

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON TUESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2016

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

Apologies: Councillors Walpole, Lay and Ms Clarke

219/16 **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public present

220/16 Minutes of previous meeting held on 2nd August 2016 were confirmed and signed

221/16 There were no additional items for consideration

222/16 Councillors did not have any personal and prejudicial interests under the Local Code of Conduct to declare

223/16 **POLICE MONTHLY UPDATE**

Councillor Mrs Hall had received a report for Wisbech area there were no incidents reported for Gorefield. Speeding in rural areas remains a priority. Speed checks have been undertaken in the village recently.

224/16 **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Village Voices

The Parish Council page should be done shortly. Councillor Mrs Hall did the last one. Chairman will do the next one. Needed by 15th of the month. Existing template can be used

225/16 **MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA**

(1) **Highway Matters**

Update on speed reduction measures for Wolf Lane. The Police have been consulted on the proposed 40 mph buffer zone and they have no objections. The consultation period for the scheme is 14th September to 5th October.

(2) **Play Equipment**

Clerk has once again tried to contact the company who undertake the weekly inspections but have still had no response. Will keep trying and failing that another company will have to be found.

(3) **Streetlights**

A meeting was held but following some confusion notification was very short and Councillor M Humphrey was unable to attend. He has been trying to contact Councillor King to get an update. Clerk has received a copy of the minutes of the meeting. Fenland DC have been undertaking a spending review and based on quotation would most probably be reappointing Balfour Beatty as their preferred supplier despite their past performance. This contract will commence from 1st April 2017. There will also be a requirement in the contract that all CAT 2 lights are resurveyed and a detailed condition report of each column would be available to each Parish Council. Councillor Hufton asked the meeting whether they would be happy for her to progress a project that would ultimately divorce the Parishes and their lighting stock from FDC and Balfour Beatty. The parishes present agreed that they would be happy for that to take place.

Following on at the end of this meeting Councillor King arrived to give a broader outline of these details. Most of the Councillors were of the opinion that it would not be prudent to go along with recommendations made at the meeting for the Parish Council to take on responsibility for our own streetlights. They would wish to carry on jointly with Fenland DC. Implementation of getting the CAT 2 lights repaired should be undertaken shortly.

Streetlight Bollard Chapel Lane

The Chairman fetched this away because it had been damaged. The only way it can be repaired is by sticking the top back on with tape. It was agreed that this should be done in the first instance as it is not yet known whether it will be successful in the winter time when it is most needed.

(4) **Pocket Park Maintenance**

Clerk contacted Shawn Bowles and Sam Johnson with regard to doing work on the Pocket Park. To date Sam Johnson has not contacted Councillor M Humphrey but Shawn Bowles has visited the site and will be submitting a quotation shortly.

226/16 **CORRESPONDENCE**

E-mail received from Fenland Wellbeing Service asking if the Parish Council would consider funding a wellbeing pop up cafe in the village. The envisaged cost per annum would be £1,000 which would cover staff cost, travel and volunteer expenses. Following on from the experience with the Citizens Advice Bureau it was not thought this would be very viable for the village. There is also the drop in being run regularly at the Village Hall so it was agreed to decline supporting this.

Copies of all other correspondence will be circulated to Councillors

227/16 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning applications received:

F/YR16/0682/F – erection of a single storey side extension to existing dwelling – 2 St Paul’s Close – no objections

F/YR16/0714/F – erection of a part 2 storey part first floor extension to side/rear of exiting dwelling – Elm Tree Farm 632 Leverington Common – no objections

Planning application withdrawn:

F/YR16/0629/F – Change of use from signwriters (B1) to 2 bed dwelling – Blacksmiths Shop High Road

Councillor D Humphrey could not understand why Fenland DC were not in favour of this application as the Parish Council had supported it. Unfortunately Parish Councils can give their recommendations on applications but the ultimate decision is made by Fenland DC.

Clerk has received a copy of a letter that has been sent to Fenland Planning with regard to the application at the Old Orchard Mill Lane. They are concerned that even though planning permission has been refused it is evident that people are living on the site. In the first instance Gorefield PC supported this application as it would tidy up the site and bring an old orchard back into production. According to the correspondent this has not happened the orchard remains un-kept and overgrown. As this letter is unsigned the Council is not able to respond.

228/16 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

There were no accounts to be paid

Balance of Accounts

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Current account | | £24,560.78 |
| Business Premium account | £2,160.57 | |
| High Interest account | | <u>£802.28</u> |
| | | £27,523.63 |

229/16 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Pot holes especially in Chalk Road to be reported

Road sign lying on grass verge along Wolf Lane

Councillor M Humphrey has had a communication from Peter Thatcher concerning Community Achievement Network which has been taken up by other Parish Councils locally. More information is require before any action can be taken

Past pupils of Gorefield School have been invited to attend on Friday afternoon.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 1st November 2016

Signed Date