

# GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**Present:-** Andrew Royle – chair, Tim Fox, Phil Bromhall, Julie Smith, Mark Thompson, Matthew Moore, Kevin Watt & Bridget Watts (BC), Jim McCabe (NW), Chris Woods (BRP) and 1 Member of the Public

**Apologies:-** Frances Woolston, Terri Meechan, Marshall Ferguson, Sandra Naden-Horley (CC), Joe Devlin (PCSO)

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

**The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were declared to be a true record and duly signed by the chairman.**

**Report from Neighbourhood Warden:-**

Jim McCabe introduced statistics obtained from the TVAS monitor of vehicle speeds which had been situated on Corby Road from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> February. In excess of 19,000 vehicle movements had been recorded and Jim was asked if those shown were in both directions. He undertook to examine the findings. Jim also alluded to his continuing work to reduce dog fouling particularly in Huntsfield Drive and a presentation to Gretton Scouts on recycling scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> March.

**Meeting Open to the Public:-**

Chris Woods the architect charged with preparing plans for the planning application for ten houses on land next to the Village Hall addressed the Meeting. The plans are for six three bedroomed houses and four four bedroomed properties on land fronting Kirby Road. The materials used will be a mixture of red brick and stone. Chris stated that he had laid out the site to suit the shape of the land and an area at the rear would be retained as a paddock. Chris was informed by councillors that some 22 objections had been submitted to Corby BC dealing with access to the site, parking, traffic calming, close proximity to the Pocket Park including damage to trees, loss of green space, no actual need according to the recent Housing Survey, not in the Corby BC five year house supply, inadequate sewerage and a shortage of school places. Chris will meet planners again at Corby BC on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

After Chris Woods left the Meeting councillors discussed their response to Corby BC. There is a Transport Statement adopted by Northants CC which allows two car parking spaces for three bedroomed properties and three for four bedroomed which does not include garaging. The plans show 18 spaces against a requirement of 34 which could result in parking on Kirby Road and severe problems when the Village Hall hosts an event.

Anglian Water has stated that the sewerage system would be at severe risk of overload causing possible flooding if these houses were built due to the capacity of the local Treatment

Works. The water pressure in the village is currently low and would only get worse. Councillors concluded that the finish to the properties was acceptable and it was important that the general look was complete and in keeping with the village street scene should this project be accepted.

#### **Report from Borough Councillors:-**

Kevin Watt informed councillors that an app was now available at no charge from Corby BC which when attached to a mobile phone could record evidence of noise nuisance in homes.

#### **Matters Arising from Minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> January:-**

There are continuing problems with the hedge which borders Station Road footpath. The reduced foliage must be monitored and regular spraying undertaken to keep the weeds in check. A report is with Street Doctor. Blocked drains have also been reported and a reply is awaited.

Lamb and Holmes will contact Shirley Fursdon who monitors the Kirby Road allotments on behalf of PC. She will be asked to sign a Statement of Truth relating to the access track used by allotment holders. This is required to formalise the application to Land Registry.

Plans for the erection and positioning of a commemorative beacon for use particularly in November 2018 to signal 100 years since the conclusion of WW1 are currently underway.

The recent positioning of the TVAS recorder on Corby Road was a result of the initiative by Suzanne Preston (RPO)

The outstanding problems with street lights on Clay Lane, Arnhill Road, Caistor Road and Huntsfield Drive appear to have been sorted.

The replacement of the village flag will be addressed by Clerk and the Flag Steward.

Repainting of the signposts around the village will be taken on by an interested villager.

Chairman was discombobulated to see that the grit bin in Winchelsea Drive had disappeared presumably removed by NCC operatives. Kevin Watt will pursue.

#### **Report on Neighbourhood Plan for Gretton:-**

The response from interested and knowledgeable villagers has been very pleasing and the preparations for the forthcoming Open Day are now well in hand. Councillors are encouraged to attend on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March in the Village Hall. Richard Mugglestone of Midlands Rural Housing has asked for a meeting with councillors and the NP committee to discuss the results of the recent Housing Needs Survey and this has been arranged for Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm in the Hatton Arms.

**Correspondence:-**

Letter from our County Councillor Sandra Naden-Horley stating that a meeting will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February in Northampton to discuss the budget for 2018/19 and she will prepare a report for councillors after that date.

The Post Office will operate on Tuesdays and Fridays at Lydia's Café from 9.30 – 12.30. A Consultation period will run until 21<sup>st</sup> March and villagers are invited to submit any views or comments.

Two workshop sessions are being planned by NHS Corby Commissioning Group to discuss the best way forward for NHS services in this area. They are scheduled for Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March in Corby Cube and Best Western Hotel on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Times to be arranged.

**Circulation:-**

NCALC UPDATE Magazine

**Report on Recreation Ground:-**

Tim Fox informed councillors that a meeting would be held of the Friends of Gretton Recreation Ground Committee on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February. He also reported that a Cycle event had been arranged for Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June and that the Fun Day would take place in July. There are maintenance expenses for the defibrillator which will be around £82.

**Planning:-**

18/00019/DPA Conversion of two flats into one 3 bedrooomed house at 7, Southfield Road

Prior to the Meeting there was communication with Corby BC and the information was that no final decision had been taken on this project. PC response to Corby BC will allude to the expectation that such flats will be in demand from residents on the Housing List so the status quo should apply.

17/00471/DPA(amended) Single storey rear extension and external timber clad and lime render to south and west elevations at 27, High Street.

No information was provided relating to the amendments made to the original application so no comments were forthcoming.

**Finance:-**

Current balance	£23,265.15
Amounts owing:-	
Mrs. J. Addy – Pavilion cleaning for January	32.00
Eon – Electricity supplied to MUGA lights	43.80
Treespace Ltd. – Tree work at Rec. Ground on Huntsfield Dr.	1,625.00

**Police:-**

No report from Joe Devlin this month and no statistics were shown on the website. It was reported from Gretton Primary in January that cigarettes and drugs were found in the Play House outside school hours. In a separate incident PC Mark Walker found five young people in the school playground after hours who were apparently very polite!

**Any Other Business:-**

The Quiz Team for 23<sup>rd</sup> February will be Tim Fox, Mark Thompson and Frances Woolston.

The footpath between the Recreation Ground and Kirby Road requires clearing of rubbish. Jim McCabe to be consulted.

Councillors are still awaiting a formal reply from Anglian Water after concerns were raised over the village sewerage and water systems.

The Allotments on Kirby Road are legally protected from development and Steve Gray has documents which support this ruling.

Tom Pursglove MP has been involved with the controversy over the use of the Corby Urgent Care facility by Gretton residents whose GP practice is over the county border in Rutland. Clerk to clarify the position which undoubtedly has been addressed.

**Date of next Meeting to be the AGM on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm followed by the usual Council Meeting at 7.30pm**