

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 10th October 2016 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:- Andrew Royle – chair, Tim Fox, Phil Bromhall, Marshall Ferguson, Mark Thompson, Julie Smith, Matthew Moore, Terri Meechan, Frances Woolston, Kevin Watt (BC), Julie Anderson PCSO, Olivia Stinson Neighbourhood Warden, Jane MacDonald Gretton School Head and 2 Members of the Public.

Apologies:- Rob. McKellar and Bridget Watts (BC)

Chairman reminded councillors to declare an interest where appropriate.

The Minutes of the Meeting on 12th September 2016 were declared to be a true record and duly signed.

Report from Police:-

Police have received reports of thefts of items in recent weeks namely lead from the church roof, a metal basket from 5, High Street and an attempted break in to the Post Office. Julie was asked to chase a response from PCSO Anita Hambly following the lead theft from the church roof. In addition the recent closure of Station Road had resulted in vehicles driving the wrong way up Clay Lane and a Police response to that report was also requested.

Report from Neighbourhood Warden:-

Olivia Stinson drew attention to the Litter Pick organised by Mel Jarvis which was scheduled for this Saturday morning (15th). Equipment is being lent by Corby BC.

Councillors were invited to discuss the possibility of a contribution being made to the purchase of a TVAS speed warning device to be used by the villages in Corby Borough on a rota basis. Chairman was in favour of Council being part of this initiative but slightly dismayed to learn that Corby BC was only prepared to contribute £200 leaving £1390 + VAT to be found by the PCs. The model being quoted does not in fact record data for future analysis. This shortcoming will be discussed at the next Rural Area Forum as most parishes prefer having statistics to hand in order to identify potential speeding hotspots.

Various talks are due to be given by PCSOs to School and the monthly lunch in the Village Hall. Subjects include safety and community respect during Halloween and the misuse of solvents.

Meeting Open to the Public:-

David and Elaine Clements from Clay Lane attended the Meeting to express their concerns about a proposed development of the site at the end of Clay Lane where it meets Station Road. This area of land has been the subject of various applications in the past all of which have been rejected by Corby BC. The latest scheme is to build 5 houses of 4 bedrooms each. The plans have been supplied to David by Grove Engineering who is in the process of applying to Corby BC Planning Dept. Although some information has come to Parish

Council there is not enough paperwork for this Meeting to come to a conclusion. Clerk has requested more reports from Planning and these are awaited. On receipt an extension of response time will be requested in order that all interested parties in the village can have an opportunity to present any objections to the plans.

The main thrust of David and Elaine's objections are centred around the access to the site from Clay Lane, the lack of parking spaces on the site and the fact that one of the properties is scheduled to be built only one metre away from their wall and the pressure of construction could crumble the bedrock of their foundations. These concerns will be added to those of councillors when the full plans are submitted.

David has been heavily involved with the setting of CCTV cameras at the Recreation Ground. Chairman took the opportunity to ask him for a progress report. Corby BC will replace the faulty hard drive on the cameras and David will complete the CCTV coverage free of charge so all areas of the Ground are covered. When an incident occurs David will receive an email and retrieve the data from the site. Chairman expressed his formal thanks to David for his hard work and generosity to the village.

Discussion with Jane MacDonald of Gretton School:-

Chairman welcomed Jane to the Meeting and opened the discussion by highlighting where Council and School shared common aims in the areas of road safety and the prevention of speeding, dog fouling and the dropping of litter. Jane mentioned that these topics were regularly discussed by the School Council which met on a two to three week basis. An item which Jane will seek to raise with her Council is speeding on the road outside school and also on the approach to the Recreation Ground by the Doctor's surgery. In addition she will comment in the School Newsletter that parents must be mindful of the casual use of disabled parking bays and careless parking outside school.

Terri Meechan will aim to revive the office of Junior Councillors who would have an input into our monthly meetings. Children may have felt intimidated in the past but Terri will attend the School Council meeting on 8th November to plead the case for more involvement and stress the need for younger people to voice their hopes and fears in the forum of Parish Council.

Jane was asked about demand for school places from residents moving into the village. Her response was that every effort was made to accommodate local children and she was now receiving requests from areas like Priors Hall which in the main had to be refused as in this new school year capacity had been reached.

Report from Borough Councillor:-

Kevin Watt reported that councillors from Weldon were watching our efforts to set up a Neighbourhood Plan with interest and would be pleased to accept an invitation from Gretton to attend meetings in an observation capacity as soon as they are established after the consultation period is completed.

Matters Arising from Minutes of 12th September:-

Chairman has been informed that the drainage problems at the top of Lyddington Road are about to be addressed with the installation of a French drain.

The situation regarding the overgrown hedge on Station Road has been reported to Street Doctor as it is again a hazard to pedestrians.

The work of clearing and seeding the cemetery is continuing. There is now a need to mark out the pathway and remove the fence as new graves are required.

The necessary work to clear the bank of foliage in Arnhill Road has been reported to Northants CC Highways and clerk will monitor progress.

Julie Smith is working on the update of the village Welcome Pack for new residents and is now in the process of identifying firms who can complete the printing.

The problem of moving the flagpole away from the oak tree on the Village Green was discussed. Mark Thompson will attempt to provide a new base for the pole on the slight bank at the other side of the War Memorial. He will keep Council informed of progress.

The repainting of the old Telephone box will be completed soon.

With reference to the recent rates demand from Corby BC for the Pavilion clerk will explore the possibility of a reduction as it is used totally for recreation purposes.

Volunteers from the Woodland Programme will start work on Church Gap very soon. They have requested that Council make a donation equal to the cost of a skip.

Council are pursuing the provision of permanent road signs to the Village Hall. Northants Highways will examine the situation and give an estimate of cost which will have to be met by Parish Council. Clerk will monitor progress and report.

Clerk is still awaiting information from the Sports Club in order to pursue the possibility of Anglian Water taking over responsibility for the maintenance of the sewer pump on the Recreation Ground. When this is received a report will be forthcoming.

The ownership of the hedge in Latimer Close is still under dispute with Orbit Housing. Clerk will continue to press for Orbit to take responsibility.

Northants CC has offered clerk a bus timetable display board for use in the bus shelter. This will be collected at the earliest opportunity.

Western Power Distribution has confirmed that pruning work is needed to some trees on the edge of the Pocket Park and this will be completed soon.

Northants CC Highways has asked for specific reports on potholes on Gretton Brook Road to be forwarded to Street Doctor. In discussion it was established that a sign is needed at some

distance before the entrance to Ford and Slater to prevent large trucks and trailers overshooting and causing damage to the road as they seek to turn round.

Councillors understand that the gullies taking surface water off Gretton Brook Road will be cleared in the near future leaving Corby BC to ensure the road is kept clear of debris on a regular basis.

Grove Engineering has organised the pruning of the hedge on Station Road just village side of Hatton Lane. This has not been done particularly well and clerk will monitor the situation.

The allotment land on Fulwell Avenue / Kirby Road has been cleared recently. Clerk will pursue with Corby BC how it might be returned to allotments for village use.

Correspondence:-

Letter informing Council that a meeting of Rockingham Speedway Forum will take place on 11th October.

Circulation:-

NALC 'UPDATE' Magazine
Fields in Trust report booklet
CPRE Minutes for 21st September

Report on Recreation Ground:-

Tim Fox reported that a sum of £2,400 had been contributed to the village over two years by the Sports Club. Bids for expenditure will be submitted by groups using the Recreation Ground on the basis that they will be for capital items which benefit the community and not just training bibs etc.

Planning:-

16/00400/DPA First floor extension to 5, School Road

In view of the fact that the applicant is Mr. Paul Hindle non-prejudicial interest was declared by Mark Thompson who works with Paul, Tim Fox whose parents in law live next door and Julie Smith and John Hindle who are related.

No objections were registered in respect of this application

16/00425/DPA Demolition of single detached dwelling and construction of 2 detached dwellings at 36, Arnhill Road.

The reply to Corby BC will include satisfactory parking arrangements and garages along with planners being able to satisfy themselves that the access allows good visibility on an already narrow road. The design of the houses should be sympathetic to the one granted next door to maintain the street scene.

Finance:-

Current balance	£31,208.81
Amounts owing:-	
Tim Fox – expenses on Funday and Pavilion	53.54
Mrs. J. Addy – Pavilion cleaning	128.00
J. Hindle – Clerk salary and expenses	881.08

Any Other Business:-

Chairman raised the forthcoming CPRE Roadshow where discussion on planning is an integral part of proceedings. This will take place on 27th October at 6pm in Great Houghton. Frances Woolston and Tim Fox plan to attend.

Date of next Meeting will be Monday 14th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.