

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 14th January 2019 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:- Andrew Royle – chair, Matthew Moore, Tim Fox, Mark Thompson, Julie Smith, Marshall Ferguson, Phil Bromhall, Frances Woolston, Sandra Naden- Horley (CC), Kevin Watt and Bridget Watts (BC), John Hindle – clerk and 2 Members of the Public.

Apologies:- Joe Devlin (PCSO), Suzanne Preston (RPO)

The Minutes of the Meeting on 10th December 2018 were deemed to be a true record and duly signed by the chairman. Frances Woolston asked for some minor changes of wording in the Neighbourhood Plan report and this was accepted.

Report from County Councillor:-

Sandra Naden-Horley informed councillors that Northants CC had introduced interactive mapping of Gretton roads and this was available on Street Doctor. She was asked about potholes on local roads and reassured the meeting that extra finance had been allocated by central government for such purposes. White lines are needed on the roundabout after the Holiday Inn in Corby approaching Weldon as the present lanes are not clearly defined. The Street Doctor service will be used in this regard.

Report from Borough Councillor:-

Bridget Watts reported that Weldon had employed a general handyman for a day per week in the winter and two days per week in the summer months and may be prepared to come to Gretton also. Councillors agreed to consider this as plans are formed for a grasscutting service to replace that provided by the Cricket Club.

Kevin Watt agreed to consult Paul Goult as to the existence of a Corby Council Minute around 2004 which set up the grant for Gretton. All current information points to the grant being used for grasscutting services.

Kevin has also been in discussion with Corby BC officers relating to the allotments on Kirby Road which are owned by CBC and are in a state of disrepair. Councillors are happy to offer that they are administered locally after the site is cleared.

Matters Arising from Minutes of 10th December:-

Weather conditions prevented work on the CCTV installation on the Recreation Ground recently. Fitting is scheduled for the next few days.

Following his resignation from the chair of Parish Council by Andrew Royle it was decided that at the meeting on 8th April 2019 a new chairperson would be appointed. Frances Woolston has expressed her willingness to undertake the position for one year. Elections are scheduled for May 2020 when a new Council will appoint a chairman. In the meantime

councillors need to co-opt a replacement for Andrew and clerk will post advertisements locally asking for interested parties to come forward.

A dead elm tree has been identified in Station Road on land owned by Peterborough Diocese. Clerk to contact the officers responsible and in addition to make reference to repairs needed to the fence bordering the cemetery.

The experimental weekly bus service is proving to be a success and Corby BC has contributed to the overall costs which has allowed some reimbursement to come to Gretton PC. There is a meeting at Wilbarston in the next two weeks where the future of the service will be discussed.

The Neighbourhood Warden team have reported the painting needed to the yellow zig zag lines outside School to Street Doctor. A solution to the problems local parking brings to the junction of Corby Road and Kirby Road is still being sought. Repairs to the JO Stone wall which gave rise to this consideration still need addressing and will be followed up when the parking issue is resolved.

An application has been made to Corby BC for Tree Protection Orders to be placed on trees which border the development of 10 houses on Kirby Road alongside the Village Hall. A discussion between Phil Bromhall and a planning officer has resulted in their opinion that there is nothing to gain by imposing TPOs as the trees are in a conservation area. The officer did agree to revisit the planning consent for the development in respect to the policy on Root Protection Areas.

A response is awaited from the Neighbourhood Warden regarding the repair of the damaged knee rail on the fence bordering the Recreation Ground on Huntsfield Drive.

There is inappropriate parking of vehicles on the grass triangles on Southfield Road. Chairman to place a Facebook entry on this problem.

The creation of an outside gym on the Recreation Ground will be discussed by the FGRG committee in the near future.

The plate display case and brass plaque in memory of Ailsa Dempster has been installed at the Village Hall. Grateful thanks to Mark, Gerald and Roger Thompson.

The fish and chip van will visit Gretton regularly on a Tuesday evening. Clerk has been in negotiation with the providers and a nightly charge fixed payable by BACS.

There appears to be some Section 106 monies available for village projects which needs to be spent before the end of the calendar year. Matthew Moore has the details and will pursue.

There are various comments on the recent Conservation Area report which need to be raised with Corby BC. Chairman to discuss with Terry Begley.

Officers at Corby BC have agreed to re-site the dog waste bin in the corner of the Recreation Ground at the end of Huntsfield Drive. The work will be carried out in the new financial year.

The water leak reported on Clay Lane has been repaired.

The sunken drain on Lyddington Road causing problems to motorists has been reported to Street Doctor.

Report on Neighbourhood Plan for Gretton:-

Frances Woolston informed the meeting that the follow up to the Open Day had produced many positive results. The document is soon to be completed hopefully after the meeting of the committee on 24th January. The final version will be discussed with Parish Council before submission to Corby BC. Chairman expected that a separate meeting of PC would be required.

The recent application for grant funding to Awards for All has been unsuccessful. Chairman, in conjunction with the NP consultants, will endeavour to locate an alternative source although the Clerk confirmed that Parish Council funds were available to meet the estimated expenses in the region of £4,500 in the event that such application was unsuccessful.

Correspondence:-

A supporting letter has been sent to Rutland Council following a request by Caldecott PC regarding a bye pass for the village. The construction of this road could have beneficial results for traffic movements in Gretton.

Circulation:-

Documents from CPRE

Clerk and Councils 'DIRECT' Magazine

Report on Recreation Ground:-

Corby BC had reported that a child had sustained an injury while using the zip wire on the Children's Play Area. Corby BC officers are looking into the situation in the unfortunate absence of any CCTV images. A line of enquiry will deal with the possible tampering of the mechanism prior to the incident.

Planning:-

18/00713/LBC & 19/00010/DPA Replacement window and boiler and addition of a chimney pot at 12, Station Road.

No objections by councillors to the above scheme.

Chairman and Clerk reported that they had recently held a meeting with Corby BC planners to discuss the Gladman Developments scheme for 120 houses to be built on land bordering

Southfield Road. The application has gone to Appeal to the Planning Inspector and the sentiment from planning officers was that they will robustly defend their refusal of the scheme. It contravenes BC policy in a number of ways principally in that it is not an extension to Corby being on the edge of Gretton and the five year land supply is in place without this project. Housing on this scale can certainly not be described as infill within the village.

The Planning Inspector will set the timetable to hear the Appeal and all interested parties await the date for the Hearing. Parish Council set out its position prior to the decision to reject by Corby BC and this will be carried forward but is invited to add any points which may have come to light in the interim. Should this be deemed necessary a copy will be sent to the Planning Inspector and Corby BC.

On the same visit chairman and clerk had an opportunity to clarify PC objection to a planning application for 15a Arnhill Road. A discussion was held with Georgina Benson to make it clear that Parish Council did not object to development of the site providing that such development was appropriate and adequately reflected the valid concerns stated by objectors. A written statement to that effect was given to Georgina for the record. She was uncertain whether the application still needed to go to Development Control committee on 12th February and she would discuss with her colleagues.

Finance:-

Current balance	£25,279.24
Amounts owing:-	
Gretton Village Hall for rental of Meeting Room in 2018	292.00
Gretton Village Hall for rental of Hall for N.Plan exhibitions	61.00
W.I. for refreshments at N.Plan Open Day at Village Hall	150.00
J. Adel for updating the N.Plan poster for the Open Day	65.00
Mrs. Addy for Pavilion cleaning during December.	48.00
Eon for electricity supplied to the MUGA for November and December	94.84
J. Hindle – clerk for salary and expenses October to December	949.25

In the light of uncertainties regarding the financing of the bus service and the new grasscutting contract it was agreed to precept Corby BC in the sum of £14,000 for 2019/20. It was noted by councillors that the removal of the grant by Corby BC necessitated the requirement for an increased rate to meet commitments.

Police:-

In the absence of Joe Devlin (PCSO) chairman informed the meeting that six offences had been recorded during November 2018. These ranged from public order and criminal damage to ASB and vehicle crime. Clerk has written to Joe as to his future attendance at meetings and is awaiting a reply.

Any Other Business:-

Councillors recorded their sadness at the passing of Maurice Kellner and also placed on record their tribute to his work on the village website.

The Parish Council website will be expanded to include much of the historical data hitherto held on the village website.

There is an amount of fly tipping on Rockingham Road along with a road sign in the ditch.

Mark Thompson will replace the light by the troughs in Clay Lane.

A representation has been made to consider the safety of the Public Right of Way bordering the Recreation Ground at the end of Huntsfield Drive and the possible danger to children when cars are reversing.

Date of next Meeting to be Monday 11th February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.