

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 8th May 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:- Andrew Royle – chair, Tim Fox, Marshall Ferguson, Phil Bromhall, Matthew Moore, Frances Woolston, Julie Smith, Mark Thompson, John Hindle – clerk, Rob. McKellar, Kevin Watt and Bridget Watts (BC), PC Mark Walker and colleague, Sandra Naden-Horley (CC) and 1 Member of the Public.

Apologies:- Terri Meechan, Olivia Stinson (Neighbourhood Warden)

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

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th April 2017 were declared to be a true record and duly signed by the chairman.

Meeting Open to the Public:-

Rob. Ferguson gave a presentation to councillors relating to his plans for the development of 38, Arnhill Road. As this scheme was due to be discussed later on the Agenda Rob was thanked for his contribution and duly left the Meeting.

Report from Borough Councillors:-

Rob. McKellar stated that in a recent poll Corby was voted in the top three of the best towns to live in nationwide. He commented that this was a considerable change from a few years ago and was a tribute to the vision of councillors and townsfolk alike.

The outgoing County councillor Stan Heggs was given a vote of thanks for his contribution over many years following his retirement prior to the election on 4th May. Clerk was asked to write to Stan expressing the appreciation of Gretton Parish Council for his years of service to the village.

The management company overseeing the Priors Hall housing development will be sold in the near future.

A comment has been made to Borough councillors regarding the short amount of time that the 67 bus to Market Harborough allows travellers to take advantage of the facilities before being required to return to Corby and Gretton. Bridget Watts will email chairman with the details and then involve John Ellerby at Northants CC.

Police:-

There have been many incidents recently reported of anti-social behaviour taking place in the football club dugouts on the Recreation Ground perpetrated by young people involving the leaving of litter, cans and bottles, excess noise and swearing. Residents have complained through Facebook and also reported direct to the Police. PC. Walker expressed the view that

any complaint would receive the attention and action due. He cited extra patrols and the provision of notices along with the use of the 101 telephone number for such incidents. Chairman agreed to put an entry on Facebook drawing residents' attention to the use of PCSOs along with contact details. In addition he advised PC Walker to take the occasional look at Facebook to keep abreast of local happenings.

Welcome to new NCC councillor Sandra Naden-Horley. She was congratulated by councillors on her election and pledged to serve the interests of the area on Northants CC. Contact details were exchanged and each party looked forward to a close working relationship in the future.

Report from Neighbourhood Warden:-

Olivia Stinson emailed her report prior to the Meeting highlighting the next Gretton Walkabout on 7th June and stating that Gretton School were soon to be engaged in a Walk to School week to encourage parents to leave their cars at home and so alleviate the parking problems experienced every morning and afternoon around school.

Election of Officers for the year 2017/18:-

The following councillors were proposed and seconded by fellow councillors and agreed to stand in the capacities shown for the next twelve months.

Andrew Royle	Chairman, PC delegate on Rural Area Forum, Sports and Social Club and Friends of Gretton Recreation Ground committees.
Phil Bromhall	Vice chairman of Parish Council
Marshall Ferguson	Gretton Silver Band committee
John Hindle	Village Hall committee
Matthew Moore	Chirpy Chicks Pre School committee
Mark Thompson	Gretton Pocket Park committee
Tim Fox	Friends of Gretton Recreation Ground committee.
Frances Woolston	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Julie Smith	Web Design and Maintenance

Matters Arising from the Minutes of 10th April:-

Julie Smith confirmed that the Welcome Pack for new residents is now on the Website.

The cleaning and painting of the old Phone Box is nearing completion and thanks are due to Bob Cunningham for his efforts.

Clerk has applied to Corby BC for the Pavilion to be treated as a small business and as such to receive 100% rate relief. A reply is awaited.

The Village Hall committee is broadly in favour of contributing to the cost of road signs directing traffic to the Village Hall. However there are various questions to be answered and Clerk will discuss with Northants Highways.

Anglian Water has confirmed that the pump on the sewer at the Sports Club does not fit their criteria so they will not be assuming responsibility for maintenance.

A new bus timetable has been received but in the view of councillors it still needs updating to reflect the actual route through the village. Clerk to discuss with Northants CC.

The rental of the Old Fire Station in Arnhill Road has been set at £210 for the next three years.

An interested contractor is sought for the repair of the fence bordering the Jo Stone on Kirby Road. Clerk will discuss with suitable villagers.

There are various grants available to Lydia's Café for the provision of a new fridge. Clerk to discuss with the committee.

The Neighbourhood Enhancement gangs at Northants CC have been asked to carry out various works around the village during this month. Chairman will ascertain whether the specific tasks requested have been scheduled for completion.

Rob. McKellar has agreed to check on the situation regarding the street light repair on Clay Lane.

It is reported that the new bins requested in the Pocket Park will be installed as soon as possible.

Report from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group:-

Frances Woolston reported that the Group met on the 27th April with a good attendance of villagers. Rob Newby has been appointed as Facebook co-ordinator and it is suggested that a closed Facebook page is opened for the Neighbourhood Plan. The Corby BC five year land supply statement was discussed as there is land identified as suitable for development around Gretton. The drainage of the village is a major cause for concern with new properties gaining access to the overstretched system on a regular basis. The Group decided to invite a representative from Anglian Water to a meeting to discuss the way forward.

The terms of reference of the Group has been accepted by Corby BC. The travellers site on Gretton Brook Road comes within the Parish boundary and it appears that there is interest from there to be a part of the Plan formulation particularly as there is more development expected on Brookfield Plantation which borders the site.

The Group will man a stall at the Funday in July on the Recreation Ground. A leaflet will be designed to hand out to villagers to inform residents of progress and aspirations.

Jacki Lilley – chair and Jeff Sharnock met with Terri Begley at Corby BC and were pleased

with the ideas discussed.

The Group is considering the appointment of a Project Manager and it has been decided that a timescale for completion of the Plan needs to be set. The Minutes of Group meetings will be posted on the PC website.

Report on Recreation Ground:-

Tim Fox stated that the Family Funday has been scheduled for Sunday 9th July with the same format as in previous years. The next meeting of the FGRG committee will be on Wednesday 10th May. Mark Thompson has undertaken to fit the new door to the Mower Shed next week.

Planning:-

1700077/DPA Formation of a vehicle cross-over and entrance at 3, Arnhill Road.

Councillors are aware that a report has been submitted to Corby BC by Northants Highways expressing concerns over the lack of detail contained in this application. Parish Council is supportive of any measures which will provide parking on the site and reduce pressure of parked vehicles on what is a very hazardous corner of Arnhill Road.

At this point Marshall Ferguson declared a non-prejudicial interest in the next item and was accorded the right to stay in the Meeting but not take part in the discussion.

17/00105/DPA Construction of one dwelling with associated garage and parking – revision to previous consent ref 15/00188/DPA at 38, Arnhill Road.

Councillors are concerned at the proposed size of this property and its impact on the street scene in Arnhill Road. In addition there are car parking considerations on what is a very narrow and congested road. The finished floor levels and roof height of the property should be established with reference to a fixed datum point.

Finance:-

Current balance	£20,494.59
Amounts owing:-	
Mrs. J. Addy – Pavilion cleaning in April	128.00
Aon UK Ltd – Insurance for year 2017/18	1,448.75
J. Hindle – clerk – Salary and Petty Cash	875.05

Clerk presented the Annual governance statement for 2016/17 which was accepted by councillors and signed by the chairman prior to submitting for external audit.

Clerk presented the Accounting statements for 2016/17 which were approved by councillors and signed by the chairman prior to submitting for external audit.

Any Other Business:-

Partly due to the lack of signage on Gretton Brook Road to prevent excess size vehicles accessing the village damage was inflicted on a parked car recently by a large lorry with the driver unaware as to what had occurred. Street Doctor has been informed of the signage situation.

It is understood that officers at Corby BC will undertake a new dog fouling initiative and results are awaited with interest.

Further to comments regarding the dugouts on the Recreation Ground already listed in these Minutes councillors will present a report to the FGRG committee suggesting that they be removed during the close season and restored at the start of the season in August/September with certain safeguards. A secure dustbin for litter was suggested; also notices relating to ball games against the walls of private houses.

The Allotments committee to be contacted regarding land being lost to neighbouring allotment holders on the land behind Southfield Road.

The sign on Picks Playing field has been damaged and will be repaired.

The idea has been put forward for a Christmas tree to be sited on the Village Green. This will be considered by councillors.

The lack of a flag on the Village Green on St. George's Day was mentioned. Flag Steward is aware.

Many of the drains on Station Road are blocked and the road needs sweeping prior to clearance. Northants Highways to be informed.

The trees on Tythe Barn and Old School House are again encroaching on the road and the householders will be asked to take action.

Steve Ellis to be asked to clear the walkways of foliage in the near future.

Date of next Meeting to be Monday 12th June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.