receiving a quote for £225 from The Landscape Group to carry out the work, the repairs have now been carried out and hopefully the zip wire should shortly be back in action.

(3) **Streetlights**

Councillor M Humphrey attend a meeting arrange by Doddington PC to discuss the replacement of the Cat 2 lights. It was attended by 5 Parish Councils. One of the main issues was that Balfour Beatty carried out the survey of the lights and then they will also be carrying out the replacements. It was agreed that Skanska be asked for a quotation to carry out an independent survey of some of the lights. If it is agreeable Gorefield will have 5 light surveyed at a cost of £61.87. It was agreed to take part in this survey and the following lights should be looked at: FPC2 Gote Lane, FPC12 High Road, FPC14 High Road, FPC5 High Road and FPC1 West End.

Councillor M Humphrey also sent a letter to Councillor Simon King pointing out that most Parish Councils have budgeted to replace the Cat 2 lights over 3 to 5 years but are not able to finance them now. He also pointed out that most Parish Councils would rather see Concurrent Function Grants phased out and the £40,000 per annum be used to repay the cost of Cat 2 lights.

106/15 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence

107/15 **PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no planning applications to be considered

Planning applications approved:

F/YR15/0620/F – erection of a 2 storey 2 bed dwelling involving formation of widened shared access and demolition of existing garage – land west of 3A High Road

F/YR15/0680/A – display of 1 externally illuminated fascia sign, 3 poster frames and 3 window graphics – S and S Stores Ltd 83 High Road

108/15 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Review of Council spending up to 6th October 2015 (see attached document). The second instalment of the Precept (£7,500) has now been received.

The annual return for financial year ended 31st March 2015 has now been certified by the external auditor.

Accounts to be paid:

R Gagen	Clerk's salary 6 months	£1,352.52
HMRC	Tax on clerk's salary	£338.00
R Gagen	Clerk's expenses 6 months	£84.20
PKF Littlejohn	External audit	£120.00
Cambs CC	Contribution to Local Highways Improvement	£1,067.83
Fenland DC	Planning fee	£192.50

Balance of Accounts

Current account	£20,947.54
Business Premium account	£2,159.76
High Interest account	<u>£801.98</u>
	£23,909.28

109/15 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

The Old Blacksmith's at The Barracks is beginning to get in a very poor condition and could become a safety hazard. To be reported to Fenland Planning.

Wreaths are required for Remembrance Day. The Chairman will lay one in the Church and one in Chapel Yard.

Chairman asked if CAB the next outreach session can be advertised as widely as possible. People to be told to "use it or lose it".

Next Meeting – Tuesday 3rd November 2015

Signed Date