

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10th July in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present:- Andrew Royle – chair, Tim Fox, Matthew Moore, Julie Smith, Mark Thompson, Terri Meechan, Phil Bromhall, Marshall Ferguson, Kevin Watt (BC), Charmain Taylor (Groundworks), John Hindle – clerk and 1 Member of the Public.

Apologies:- Frances Woolston, Bridget Watts and Rob. McKellar (BC) and Olivia Stinson (Neighbourhood Warden)

Chairman reminded councillors to declare an interest where appropriate and state whether it is prejudicial or non-prejudicial to the matter under discussion.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th June 2017 were declared to be a true record and duly signed by the chairman.

Report from Neighbourhood Warden:-

Olivia Stinson in her absence had emailed a report which was presented by the chairman. During her patrols in recent days she has had an involvement with the situation surrounding the fly tipped sofa in the Football Club dugout and the pile of rubbish left. This has now been resolved and will be discussed later in this Meeting.

Olivia drew attention to the Rural Week of Action which this time will focus on dog fouling, the education of dog owners and the giving of packs of dog poo bags for their usage. The next Gretton Walkabout will be on Wednesday 6th September meeting at 1pm in Kirby Road outside Cottage Salon.

Elisabeth Jordan from Pocket Park committee asked whether there would be a tree inspection following the recent falling of some branches. Phil Bromhall replied that officers from Lockhart Garrett have been contacted and a report is being produced setting out the ‘common sense management’ of trees.

Charmain Taylor a Youth Development Officer from Northants CC Groundworks team attended the Meeting at the invitation of Terri Meechan to discuss the perceived anti-social behaviour of a number of young people recently in the Football Club dugout. Chairman opened proceedings stating that there had been concern about the situation for some time with complaints from residents to Police and Parish Council about under-age drinking and excessive noise. The Football Club had been asked to monitor the area and be responsible for the dugouts. In addition the FGRG committee consisting of representatives of all Recreation Ground users was involved and the Parish Council as landowners. Matters came to a head recently when a sofa, carpet and coffee table appeared in the dugout as discussed at the PC meeting in June. On 24th June a posting was issued on Facebook stating that the items would be removed as soon as possible. The reaction was rude and aggressive. The settee was removed on Friday 7th July. Noise is still a problem and rubbish is regularly left after evening gatherings. The close proximity of houses makes this a very sensitive issue for

residents.

Charmain then outlined her dealings with the young people. She is keen to educate them towards a community spirit and good behaviour to neighbours. She admitted that it was a them and us mentality at present. A responsible collaboration with FGRG and Parish Council with input from all sides is to be desired with the young people having a voice in the community.

Parish Council is keen to engage with all villagers. It has not responded formally to the postings on Facebook. PC will not give up on its demand to end inappropriate behaviour in the dugout and football stand and will consider their removal should this pattern continue.

Chairman suggested the construction of a multi use facility which could be used for people to congregate in the evenings but have other uses during the day. Terri Meechan thought that this was just what the youngsters might go for and they may be prepared to fundraise to get the project off the ground. The attraction of this idea is that it would be policed by the community.

Councillors decided to give the young people a chance to improve their behaviour and let Charmain and her team have an impact on the situation. It is important that younger children are not dragged in to this scenario. Also it is vital that the venue does not shift to another part of the village. Clerk to email Football Club to work out the way forward.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of 12th June

It is reported that although the hedge on Station Road has been cut back the weeds need spraying on a regular basis to keep the area under control. Street Doctor has been informed.

The secure area at the rear of the Sports and Social Club has been completed and padlocks fitted.

The Pavilion has been granted small business status by Corby BC and no rates are due for this structure. Those paid last year have been refunded.

Julie Smith will contact HUGO FOX in respect of email notifications for planning permissions on the website which currently do not cover all applications for Gretton.

The route for the No.67 bus through the village has now been agreed with Northants CC and a new timetable will be issued soon.

The painting of railings on the Village Green and associated works will be considered by chairman and clerk and a way forward proposed.

The street lights on Clay Lane are still not in operation following recent works. Clerk to email Corby BC.

Chairman to discuss the signage at junction of Corby Road and Gretton Brook Road with Sandra Naden-Horley our County Councillor.

The problems relating to allotment boundaries will be put on hold and discussed in depth at their Annual General Meeting in January.

Clerk will keep the cutting of foliage at Tythe Barn and Old School House under review.

Clerk to discuss with Steve Ellis the trimming of foliage on the walkways.

The hedge growth at No.1 Arnhill Road is causing traffic concern. Clerk to write to the residents.

Report on Neighbourhood Plan:-

Frances Woolston left a report that she had attended a Gretton History Society meeting recently and discussed various features which will be included in the deliberations of the NP committee. The Steering Group continue with monthly meetings supported by various sub committees.

Report from Borough Councillor:-

Kevin Watt on behalf of all councillors at Corby BC placed on record his congratulations to year six pupils at Gretton School for their SATS results. They can now proceed to secondary education in the Borough with an excellent grounding from Primary School.

Correspondence:-

Papers from Corby BC are now received for the Rural Area Forum meeting at Rockingham Village Hall on 20th July.

Circulation:-

Clerk and Councils' DIRECT' Magazine
CPRE 'OUTLOOK' Magazine
NCALC'Update' publication

Report on Recreation Ground:-

The Fun Day took place on Sunday 9th July and was a very successful occasion. Gretton welcomed a group of German visitors and it must be reported that they took the prize in the team event. The sponsorship raised on the day will have covered expenses so thanks to all who supported the venture. Councillors were particularly anxious to place on record their grateful thanks for another terrific village event organised by Tim Fox with assistance from the FGRG committee.

A sign to prevent balls being played against the wall at the end of the Recreation Ground just behind the houses is ready to be installed.

Planning:-

17/00268/DPA Construction of one dwelling with associated garage and parking – revision of 17/00105/DPA discussed in May '17 at 38, Arnhill Road.

Marshall Ferguson declared a non-prejudicial interest at this point and was permitted to stay for the discussion.

On the recent application for this property councillors were concerned that the proposed height was not in keeping with the street scene in Arnhill Road. Parish Council now welcome the revised roof style but is still concerned with overall height and that the property is out of keeping with its surrounds. There are concerns submitted by Highways at Northants CC regarding parking and access and these must be addressed by Corby BC.

Finance:-

Current balance	£14,530.39
Amounts owing:-	
Pat Butler Electrical Ltd for work at the Pavilion	180.00
Bob Cunningham for work on the Phone Box	115.00
Mrs. J. Addy for Pavilion cleaning and sundries	163.99
Bouncetime for the Bouncy Castle at Funday	175.00
Coleman Fencing for the secure area at Sports Club	2,442.12
J. Hindle – clerk for salary and petty cash to June '17	899.22

Highways:-

Councillors celebrated the re-surfacing work done recently on Corby Road. However there is still work outstanding on the drains but these have been marked so it is presumed that the contractors are aware and will return to complete the job.

Any Other Business:-

Julie Smith reported that the Parish Council website name needs to be re-registered. This will come at a cost of £6 and Julie will organise.

It is noticed that the spare pump for the sewer system at the Recreation Ground appears to be left behind the building. This needs to be stored securely and clerk will ascertain the circumstances.

Date of next Meeting to be Monday 11th September 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.