

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT GOREFIELD SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2004

Present: Councillors Humphrey, Davall, Holt, Carroll, Cooke, Mrs Hall and Mrs Atkins, P C Coales, Gary Garford, Alan Hampton, Mrs M Humphrey and Mrs Annie Appleby

618/04 Minutes of previous meetings held on 17th August and 14th September 2004 were confirmed and signed.

619/04 Additional item for consideration: Christmas Tree Project

620/04 Councillor Carroll declared an interest in item concerning property on Churchill Road

621/04 **Alan Hampton Cambridgeshire Acre**

A village must have a Parish Plan if it wishes to achieve quality status and also to obtain grants for any village projects. The purpose of a plan is to find out how people wish the village to evolve. Cambs Acre can assist the community with the consultation process. The whole village must be consulted. The Parish Council must first make the decision to proceed with the plan and call a public meeting. Cambs Acre will attend and give a more in depth explanation as to the merits of a Parish Plan. A steering committee must be formed consisting of 8 to 10 local residents including 2 councillors. Questionnaires to be prepared, local even organised where people can find out information out local services etc and make comments. Representatives from District Council, police, health service etc to be present. When all the information is collected together an action plan is compiled. The Defra grants have now finished but there could be some coming up from EEDA. Approximate cost £3,000 but this could vary according to how much local help is available for printing, distribution etc. Leverington PC are also in process of setting up a Parish Plan, possibly some part of the plans could be a joint effort.

622/04 **POLICE LIAISON**

P C Coales had no major incidents to report. Has seen no evidence of the stock car in Churchill Road. It was reported that they have been seen mainly at the week ends. Chairman has received an e-mail from the Housing Officer. The tenants of 15 Churchill Road have been written to and told they must move the stock car from Council property and it cannot be relocated to any other Council property.

Housing Officer also replied to query about number of occupants of a private dwelling. There is no limit to the number of occupants unless they cause a nuisance then the police can take action. Councillor Carroll explained that he was the agent for this property and that there were 8 occupants in a 4 bed house. The residents are Russian and Latvian here under contract. If they cause any trouble their contract will be terminated. PC Coales has had no incidents reported to her.

623/04

GARY GARFORD FENLAND DC LIAISON

Will find out if Parish Council is responsible for the litter bins in the village, clerk to e-mail positions of all the bins.

Council officers have contacted the resident at No 8 Richmond Green with reference to the entrance to the development off High Road.

New recycling bins for the district still in the planning stage, programme ready by the end of the year for roll out in the new year.

One Stop Shop – another meeting is being held shortly to reassure people that the Tourist Information Centre and Council Services can work together. The new services to be provided will give local people a direct link to all council services through a customer services officer who will have a direct computer link to the March offices. Cambs CC have been offered facilities to have registration services in Wisbech but these are now being centralised in March.

624/04

MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA

Hedge at Chiltern House

Fred Hardwick to be asked to once again write to the owners and ask them to cut back the hedge which is making it very dangerous for vehicles coming out of Cattle Dyke

Footpath at West End

Letter from resident of West End asking for a foot path. This will be discussed further in a latter item.

625/04

MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA

(1)

Village of the Year

Congratulations to all those who helped the village to win the Fenland Village of the Year competition. The village has received a certificate to be put in the village hall, a plaque to be put on the school fence a cheque for £250.

(2)

Streetlights

Have got some information on solar powered lights. Cost approximated £2,500 and can only be lit for 8 hours out of 24. Cambs CC will not accept responsibility for their maintenance. Agreed to go for an electric powered light. Clerk to get quotes for the power connection for three lights – High Road opposite the church and opposite Hazledene and Churchill Road near the bungalows.

(3)

Jointly Funded Minor Improvement Scheme

As a 30mph is now possible along the High Road it was agreed to put in a bid to change all the signs and the interactive sign to 30 mph. Also to apply for a footpath scheme along the High Road from Fendyke Lane towards the village

(4) **Emergency Plan for the Village**

First points of call for all emergencies is the 999 service. Assistance is provided by the County Council (Civil Protection Unit) and the Fenland DC Emergency Team. There is no formal role for Parish Councils but they may wish to carry out a good neighbour role.

(5) **Allotment Cattle Dyke**

To be let at an annual rent of £70. Advert to be put in notice board and in the News Letter

626/04 **CORRESPONDENCE**

(1) **Planning Training for Councillors**

Letter from Terry Jordan Democratic Services and Licensing Manager asking how many councillors wish to take part in the training and if so would the council be prepared to pay £65.00 per person. Agreed that all councillors and clerk would attend the training and would be prepared to pay £65.

(2) **Options Fenland**

Dan Horn Housing Strategy Enabling Manager wishes to attend a meeting to explain how the council house stock will be effectively managed in the future. It has been organised for him to attend the next meeting.

(3) **All other correspondence to be circulated to Councillors**

627/04 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning applications

Application No F/YR04/3919/0 erection of 4 bungalow – land north east of Elm Haven West End – if this development goes ahead improvements should be made to the highway, provision should be made for a footpath and streetlighting, visibility splays should be provided on High Road. A copy of a letter sent to the planning officer from a resident of West End was taken into consideration.

Application No F/YR04/3931/0 – erection of a bungalow land west of Primrose Cottage West End – views of near neighbours should be taken into consideration and improvements to the highway similar to application above. A copy of a letter sent to the planning officer from a resident of West End was taken into consideration.

Application No F/YR04/3936/F – Variation of Condition 02 to allow kennelling of greyhounds for racing purposes – The Cottage Green Lane Fitton End Road - no objections

Application No F/YR04/3914/F – siting of storage container for building materials – The Gote Inn 106 High Road – would not wish to see the container resited due its size and colour and its position in the village next to a listed building.

Applications approved:

Application No F/YR04/3787/F erection of a 2 storey side extension to existing dwelling Cirebon Goredike Bank

Application No F/YR04/3684/F – conversion of detached building to 4 bedrooms for holiday accommodation – The Woodmans 90 High Road

Appeal lodged with Planning Inspectorate

Erection of a dwelling land south of Kelva Gates End Bridge High Side Parson – previous comments taken into consideration – outside DAB and does not comply with council policy for infill

Fenland Local Development Framework

Notification from two people who have asked Forward Planning to consider their parcels of land for inclusion in the new local plan.

628/04

REPORT FROM PARISH SURGERY

One person attended, he is concerned about the lack of water pressure at his home in Gote Lane. Clerk to write to Anglian Water to get their view on the situation.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Clerk has received details of a contract of employment etc from CALC. Councillor Mrs Atkins took away to consider.

Annual Audit 2003-04

Have now received the Auditors certificate. They wish to make the following comment:

The level of reserves appears to be quite high and recommends that the Council reviews its level of reserves and if once any planned expenditure is deducted the balances are still high then the next years Precept should be reduced.

Clerk authorised to issue the following cheques:

Moore Stephens (District Auditors)	£146.87
CALC (Details of contract of employment)	£3.00
Frasers (Allotment rent)	£33.00
Steve Mann (Repairs to seat in Pocket Park)	£30.00
R Gagen (Clerk's expenses)	£64.00
R Gagen (Clerk's salary 6 months)	£1,008.80
Gorefield Village Hall (Parish Surgery)	£5.00
N Carroll (Travelling expenses)	£12.80

Balance of Accounts

Current Account	£701.00
Business Premium Account	£5,173.01
High Interest Account	£7,124.18
	<u>£12,998.19</u>

629/04

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Councillor Carroll to attend Cambs Liaison meeting. Going to put forward photographic evidence of the poor condition rural road are in.

Councillor Carroll would like to discuss the filling in of the Playing Field drain. To be put on the next Agenda for further discussion.

Streetlights to be reported – one outside the Butchers shop and the one on the corner of the Playing Field are on all the time. One on Cattle Dyke is faulty.

Grass cutting – area around post box and litter bin at the top of Churchill Road left uncut.

Road sign on High Road at Allens Drove cross roads is damaged

Flooding outside The Woodsmans. Fred Hardwick to be asked whose responsibility this is. Also to be asked if the Parish Council can be of any further help in his quest to get the High Road road surface reinstated to the condition it was before the main sewer went through.

Next year 2005 will be celebration for VE & VJ Days. To be put on Agenda for further discussion.

When the footway was resurfaced they did not put dropped curbs outside Marcol.

The gullies in Churchill Road need cleaning out.

Conifers outside No 12 St Paul's Close are overhanging the footway.

Agreed that the Parish Council should go ahead with a Parish Plan. Alan Hampton to be informed, more discussions at the next meeting.

630/04

Village Christmas Tree Project

A group of people in the village wish to provide a Christmas Tree which can be planted somewhere in the village and lit every year. Have already raised £308.00 through fund raising events plus they have been promised a further £100 from a local resident. H L Sims has promised 2 strings of lights and some underground cable. The Church Yard has been suggested as a suitable place for it to be planted but this has not met with every ones approval. Clerk to write to the PCC to see if the problem can be rectified. Councillor Mrs Atkins proposed that the £250 won in the Village of the Year competition to be donated towards this project + a further £100 if required, seconded by Councillor Carroll., approved by all.

Date of next meeting: 9th November 2004

Planning Meeting to be arranged if required.

Signed Date.....