

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

Apologies:- Julie Smith, Stan Heggs (CC)

Chairman reminded councillors to declare an interest where appropriate.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 8th February 2016 were declared to be a true record and duly signed by the chairman.

Meeting open to the Public:-

Elisabeth Jordan again drew attention to the fact that children were arriving at school in cars and not wearing seat belts. Clerk to inform Mark Tooley PCSO

Report from Borough Councillors:-

Kevin Watt mentioned that some burglaries had occurred in Weldon recently and warned against residents not being vigilant relating to property security.

An idea originated by MPs is currently circulating regarding the establishment of unitary authorities in Northamptonshire which would result in the removal of the County Council. In a money saving exercise some chief executives would lose their posts and common tasks such as the payment of contractors and wages and salaries would be combined. It may also have the effect of bringing cash for road repairs for example nearer to local communities. Councillors discussed the challenges which would result in such an action including the apportionment of debt following the winding up of such large scale operations.

Kevin reported that Amy Plank at Corby BC was seeking another quotation for the installation of fencing at the Balancing pond in Huntsfield Drive. This has now been outstanding since last September and she has promised that work will commence in early April.

Kevin also promised to add his weight to the quest for new rubbish bins in key areas around the village.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of 8th February:-

Steve Rainbow will address the loose branch in the oak tree on the Green.

MST Construction has completed the work of clearing the ditch at the top of Lyddington Road but water is still running. An officer from Highways has been shown the problem on a Village walkabout so it is now in the hands of Northants CC and Anglian Water to rectify the situation.

Chairman reported at this stage that other items discussed on the recent Walkabout covered the repair of various drains and kerb stones around the village.

The recent road resurfacing work in Finch Hatton Drive and adjoining cul de sacs has resulted in large puddles being created due to incorrect levels. Highways will undertake a complete inspection.

Dog fouling was again highlighted with the desire for Corby BC to adopt a higher profile.

Parish Council has already taken up the issue of dilapidated waste bins and the need for action was again raised. In addition a new bin is suggested at the junction of Woolston Court and Finch Hatton Drive.

Various fly tipping incidents on Rockingham Road, Corby Road and Lyddington Road were brought to the attention of Corby BC staff.

The pathway and additional land at the new cemetery has been cleared recently by MST Construction. The car park area and driveway is now more presentable.

Tim Fox and Clerk will meet with Land Registry before Easter to complete all outstanding registering of Parish Council land.

It has been decided that the phone box will be repainted and locked and left as an historical feature in the absence of a programme suggesting alternative uses.

The first meeting of the group considering the formation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Gretton will take place on Monday 21st March at 7.30pm. Terry Begley and Peter Williams from Corby BC will attend and give a Powerpoint presentation of the requirements. It is hoped that a chairman can be found who is not a parish councillor, however, councillors will support the project in an advisory capacity if it is decided to proceed with the Plan.

Councillors noted that there is no sign of immediate improvement in the situation of parking on High Street opposite Gretton House. Mark Thompson will have an informal chat with the management of Gretton Homes.

Phil Bromhall was asked to produce some items for discussion on ways to improve Church Gap. Councillors will discuss at the next meeting. Phil will ask for comments on Facebook.

There is a drainage of water on to Station Road from the building site at the end of Hatton Lane. Corby BC planners have asked councillors to refer the matter to Highways at Northants CC.

Gretton Sports and Social Club committee has informed the licensing authority about the patio area constructed by the entrance to the Club. The committee are completing various documents relating to their activities for licensing authority perusal. It is important to their status as a club that the committee are seen to support the various sporting activities operating on the Recreation Ground.

Permanent signs around the village are required for directions to the Village Hall. Clerk will enquire of NCALC and ACRE to explore possibilities.

Parish Website:-

In the light of the new Parish Council website being operational it was decided to adopt the Model Publication Scheme in respect of the Freedom of Information provisions. Clerk and chairman will now examine all the wording contained in the document to ensure Parish Council compliance. On the new website email links to planning schemes will be available and links to Street Doctor and Facebook, Parish Council page.

Correspondence:-

Letter received from LGSS Law informing councillors that Huntsfield Drive has been adopted by the Highways Authority

Agenda for the next meeting of Rural Area Forum at Rockingham Village Hall on 17th March.

Circulation:-

Clerk and Councils DIRECT Magazine
CPRE documents

Report on Recreation Ground:-

The Friends of Gretton Recreation Ground committee has fixed the date for the next Funday for Sunday 17th July. The committee will also produce a booklet to publicise the Recreation Ground and its facilities in which local advertisements will be invited.

There is work required on the thermostats and timers in the Pavilion. A quotation has been received and this was accepted by the meeting in the sum of £390

Planning:-

16/00052/DPA Remove section of boundary wall to provide new vehicular access to 55, High Street

No objections were registered by councillors

16/00054/DPA Proposed extension and integral garage at 26, Harringworth Road

No objections were raised to this scheme.

Finance:-

Current balance	£19,323.11
Amounts owing:-	
Eon – electricity supplied for MUGA lights	15.78
Pocket Park Society – expenses in 2015	170.73

Police:-

Information on the possible Rave in this area has been passed to the Intelligence Unit and is monitored through Facebook. In this era of speedy mass communication it is particularly tough to keep track of possible sites.

Any Other Business:-

Councillors are concerned about the potential cuts to the No. 67 bus to Corby and

Harborough. Clerk to contact Northants CC to ascertain proposals. Councillors have been advised that Corby MP Tom Pursglove has also been asked to monitor the situation.

Date of next Meeting to be Monday 11th April 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall