

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 12th March 2018 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:- Andrew Royle – chair, Tim Fox, Matthew Moore, Julie Smith, Mark Thompson, Terri Meechan, Frances Woolston, Marshall Ferguson, Phil Bromhall, Kevin Watt (BC), Jim McCabe (NW) John Hindle – clerk and 4 Members of the Public.

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

Chairman reminded councillors to declare an interest either prejudicial or non-prejudicial in respect of any item under discussion.

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

Meeting Open to the Public:-

Jane MacDonald, headteacher at Gretton School, supported by three of her pupils on the School Council discussed their recent projects which included a study into plastics use during school dinners. Each year group representative on the Council gathers opinions from their peers and reports back to the regular Council meetings. Chairman considered that the vehicle of School Council could be used in future to gauge opinion on village development. A village logo is in the course of preparation and the school children have been invited to submit designs.

When questioned by councillors relating to the current position of school numbers Jane explained that she currently worked on a guideline of 22 children per class. This could be increased to 30 as an absolute maximum. She is keen to accommodate all village children and pointed out that she also receives interest from Weldon and Priors Hall. This information will be useful to councillors as they comment on future house building applications.

Discussions continued over current problems at School and Jane stated that the zigzag lines on the road to prevent parking needed repainting. Jim McCabe (NW) agreed to make enquiries. In addition Jane stated that more care was required in the Sports Club car park at school times as the current situation was a danger to children. She agreed to involve the School Council in seeking solutions.

Chairman welcomed Terri Meechan back to Parish Council following her period of illness. She stated that another operation was needed so she would be absent again until her stay in hospital was complete. Councillors wished Terri a speedy recovery.

Report from Neighbourhood Warden:-

Jim McCabe explained that various Litter Picks were being arranged across the Borough and the one for Gretton was due on Saturday 14th April starting as usual at 9.30am at the Village Hall. Various pieces of information on speeding have been gathered from the TVAS on Corby Road and this will be circulated to all councillors. Damage to the railings on High

Street outside the 'Old Fox' was noted and this has been reported to Street Doctor. Barriers have been erected around the damaged bollard and hole on Huntsfield Drive bordering the Recreation Ground which had been reported on Street Doctor. Repairs will be carried out within three months.

Dog fouling notices have been erected around the village in an effort to combat the practice of a small minority of owners not clearing up after their dogs.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of 12th February:-

Tim Fox reported that good progress is being made in the registration of all land in Parish Council possession with Land Registry and this is virtually completed. In an effort to iron out problems with the land which provides access to the Allotments on Southfield Road, Lamb and Holmes have asked both Shirley Fursdon and Marshall Ferguson to complete Statements of Truth and these have now been forwarded to the firm and a report is awaited.

The Friends of Gretton Recreation Ground committee has reported that Corby BC will fund the updating of the CCTV hard disk storage. Dave Clements will provide additional and improved cameras to ensure all the area is covered. The quote for four cameras is £280 with free installation. He is also discussing the updating of equipment with the Sports Club and Tim will keep Council informed.

Steve Ellis will discuss with the tenant the trimming of the trees on Tythe Barn as they continue to encroach over the pathway.

Bob Cunningham has agreed to repair and refurbish the various signposts around the village.

Gretton Sports Club has set up a Standing Order for payment of rent to PC.

No response as yet from Uppingham Surgery as to the position of Gretton residents registered with the Practice over use of the Corby Urgent Care facility.

No response from Anglian Water concerning the 'fitness for purpose' of the village infrastructure.

Report on Neighbourhood Plan:-

Frances Woolston expressed the thanks of her committee to all councillors for their help in the delivery of fliers advertising the N.Plan exhibition in the Village Hall on Sat. 3rd March. In excess of 270 villagers attended and it was decided that the snowy weather played its part in encouraging residents to stay in the village and go for a walk! The whole event was a great success and provided good information for the final report. Some attendees offered assistance in the process and these will be contacted. Another Open Day will be assembled in October.

The Housing Needs Survey also provided useful feedback and identified the need for social housing especially bungalows.

A letter has been received from Robert Glen of Rockingham Design Partnership offering bungalows and small houses on land at the end of Southfield Road. This letter has been acknowledged and retained on file by the Steering Group.

Further invoices were presented to the clerk by the Group with confirmation that the balance of the original grant not spent by the 19th March would have to be returned.

Report from Borough Councillors:-

Kevin Watt reported that Corby and Kettering Borough Councils have produced a Memorandum of Understanding to combine the services of ground maintenance and refuse collection as in-house activities. This will commence on 1st January 2019.

Circulation:-

CPRE' OUTLOOK' Magazine
Rural Area Forum Agenda for 15th March 2018

Report on Recreation Ground:-

Tim Fox informed councillors that the Funday is scheduled for Sunday 15th July and will take the usual format.

Anglian Water recently allowed a telecoms company to carry out works on the Water Tower using car parking spaces that are leased to Parish Council leaving an amount of rubbish to be cleared away. Councillors were given little notice of this work and no specific permission was granted. Clerk and chairman to formulate a letter of complaint to the Water Authority.

Planning:-

17/00609/DPA Ground floor extension and attached garage at 1, Corby Road.

No observations from councillors.

18/00064/COU Change of use of Coach House from residential(C3) to bed and breakfast(C1) at 74, High Street.

No specific objections from councillors; just to ask Corby BC to require sufficient off road car parking to be available.

Reference was made to the potential Gladman Development at the rear of Southfield Road following comments passed on BBC Countryfile regarding the practices of Gladman. Councillors were concerned regarding difficulties which could be created if Corby BC does not have its on-going 5 year land supply clearly defined or where their local plan has not been accepted.

The National Planning Policy Framework is now available and will be discussed at a later Meeting.

The Conservation Area Approval and Management Plan is now in the consultation period and the response to Corby BC will be discussed at the next Meeting in April.

Finance:-

| | |
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| Current balance | £20,274.01 |
| Amounts owing:- | |
| Mrs. J. Addy – Pavilion cleaning for March | 32.00 |
| YourLocale – consultation for Neighbourhood Plan | 2,100.00 |

Police:-

Joe Devlin has asked that as many people as possible should complete the locally identified priorities survey. Chairman agreed to put a link to the survey on social media to encourage response by residents.

Any Other Business:-

David Fursdon emailed Council to draw attention to the fact that our bus service would be withdrawn from July of this year. County Council has run out of funds and is not prepared to subsidise the service in future. This will have the effect of isolating a number of older folk who rely on the service. The bus service will be discussed at the Rural Area Forum on 15th March. Councillors can only make recommendations in this process but one thought was for David Fursdon to assemble a working group of interested parties and to seek support from our Borough Councillors.

Clerk is still seeking clarification as to why the PC grant from Corby BC is being phased out over the next two years.

A proposal was made for the celebration of the anniversary of the end of World War 1 should be tied in with lighting the beacon when the site is established.

Date of next Meeting to be Monday 9th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.