

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Gretton, Corby, Northamptonshire.

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Minutes of the meeting of Gretton Parish Council held on **Monday 14th June 2021** at 7.30pm. This meeting was held at Gretton Baptist Church Hall, 67 High Street, Gretton. NN17 3DF

Present: Cllrs.Lilley, Husk, Fox, Smith, Nicholls, Newby, Nichol, PC Wilson, M.Jarvis (NW Warden), C.Jefferson (Foxborough Homes) and the Clerk (J.Clark)

21/114 Election of Chairman for 2020/21

RESOLVED: Cllr.Fox prop. Cllr.Lilley. Cllr.Newby sec. Cllr.Lilley accepted the position of Chairman.

21/115 Signing of Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

RESOLVED: Cllr. Lilley signed the document.

21/116 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: Apologies received from Cllrs.Wright, Thompson, Collis, Watt and Sims.

21/117 To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct Related to business on the agenda.

RESOLVED: None declared.

21/118 To receive a report from Corby Rural Division, North Northamptonshire Council

RESOLVED: Cllr.Nichol reported that Cllr Lawman, Lead Member for Highways, will be inspecting drainage, signs and potholes along Gretton Brook Road on 18th June. The strip of land from Priors Hall and around Rockingham Speedway comes under the Oundle Division and Cllr.Nichol said that he would raise this with J.Smithers.

The repairs expected to be carried out at Gretton Brook Road are not shown on the spreadsheets sent out by Highways each week.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways to find out why this is the case.

Cllr.Newby asked about the cause of the smell in the area around the Speedway.

ACTION: Cllr.Nichol agreed to send the Clerk contact details for residents to report this to Environmental Health. Clerk to put on Facebook.

A discussion took place regarding the length of time that it takes NNC to respond to emails sent from the PC, particularly concerning Planning Dept. Cllr.Nichol agreed this is the case and that it needs to be improved.

Cllr.Fox said that before the amalgamation of the Unitary, the PC dealt with certain officers and asked if there was an updated list of contacts available.

ACTION: Cllr.Nichol will forward details to the Clerk.

Cllr.Newby raised ongoing concerns regarding the footpath along Station Road. He confirmed that an on-site meeting had been arranged for 16th June with a representative from Peterborough Diocese to discuss a long-term solution to this ongoing issue.

21/119 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2021.

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved without amendment and signed by the Chairman.

21/120 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only.

RESOLVED: 21/073 – NNC has confirmed that they maintain the play park and equipment owned by the PC and have their Risk Assessment to cover this. This area to be included in the Council's Risk Assessment.

21/103: 21/228 An electrician from the First Responders has assessed Lydia's Coffee Shop regarding installation of the defibrillator and reported that an extra circuit breaker is required. The Clerk is waiting for a quotation for this work.

21/111 (i) The Clerk confirmed that the overgrown grass verge by the old Talbot Inn has been added to the mowing agreement with NNC.

(ii) Highways have confirmed that they will remove the Japanese Knotweed growing on Station Road near the railway bridge.

21/121 To receive a report from Neighbourhood Watch Warden about the possibility of establishing a No Cold Calling zone in Gretton.

RESOLVED: M.Jarvis reported that there had been a 50% increase in membership since the beginning of the year, and he encouraged all PC Councillors to join. Posters are displayed in Gretton, and there are 88 followers on the Facebook page.

M.Thompson has repaired some of the signs, and D.Fursdon has cleaned the signage coming into the village. M.Jarvis will have a stall at the forthcoming Baptist Church Fete. He spoke about the possible introduction of a No Cold Calling Zone in Gretton and his concerns that older people in the village may be more vulnerable to door-to-door salespeople. PC Wilson said that CC Zones are not legally enforceable but thought signs at the entrance to Gretton was a good idea, but too many could highlight vulnerable areas in Gretton. He also said that if a person feels they would benefit from having a Neighbourhood Watch sticker in their window, they will receive one. Cllr.Lilley asked if we would need a CC Zone if we had an active NW Group in Gretton. PC Wilson said that part of the NW is to introduce CC Zones. Cllr.Lilley stated that the Council favours supporting the NW and CC Zone, which is part of it and would do what every that can to help.

ACTIONS: Cllr.Smith to advertise NW on the Council Facebook page and website.

Cllr.Husk would contact the school and Chirpy Chicks and ask them to display a NW poster.

If posters are to be displayed to raise the profile of the NW. PC Wilson said that the PCC would accept funding applications and would send a form to the Clerk.

21/122 Open Forum

RESOLVED: Mr.Jefferson, Foxborough Homes spoke about street lighting on the Kirby Road development. Their preference is that there is no public lighting on the adoptable road in the development for the following reasons:

- There is an existing streetlight opposite the main entrance which will light the junction with Kirby Road.
- There is a similar road - Wootton Forge - that has no lighting
- Bollard lights will be installed by each house but not harsh street lights.

Highways have confirmed that there is no need for street lighting.

Cllr.Lilley referred to the section the Gretton Neighbourhood Plan regarding street lighting and said this was available to view on the Corby Section on NNC website adding that the PC would contact Mr.Jefferson by the end of the week.

ACTION: A response to be sent to Mr.Jefferson once Cllrs. Lilley and Fox have looked at the NP.

21/123 To receive a report from the Police.

RESOLVED: PC Wilson distributed his contact details and said that he is happy for the PC to give them out to anyone requesting them.

The crime figures for May 2021 are as follows:

CRIMINAL DAMAGE (21000279276): VULNERABLE PERSON

A staffing poster for the area has been circulated to the Parish Council together with MATTER OF PRIORITY posters that have now been produced in line with the campaign "A Matter of Priority" which puts a spotlight on the four crime types which the Police will give special attention to in the next 12 months - Serious and Organised Crime, Knife Crime, Domestic Abuse and Anti-Social Behaviour. These are for dissemination by the Parish Council how they see fit. The Chief Constable has expressed his desire for there to be a bigger digital footprint in relation to rural Policing, and this will go some way in achieving his wishes. There are no ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR figures this month since this is still being progressed and may be available to the Parish Council next month.

PC Wilson reported that two 'Beat Buses' will soon be available for North and West Northamptonshire. He can book this and bring it to Gretton if he prove it will be beneficial in communicating to the local community. He will try to arrange for the Bus to come to the Family Fun Day to be held on the second weekend in September.

The Clerk spoke about a report of anti-social behaviour that she had received on land along Mill Road at the weekends. PC Wilson said that he will try to visit the area and requested that anti-social behaviour be reported to the police every time.

Cllr.Nicholls asked about the recent stabbing incident in Corby. PC Wilson didn't talk about the incident specifically since it is ongoing case but did say that there is a knife amnesty bin in Corby. If a request came from the Parish Council, he could arrange for a knife amnesty bin in Gretton. If anyone in Gretton sees a knife, they should phone 101 or, if they pick it up, they should email him brad.wilson@northants.pnn.police.uk

21/124 To receive a report from the Safer Corby Team.

RESOLVED: No report received.

21/125 To receive Financial statement dated 7th June 2021: payments received and invoices paid.

RESOLVED: This report was approved.

Payments

Date	Purpose	Payee	Amount
14/05/21	Planning application fee for dropped kerb to Village Green	North Northants Council	£103.00
17/05/21	Face masks and tissues for face-to-face meetings	Boots	£16.00
17/05/21	Welland Wanderer Bus contribution	Wilbarston Parish Council	£1,230.00
25/05/21	Data Protection Fee	ICO	£35.00
01/06/21	Electricity for MUGA Lights	E-On	£51.00
04/06/21	Parish Council Insurance	BHIB Councils Insurance	£1,493.69

Receipts

10/05/21	HGP Zumba (MUGA)		£110.00
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10/05/21	PWRup Fitness (MUGA)	£45.00
10/05/21	NNorthampton FP (MUGA)	£80.00
17/05/21	Garage rent	£ 35.83
01/06/21	E.Sharp (MUGA)	£ 20.00
BALANCE		£ 58,930.35
<u>NATWEST BANK RECONCILIATION FOR 4th June 2021</u>		
	Balance	£58,930.35
	Add undeposited cheques	Nil
BALANCE		£58,930.35
	Less unrepresented cheques	NIL
	Less unrepresented online payments	NIL
BANK 31st March 2021		£58,930.35
An invoice has been received for £567.76 from Wave for the Recreation Ground. Payment was approved. ACTION: Clerk to email Wave to complain about the overcharge and to resolve ongoing investigations into the recent high volume of water usage compared to historical records.		
21/126 To receive and approve Internal Audit Report and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21. RESOLVED: The Internal Audit Report and AGAR Return 2020/21 were approved.		
21/127 To receive a report from Working Groups. RESOLVED:		
21/127a Neighbourhood Plan and Local Plan matters – Cllr. Jacki Lilley RESOLVED: Before the meeting, Cllr.Lilley distributed a paper laying out the policies and community actions laid out in the "made" plan to familiarise all with the requirements of the NP and to ensure everyone is familiar with what is required of the PC. She also gave a brief explanation of the purpose of the NP.		
21/127b Communications including website, newsletters, press – Cllr. Julie Smith RESOLVED: Cllr.Smith referred to the discussion at the previous meeting regarding a PC Twitter account and asked if Councillors thought this was worthwhile since it would not be reaching a new demographic. It was agreed to only use Facebook for the time being. A discussion took place about the introduction of a Monthly Blog and it was decided to have a Topic of the Month. Suggested topics were (1) explain what the NP is all about, (2) highlight the Neighbourhood Watch group in Gretton. The Council are looking to update the website notably to include a community section. ACTION: Clerk to put an information pack together detailing different website provider information.		
21/127c Police and Neighbourhood Watch liaison – Cllr. Mark Thompson RESOLVED: No report received.		
21/127d Highways matters – including speeding measures, parking and street lighting – Cllr. Rob Collis RESOLVED: No report received. Clerk reported that she has emailed S.Barber asking for an update for licence applications and data from the box installed on Corby Road.		
21/127e Community – including buses, doctors surgery, school liaison – Cllr. Susan Husk RESOLVED: Cllr.Husk has spoken to Jane MacDonald, Principal at Gretton Primary School and introduced herself. She has received information from the Clerk with details of the organisation and funding of the Welland Wanderer bus service.		
21/127f Environment – including trees Pocket Park, litter collecting groups – Cllr. Rob Newby RESOLVED: Cllr.Newby reported that ash dieback is a serious disease of ash trees and is a significant cause for concern across the Borough. He has been liaising with Gretton Wombles. Cllr.Newby asked who is spraying weed-killer along the footpaths in Gretton ACTION: Clerk to investigate. Cllr.Smith reported that a resident has reported a branch has fallen from one of the trees in the Lower Graveyard. ACTION: Cllr.Newby to investigate.		
Parish Path Warden. Thousands of footpaths, alleys and bridleways across the UK face being lost forever under a clause in right-to-roam legislation since all rights of way must be identified before a government deadline of 2026, after which it will no longer be possible to add old paths to the official record. Cllr.Newby suggests a Working Group should be set up to investigate local footpaths and bridleways. Welland Valley Partnership – Cllr.Newby reported that P.Burns from the Welland Valley Partnership had requested a list of local landowners. ACTION: Clerk to investigate if it is possible to see this information following GDPR guidelines.		
21/127g Recreation ground – Cllr. Tim Fox reported that Gretton Charity Sportive 2021 had taken place at the weekend and was very successful. The annual Family Fun Day had been discussed and it was tentatively suggested that this should take place during the second week of September subject to any ongoing restrictions. A request had been made to the Friends group for use of the sports and activity towards the cost of repairing and servicing the mower used by the cricket and		

football clubs, and a payment upto £750 was agreed. Discussions had taken place to progress the discussions over a skate ramp and further consultations were planned, including a stall at the Fun Day. Comments had been received regarding the gap that had been made in the fence against Huntsfield Drive at the request of residents, and it was agreed that a gate would be installed in order to prevent stray dogs crossing the road.

21/127h Village Hall – Cllr.Smith has informed the Village Hall committee that she is the new Parish Council representative.

21/127i Sports and Social Club – Cllr.Lilley

RESOLVED: It was agreed that Cllr.Nicholls would take over as the PC representative for the Sports & Social Club and submit a report at each PC meeting.

He reported that the SSC is a non-profit organisation and membership has risen from 54 to over 500 since January 2019. They have signed a 3-year deal with Heineken. Cllr.Nicholls reported that Bingo had started again this evening. The SSC plan to organise a small bbq to be held on Friday evening during the England v Scotland football match to raise money for Gretton Cricket Club. They are collecting aluminium cans as a fundraiser on behalf of the First Responders. The SSC is following COVID guidelines well.

Cllr.Lilley requested that if Councillors cannot attend a meeting, they should submit a report to the Clerk one week before the meeting date.

21/128 To discuss and report Matters Arising Document.

RESOLVED: 20/228 Defibrillator. The defibrillator has been delivered. Mr.Sharman has spoken to the electrical contractor who has said a new circuit breaker would be needed, and he will submit a quote for work required to the PC.

21/129 Planning

Application NC/21/00245/SC

Re : Reserved matters approval of (outside of a Key Phase) of access, appearance, landscape, layout and scale, in respect of the construction of: strategic foul water sewer; foul water pumping station; surface water drainage infrastructure and spurs; substation, hard and soft landscaping; a leisure route with areas for future play; landscaped amphitheatre; temporary stockpiling of construction materials; and all ancillary works, associated infrastructure and engineering works (details in cover letter) pursuant to 19/01219/OUT (Zones 2 and 3 Priors Hall Development Site)

At : Priors Hall Development Site Stamford Road Weldon Northamptonshire

RESOLVED: This application was discussed and it was agreed that the PC would not object to the application.

However, the PC concerns about the impact that this application may have on Gretton Parish particularly with respect to how the formidable number of deer that inhabit this area will be contained and kept safe should be raised. Therefore, the Parish Council request that plans should be made stating what actions will be taken to protect drivers and animals.

It was noted that there are no documents online regarding application NC/21/00268/DPA received today.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Planning to request an extension to consultation date and that documents are available to view online.

21/130 To consider TVAS system for Gretton

RESOLVED: Since Cllr.Collis is not present, it was agreed that the Clerk should invite M.Moore to July meeting to answer some basic questions and provide some background with the knowledge gleaned from meeting and talking with the various contacts.

21/131 To review and adopt Standing Orders (2018 Edition, revised 2020)

RESOLVED: The following amendments were discussed:

12. Draft Minutes e:

ACTION: Now that the Council's gross annual income exceeds £25,000, the Clerk will ask NCALC if this clause should be amended.

14. Code of Conduct Complaints

ACTION: Amended to take into account the new Unitary Authority.

19.B Responsibilities to provide information. If gross annual income or expenditure (whichever is higher) does not exceed £25,000, the Council shall publish information in accordance with the requirements of the Smaller Authorities (Transparency Requirements) (England) Regulations 2015.

ACTION: Clerk to find out further details.

20. Responsibilities under Data Protection Legislation

ACTION: Clerk to produce a Data Breach Policy to be adopted by the Council.

21 Relations with the Press Media

ACTION: Clerk to produce a Press and Media Relations Policy to be adopted by the Council.

Cllr Lilley asked the Clerk to order a Gretton Parish Council stamp. Councillors approved this.

20/132 To review and adopt Terms of Reference, Finance Committee.

RESOLVED: This document was discussed and approved.

<p>20/133 Election of Internal Controls Councillor. RESOLVED: Cllr.Wright was elected as Internal Controls Councillor. Prop: Cllr.Fox, Sec: Cllr.Nicholls</p>
<p>20/134 To discuss allotments owned by Gretton Parish Council RESOLVED: The Parish Council insurance has been reviewed and renewed. A condition of the insurance is that all allotment holders should have their own public liability insurance of at least £5 million. RESOLVED: Clerk to inform allotment holders Cllr.Husk reported that she had received a complaint about the wood chip pile and the overgrown nettles and weeds located by the entrance to the allotments. ACTION: Clerk to contact allotment holders and ask if they will use anymore of the woodchip. The Council will then plan to remove what is left.</p>
<p>21/135 To consider the possibility of establishing a No Cold Calling zone in Gretton (Neighbourhood Watch) RESOLVED: See agenda item21/121</p>
<p>20/136 To receive a report on any correspondence received since the previous meeting. RESOLVED: (i)An invoice has been received to install safety netting for the play area at the Recreation Ground for £160. This payment was approved. (ii)An email has been received about a proposal for a Zoom meeting to discuss rural representation on the North Northamptonshire Council. Cllr.Lilley to attend on Wednesday 23rd June. (iii)Details of the Plant a Tree for The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee scheme has been received. It was agreed this could be a village initiative, and a group would need to be organised to discuss this further. (iv)Planning application NC/21/00268/DPA has been received today. There are no documents to view on the planning website. ACTION: Clerk to contact Planning Department. (v)The Clerk has received an email from the Temporary Tree and Landscape Officer (NNC) regarding an application to Pollard TPO Trees on Rose Terrace off Clay Lane asking for a contact number so that he can phone and discuss this with her. As yet, she has not heard from him.</p>
<p>21/137 To consider a request from the Sports and Social Club to replace shutters and a door. RESOLVED: This request was discussed, and it was agreed that the SSC would present proposals and plans to the Council when they are available.</p>
<p>21/082 Councillor questions RESOLVED: (i)Cllr.Fox said that several jobs need doing in the village and suggested a notice should be put on Facebook advising the Council is seeking to compile a small list of parish-based contractors, or hand workers, that are willing to offer their paid services to carry out occasional tasks on the property for which the Council is responsible. Interested people should contact the Clerk to provide details of skills and experience, types of jobs they wish to be considered etc. ACTION: Cllr.Smith to action (ii)Cllr.Fox reported that Section 137 is a grant that the Council can make to benefit the community. The total amount to be made available is no more than £8.41 per elector, approximately £5-6,000. Small community groups would be eligible to apply to the Council for a grant. There are criteria and statutory rules to follow. ACTION: Cllr. Fox and the Clerk to investigate further. (iii)Cllr.Lilley spoke about the various assets owned by the Council. Councillors agreed to meet on 21 July 7.30pm at the Village Green and walk around the village to look at the location of Council assets. ACTION: Clerk to circulate a list of assets to all Councillors. (iv) Cllr.Nicholls reported some broken bins in the village. ACTION: Clerk to contact Customer First, NNC to report this. (v)Cllr.Lilley said that the Council should consider village projects for spending in the future to show residents that they are benefitting from the rise in the precept payment. This will need to be costed and prioritised. She asked all Councillors to give this some consideration. (vi)Cllr.Lilley requested all Councillors look at the NCalc Training schedule, she would like everyone to take at least one course per year.</p>
<p>21/139 The meeting closed at 10.29 pm. Date of next Meeting to be Monday 12th July, 2021.</p>

Signed: _____

12th July 2021

DRAFT