

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 8th April 2019 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:- Andrew Royle – chair, Tim Fox, Frances Woolston, Julie Smith, Matthew Moore, Mark Thompson, Phil Bromhall, Terri Meechan, Bridget Watts and Kevin Watt (BC), John Hindle – clerk and 1 Member of the Public.

Apologies:- Marshall Ferguson, Joe Devlin (PCSO), Cathie Leyland (Neighbourhood Warden)

Chairman reminded councillors to declare an interest whether prejudicial or non-prejudicial to any item where appropriate.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11th March 2019 were declared to be a true record and duly signed by the chairman.

Matters Arising from Minutes of 11th March:-

Clerk reported that one application for councillor had been received from Rob. Collis of Corby Road. Councillors agreed to invite him to the next meeting of Parish Council on 13th May.

In addition there have been four applications for Parish Clerk to commence in July. An interview date will be set and the candidates invited to attend.

The village has various problems with regard to redundant telegraph poles and faulty street lighting. Kevin Watt agreed to follow up with Corby BC officers.

Clerk reported that he had attended a meeting of the Rural Area Forum in March where the loss of grant for parishes was discussed. The presentation was favourably received and it is hoped that proposals for the reinstatement of this grant to all villages will be announced at the next meeting of the Forum in July.

Clerk has received a quotation for the grounds maintenance of the village during 2019. Another is expected and a decision will be made in the near future.

Matthew Moore will follow up the availability of Section 106 monies ring fenced for use by the Village Hall. As soon as the procedure for using this money is established it will be pursued.

The pothole at the end of the driveway leading to the Sports Club has now reached dangerous proportions. Kevin Watt agreed to seek an undertaking for repair from Corby BC.

Various Highways matters are still outstanding with Sarah Barnwell and clerk will follow up.

Phil Bromhall will discuss various tree works required in the Pocket Park with Jon Dixon from Cottingham.

The improvements required to the side entrance to Gretton School will be discussed with Suzanne Preston following the incident outside Chirpy Chicks last month.

The Friends of Gretton Recreation Ground committee are still looking for a cleaner to start immediately. Julie Smith will put an entry on Facebook.

Report on Neighbourhood Plan for Gretton:-

Frances Woolston informed councillors that discussions continue on the content of the draft document and its appendices. There are a few matters to resolve and the consultant and members of the Environment arm of the Plan committee are anxious to resolve the issues before release to the Parish Council. It is proposed that a separate meeting of Council be arranged with the document circulated beforehand to give councillors the opportunity to make informed contributions. Prior to the meeting comments will go to Fran and then to Jacki Lilley chairman of the Plan committee who will collate them and present to PC.

Report from Borough Councillors:-

Bridget Watts mentioned that the flytipping around the approaches to the village will be removed shortly by Corby BC operatives. Apparently the multi diversions and road closures have caused a problem.

Kevin Watt reported that more cash has been set aside to purchase properties for Council use. These will include existing and new build around the area.

The Composting plant at Kirby Lodge has been bought by a firm called TW. The site is currently running at 50% volume and the point was made that vehicle movements will increase considerably when full capacity is reached. Frances Woolston attended a meeting at the site recently and was offered a site visit along with other interested parties. The plan is to set up a committee to handle complaints which will meet on a bimonthly basis. Problems in the past have centred around noxious smells emanating from the site when production of compost is in progress or essential maintenance work is undertaken. The company were encouraged to extensively advertise their work programme so residents were aware and could make plans accordingly to reduce the effects around their homes. The Environment Agency is once again involved in the venture and will have a seat on the committee from which to monitor levels of pollution and complaints.

Correspondence:-

Email received from David Hall of Maltings Court drawing attention to the fact that Gretton has no 7.5 tonne limit for HGVs. In addition he is concerned that litter mounts up on the outskirts of the village and there are no discernible procedures in place for its removal. Clerk to reply on the basis that Council has made many appeals over the years to Northants CC Highways and always received the same response that a 7.5 tonne limit would be difficult to police due to insufficient resources and a three road entry and exit to the village. This is assumed to be a major problem but statistics show that it is minimal. With regard to litter it is

hoped that the good work done by Corby/Kettering grounds maintenance services will be extended to the villages.

Circulation:-

Agendas and Minutes from CPRE
Governance review of Northants issued by the County Council

Report on Recreation Ground:-

Tim Fox informed councillors that the next meeting of the Friends of Gretton Recreation Ground committee will be on Thursday 18th April.

Planning:-

19/00009/DPA Conversion of existing brick built shed into useable games room at 10, Harringworth Road

Councillors understand this has been permitted by Corby BC planners.

19/00114/DPA Rear extension to annexe at 31, Kirby Road.

Matthew Moore declared an interest in this scheme.

Councillors had no specific objections to the application. However the reply to Corby BC will centre on the concerns of councillors that the overall size of the extension will not be in keeping with the host dwelling. In addition the point will be made that the structure must never be a property on its own for sale or rent and always be regarded as an extension to the main building.

19/00160/DPA Single storey extension to provide disabled access toilets and kitchen and improved gardens at rear. Extension to existing brick storage area at Bluebell Inn

Julie Smith declared an interest in this scheme.

No specific objections were raised by councillors.

Finance:-

Current balance	£20,040.75
Amounts owing:-	
Eon for electricity to MUGA	57.29
Mrs. J. Addy for pavilion cleaning in March	56.00
Pat Butler Electrical for new sewer pump at Sports Club	275.00
Quantum Print for Newsletter printing	310.00
C. Woolston for hedge trimming from 2016 to 2018	480.00
J. Hindle – clerk for salary and petty cash	956.91

Police:-

Chairman reported that there were no crime figures on the website for February and March. In January there were nine reported incidents covering burglaries, violence and anti-social behaviour. It is rumoured that the Police Station in Corby may be reinstated. At the Rural Area Forum Meeting in March Joe Devlin made a point that there was currently a recruitment drive for PCSOs to join Northamptonshire Police.

Clerk to write to Joe explaining that there is evidence of drug taking amongst litter in the Pocket Park and in the vicinity of the Band Hut. He is to be asked to put a note on Facebook.

Any Other Business:-

Councillors thanked the outgoing chairman Andy Royle for all his service to Parish Council and the village. A new chairman will be elected at the next meeting in May.

Mark Thompson reported that he had found the lock cut off on the barrier on Gypsy Lane at the end of Arnhill Road. He has repaired the damage.

Date of next Meeting to be Monday 13th May 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.