

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10th December 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

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

Apologies:- Andrew Royle – chair, Julie Smith, Sandra Naden Horley (CC), Joe Devlin (PCSO)

Chairman reminded councillors that they should declare an interest either prejudicial or non-prejudicial where appropriate.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th November 2018 were declared to be a true record and duly signed by the chairman.

Report on procedure for councillor vacancies:-

Phil Bromhall has been in touch with Paul Goult at Corby BC regarding the procedure required for filling vacancies on Parish Council. When the notice of a vacancy is posted the request of 10 electors is required to force an election. In the absence of this situation the existing councillors are free to co-opt from interested parties to bring the Council back to the required number.

The plans for the creation of Unitary Authorities in Northamptonshire are still with the Secretary of State and no announcement has yet been made. However the expected elections for the borough councils in May 2019 have been postponed to May 2020 when the structure of the new authorities will be known. Hopefully at this point there will be an election for Gretton Parish Council with a new mandate forthcoming from the electorate in the village.

Report on re-siting of Dog waste bin on Recreation Ground:-

A resident of Huntsfield Drive has complained that the smell from a dog waste bin is affecting her life. The bin is situated some 15 metres from her property. There are another four bins in the Recreation Ground which are receptacles for dog waste. Councillors have not received any other concerns about this bin, even from houses which are situated closer to the bin than the complainant's. Clerk to contact the resident with a view to alleviating the problem by re-siting the bin or monitoring the activity and informing Corby BC if the smell becomes intolerable to the resident once again.

Report from Borough Councillor:-

Kevin Watt informed councillors that Corby and Kettering BCs are to commence working together on street services from 1st February 2019. Hopefully the situation will remain unchanged with bin emptying days similar to those operating at present.

In the light of the impending loss of the grant from Corby BC to the village, councillors discussed with Kevin possible ways of replacing the grasscutting service currently managed by the Cricket Club and which is now at an end due to Steve Ellis's retirement. The best outcome for Gretton is for Corby BC to take over the grounds maintenance at no cost to the parish council. Kevin will discuss with Adrian Sibley and clerk will obtain a schedule of current areas maintained.

With the Unitary Authorities on the horizon Corby councillors attended a presentation from councillors in other areas of the country whose authorities have already embarked on this course of action. Their message was positive showing how the new authorities could save money and improve services. Councillors are now engaged in working parties discussing areas of activity which could be devolved to Corby from the centre. Councillors are concerned that there will be no loss of services in the outlying districts of the new administration.

The allotments bordered by Fulwell Avenue and Kirby Road are owned by Corby BC. The area has been derelict for a number of years and although Corby BC has communicated plans for a clearance over the period nothing has happened. Kevin will discuss the situation with officers with a view to bringing the area up to standard and passing responsibility for the usage and upkeep to the village.

The Corby Library will continue to be housed at the Cube.

Matters Arising from Minutes of 12th November:-

Councillors to discuss with Dave Clements the next move on the installation of cameras at the Recreation Ground.

The new weekly bus service to Corby town is well supported. A meeting will be held in Wilbarston in the new year to discuss future services. Contributions have been received from Corby and Kettering BCs so the Parish Councils in the area whose funds made the service possible will be reimbursed in the near future. Chairman will be asked to put a message on Facebook inviting comments.

The application for TPOs on trees in the Pocket Park has appeared on the Corby BC website and is now in a consultation period.

Clerk to discuss with NCC Highways and Suzanne Preston at Corby BC the arrangements for the repainting of yellow lines outside school and other possible traffic calming measures.

No response has been received from our Neighbourhood Warden regarding the repair to the fence on Huntsfield Drive where it borders the Recreation Ground. Clerk to try to contact him again.

Clerk to discuss again with NCC Highways the possibility of yellow lines on Kirby Road at the junction with Corby Road.

The parking of industrial vehicles on the grass verge outside a house on Southfield Road continues to occur. Clerk to make enquiries.

Gretton PC is registered with Mowerman Grounds Maintenance for the supply of grit for the two bins for which the parish is now responsible.

The Fish and Chip service which visits Gretton on occasional Tuesday evenings is operating satisfactorily. Clerk has obtained rental for the site for three sessions and will invoice for the rest immediately.

Clerk is on the trail of any Section 106 monies which may be available to the village following previous developments. A report will be issued soon.

Councillors are in discussion with Corby BC regarding the treatment of Station Road and Corby Road in the recently published Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan.

Report on Neighbourhood Plan:-

Frances Woolston informed councillors that some 155 residents attended the Open Day exhibition held in the Village Hall on 24th November. Some good contacts were made and boxes ticked as encouraged by the organisers. Some disagreement was noted and the exchanges were informative and useful. The report will be placed on the website for public consumption.

Circulation:-

Various documents and publications from CPRE

Clerk and Councils 'DIRECT' Magazine

Rural Area Forum Agenda and Minutes from 15th November.

Report on Recreation Ground:-

Tim Fox stated that some damage to the meter box inflicted over an indeterminate time scale had now been repaired.

Planning:-

18/00791/DPA First floor extension to rear of 3, Finch Hatton Drive.

No objections were registered by councillors.

18/00711 & 798 Priors Hall Development Zones 2 & 3

This scheme is a pre-application before the contracts are let and work commences on these stages of the development. Councillors are concerned as to the amount of heavy traffic through the village that this situation may create and planners will be asked to consider the impact on surrounding areas.

Phil Bromhall reported that permission has been received for a light to be erected on church premises.

Finance:-

Current balance	£27,869.84
Amounts owing:-	
Royal British Legion for wreaths at Remembrance	60.00
CPRE for subscription for 2018/19	36.00
Yourlocale for consultancy fees for Neighbourhood Plan	3,600.00
Quantum Print for Newsletter and NP leaflets	354.00
EON for electricity to MUGA for October	40.76
Mrs. J. Addy for cleaning in Pavilion in November	64.00
Towergate Insurance for premium for MUGA	1,018.64

Highways:-

There is a leak of water on Clay Lane which has been reported to NCC Highways.

Clerk will communicate with Highways regarding potholes in Gretton Brook Road, a sunken drain on Lyddington Road and damage to kerbstones on Corby Road.

Police:-

In the absence of a representative from Corby PCSOs Phil Bromhall reported 7 crimes in the village in October from the Police website. These included incidents of anti-social behaviour, burglary and damage to vehicles.

Any Other Business:-

Phil Bromhall reported that a fence at the Lower churchyard would be in need of repair in the near future and this would be kept under review.

Caldecott Parish councillors have contacted the clerk to seek the support of Gretton councillors in their quest for a by-pass to be constructed around their village carrying the A6003. Their argument is that Caldecott is already suffering from excess traffic and road users will soon be forced to find alternative routes which could affect Gretton. Clerk to communicate with Rutland CC.

Date of next Meeting to be Monday 14th January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.