

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COMMUNITY HALL ON TUESDAY 8TH AUGUST 2023

Present: Councillors: Mrs L Hodgson,(Chairman) P Thatcher, M Humphrey and Mrs N Hempsall

Councillors Mrs D Cutler and S King

One member of the public

Apologies: Councillor G Booth

55/23 **Public Participation**

One member of the public attended the meeting to outline their interest in being co-opted on to the Council. They gave a resume of their life in village having lived here for 45 years. The Chairman thanked them for this information and invited them to stay at the meeting until the Agenda item to discuss their co-option takes places when they will be asked to leave.

56/23 Minutes of meeting held on 4th July 2023 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

57/23 There were no additional items for discussion

58/23 Councillor Humphrey declared a personal or prejudicial interest in any item concerning the Community Hall as he is a member of the Playing Field Committee.

59/23 **MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA**

(1) **Highway Matters**

Councillor King was able to attend the meeting and had submitted his report by e-mail before the meeting.

The application for a 20 mph zone will go before the Highways and Transport Committee on 3rd October.

Bellamy's Bridge – a meeting is being arranged for the three Parish Councils, the county councillors and the relevant county officers to consider other safety improvements. The red warning lines will be refreshed this month.

Councillor King attached information regarding the criteria for a weight limit restriction which was mentioned at the last meeting for High Side.

This would only restrict through traffic and not heavy lorries which are accessing any properties along the road.

The Chairman had already reported a large pot hole along High Side which was becoming very dangerous to Councillor King who has reported it the County Highways and hopefully it should be filled shortly.

Nothing further has been heard about the LHI application for the yellow lines along High Road. Councillor King explained that Parish Councils pay 10% of the first £10,000 of these applications and then all of the remaining balance.

(2) **Speed Watch**

Copies of the new leaflets are being delivered in Gorefield. Councillor Mrs Cutter has now has one volunteer from Gorefield and another has asked for information. Councillors Humphrey, Thatcher and Mrs Hemsall all said they would volunteer to help. Taster sessions will be held in the village.

(3) **Play Area Repairs**

A quotation has been received from D K O Wheatly for cutting back of the trees on the Playing Field. To lift the crowns of the trees around the play area will cost £325.00. They also suggested that there were other trees around the car park etc that required attention due to dead wood and hanging branches. They require a further £100 for this. The Lime tree located next to the Charity clothing bank also needs a minor crown lift for which £50 was quoted. Agreed to give the go ahead for all this work.

After the last meeting Councillor Thatcher mentioned that the Lime trees in front of the Chapel Yard needed cutting back. This was added to the quotation at a cost of £100. Also agreed to accept this.

Councillor Humphrey reported that the Privet hedge along the side of the Pocket Park needs cutting on both sides. Contractors to be asked to quote for this work.

Councillor Thatcher would like to replace the trees that had been planted at Oxfield Drive which unfortunately have now been vandalised. It was suggested that an order be placed with Woodland Trust but larger stakes be used this time so the trees can be easily identified by grass cutters.

(4) **Reports from Cambridgeshire and Fenland DC Councillors**

The meeting to discuss Bellamy's Bridge has been arranged for 30th October 2023 at 7 pm at Wisbech St Mary Community Centre.

(5) **Co-Option of Councillor**

All Councillors were asked to give their opinion on the application for co-option from the person who attended the meeting. There was a long discussion on the points raised for and against the candidate and in the end there was not enough support for this application.

(6) **Communications**

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council has suggested that the 3 Parish Councils covered by the Village Voices join forces to finance preparing the publication of this monthly magazine

60/23 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Fenland DC transport officer has sent information regarding an online survey being carried out for Fenland Cycling, walking and mobility aid improvement strategy.

The Chairman has received two invitations to fund raising events from Wisbech Town Council and Fenland DC and was concerned that she is only able to attend one of them. She was informed by a past Chairman that it is a personal choice to attend these events and not statutory.

61/23 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning Application:

F/YR23/0618/F – Retrospective change of use of a former paddock to residential garden land, annexe and retention of portacabin as a domestic hobby room and close off the secondary residential access – land south of Swan Lodge Hassockhill Drove – do not support this application in its present format as there are too many elements as some are acceptable and some are not

Planning application approved:

F/YR23/0408/F – Erect a hobby room with front and rear canopied area, and a single storey rear extension to existing dwelling – Beeches Row The Barracks

Planning application refused:

F/YR23/0396/F – erect 2 x dwellings (2 storey, 4 bed) and the demolition of an existing agricultural building – land north of Long Meadow Mill Lane

62/23 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Accounts to be paid:

	Cheq No	Nett	VAT	Gross
Fenland DC (Streetlight recharge 22/23)	101114	£11,538.80	2,307.76	£13,846.56
Tin Fish (SSL Certificate)	101115	£105.00	21.00	£126.00

Balance of Accounts

Current account	£4,654.00
Business Premium account	£21,359.54
High Interest account	<u>£5,834.73</u>
	£31,848.27

63/23 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

There was nothing more to be reported

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 7 pm at Gorefield
Community Hall

Signed Date