

GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE Parish Council Meeting HELD ON 8th September 2015

Venue : Rex Rhodes Building, Started at 7:30 pm

Present : Councillors' Rod Churchill, David Hearn, Allen Keyte, Bev Osborne, Caroline Ryman, Howards Samuels and David Ward,

Gill Cannon, (clerk). 6 members of the public

Apologies : Cllrs Sylvia Stokes and Les Howard

. 15.8.2. **Declarations of Interest** - None

. 15.8.3. **Statement from the chair** – Cllr David Hearn advised the meeting that he

had been suffering from trigeminal neuralgia which may have to be treated by surgery. This has meant periods of incapacity although he was pleased to report that he was currently enjoying a period of remission. Normally the duties of the Chair in these circumstances are taken by the Vice Chair. Sadly Cllr Sylvia Stokes is also suffering ill health at the moment. It was therefore proposed that Cllr Allen Keyte assume the position of Interim vice chair.

Cllr Hearn proposed an Cllr Ryman seconded. Cllr Keyte emphasized that he would be happy to take this position only for as long as it took for Cllr Stokes to recover. Vote: unanimous

15.8.4 Minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2015 – Approved

15.8.5. Clerks report : -

. a) The external audit has completed with a successful conclusion for GPC. Regulations change this year and

there will be no need for an external audit next year subject to income levels

- . b) Moat Farm statement – had been the subject of an extraordinary meeting where it was agreed that Cllr Allen Keyte should take the 2 versions of the statement and amalgamate into one which he was to present to the appeal hearing
- . c) Training places secured in October d) dog fouling signs ordered – delivery has been confirmed as being week beginning 21/9. Cheque to be sent following this meeting and in addition smaller notices to be added to the bins have been ordered
- . d) APM – was successful with Hollie delivering an interesting session and answering questions.
- . e) Various suggestions have been made as to the siting of the equipment. The supplier is chasing the GPC for a decision
- . f) Rex Rhodes Building – dealt with later in agenda
- . g) Footpath maintenance – Clerk has contacted GCC and is meeting Ian to discuss

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upgrade and general maintenance at 10.30 on 16th September. A tour has been done of the footpaths and at that time the Long Furlong footpath has been cut although there was overhang from some properties. The barriers at the end of Long Furlong had been placed there at the request of a previous GPC to prevent horse and cycle traffic

- . h) Ownership of Village Hall – paperwork has been obtained to

show position

- . i) Freeman's Field – maintenance contract – ongoing
- . j) Sale of alcohol at events on Freeman's Field. GPC can have up to 12 TEN licenses at a cost of £21 each. Alternatively an annual license can be obtained for RRB/Village Hall + Freeman's Field at a cost of £100 plus advertising costs which could amount to £250. Agreed to seek an annual license and deal with the advertising costs by advertising in the parish magazine. In the meantime should the field be hired the application form should contain a disclaimer to protect GPC
- . k) Clerk confirmed that Highways had been approached to rectify the mounting of the new 40mph onto 2 posts in keeping with others in the village
- . l) Banking mandates still work in progress although bank has all the information needed to allow the clerk to take control of the account.
- . m) Clerk reported that TBC have commenced quarterly clerks' meeting which are interesting and useful to understand issues facing other parish councils and to have updates from TBC. Clerk will be attending these.

15.8.6 and 7 No councilors present therefore no reports.

15.8.8. **Draft Financial statements** were approved. Council requested that moving forward a separate report should be presented showing budget and spend against budget and also clearly defining allocated and non allocated monies. Cllr Keyte requested a breakdown of spend on the NDP

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a) b)

c) d)

e)

Moat Farm Development – Cllr Keyte gave a synopsis of the appeal which he attended for the whole week. A vote of thanks was given by the Council for Cllr Keyte's presentation and attendance at this Appeal Review.

Shutter Lane. It appears that work has started. Cllr Ward has been trying to establish whether the criteria for commencement has been met and has obtained the plans confirming that Shutter Lane will be widened to 4.8 metres. Clerk to write to Council and Highways to determine position.

Designation of green space. Deferred to next meeting

Planning, Sale of the Farmer's Arms and change of use, Cllr Ryman proposed that there be no objections. Seconded Cllr Ward seconded. Vote 1 against

Positioning VAS units. It was agreed that the first position suggested west of the Shutters was correct. Cllr Hearn proposed positioning the second sign 100yds inside the 30mph facing traffic coming from Gretton into the village. Seconded Cllr Ryman. Vote 1 against. Cllr Osbourne suggested repeater

30 mph signs. Clerk to write to confirm positions and request 30mph repeater signs.

15.8.10 Review APM – Agreed successful – setting date of next APM deferred until next meeting

15.8.11 **Gym equipment** – Agreed that the bottom of the field is the best place. Cllr Churchill and Cllr Osbourne are reviewing this and have called for 3 quotes for the work that would allow siting of the equipment in that area. Cllr Churchill also in touch with the suppliers and will deal with them directly.

15.8.12 **Topics** Christine Davies no longer wishes to co-ordinate. Cllr Keyte proposed that Council members take it in turns. There is a large team of distributers. Cllrs Hearn and Keyte will coordinate with distribution teams. Topics is to be reduced from 4 issues per year to 3 (as it used to be). Agreed

15.8.13 **Rex Rhodes Building update**

- . a) Cllrs Osbourne and Samuels confirmed that the majority of the work is done including painting, boilers push taps etc. Cllr Hearn wished to record the thanks of the Council to Cllrs Osbourne and Samuels for their hard work and the speed with which this was achieved. Cllr Osbourne said that the window grills needed to be repaired
- . b) Nursery. Discussions under way with the nursery with regard to ensuring that RRB is in a state in the evening to be hired out. Quotes are being obtained for the refurbishment area to the back of the building to include the replacement of the temporary metal fence with a picket fence, AstroTurf and a lockable gate. All quotes appear to be in excess of £5k. To be brought to next meeting.

15.8.14 **Footpaths**. Cllr Osbourne has spoken to Vince Larcombe and established level of work done by him. Vince Larcombe will also strim brambles every other cut. Also has agreed that the cutting season will start in April and finish in October. Cllr Ward suggested that we should seek additional quotes for the work in addition to this. See clerks report re: removal of the barriers to be requested plus signs clearly showing no bridle path or cycling.

15.8.15 **.Neighbourhood Development Plan** An update on the

current position of the NDP was given by Cllr Ward. Further updates will be given at the next meeting and the defining of local green spaces.

15.8.16 Ownership of the Village Hall The paperwork shows that GPC own the village hall but have vested it in the Village Hall Committee who in turn have vested it with the charity commission. Agreed Cllr Samuels seeks professional advice (paid if necessary)

15.8.17 Freeman's Field Maintenance Contract – still ongoing – Clerk investigating – one issue is that TBC have subcontracted

15.8.18. Village Verges and Litter Picking a) The verges leaving the village are too overgrown and forcing people to walk on the

road. Clerk to write to Highways expressing concern that the only pedestrian accesses to the village are unusable. Cllr Hearn suggests clearing and sowing with grass seed. Also issues on Cleeve Road. Clerk to write to householders.

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b) Litter picking – Ellen Cooke wishes that the GPC take over the co-ordination of this. Clerk to liaise to establish the litter picking teams

15.8.19 Salt and Grit – Questions raised about the salt and grit stores by the side of RRB. Need to appoint a snow warden – deferred until next meeting.

15.8.20 Repairs to Playground equipment. – Replacement to equipment all in excess of £1k and mostly in the region of £3k. Action Cllr Osbourne to arrange for the broken piece to be made safe.

15.8.21 **Venue of GPC meeting** – Agreed to stick with Rex Rhodes Building. GPC must book it in line with new booking system which should come on line within the next week.

15.8.22 **2016 Village Fete** – Deferred until next meeting. Cllrs Osbourne and Samuels confirmed that preparations are already in hand.

Extra Item – Bus routes – There has been a lot of village upset over the change in bus routes and timetable. Confirmed that the GPC only had information about the changes in the week before the implementation and placed information on the website immediately. No approach has been made re the siting of bus stops.

From the floor Ellen Cooke confirmed that she had made enquiries and discovered that GCC reviewed the heavily subsidized routes and sought tender to run the existing route or come up with a plan B. The successful bid only had 2 weeks from the award to of the contract to implementation as Highways wanted a 1st Sept start date

Public Concerns

None specifically – comment on footpaths that horse traffic along Long Furlong will no longer be a problem as paddocks in disuse.

Meeting closed at 9.55 Items for Next Agenda

1.Designation of local green space 2.2016 Village Fete 3.Gym equipment and tree cutting 4.Ownership of Village Hall 5.Shutter Lane Development 6.Date of APM 2016

7.Rex Rhodes Playground