

Gedney Hill Parish Council

Minutes of the Gedney Hill Parish Council Meeting held on Monday
23rd January 2017 in the Memorial Hall at 18.15.

Note: - It should be noted that as the Parish Clerk, Mrs Janet Harrison had passed away, an interim Clerk had been appointed until interviews could be conducted for the vacancy of Parish Clerk.

These minutes have therefore been taken by the interim Parish Clerk.

Present: -

Councillors D. Mann (Chairman)
I. Coles
P. Redgate
K. James

Also Present: - Councillors M. Seymour, W. Webb.

Minutes: - Mrs. S. James (interim Parish Clerk)

The chairman opened the meeting by thanking the interim clerk for the work that she had undertaken over the last two months.

Public Forum: -

Mr. T. Seal raised concern about the difficulty in seeing oncoming traffic on a bend of South Eau Bank near Throckenholt due to overhanging bushes. Although the identified section of road is in Cambridgeshire, and therefore not within the confines of the Gedney Hill Parish, it was agreed that the issue would be forwarded to the Highways department for their comments.

Apologies for Absence: -

The Chairman read out a letter of resignation from Councillor C. Coleman. Councillor Coleman stated that it was with regret that she felt it necessary to resign as she no longer lived in the village. Although she still retained property within the village, she felt that it would be difficult to come to meetings or be involved with day to day activities.

The chairman stated, it was with reluctance, that he had accepted her resignation. He also requested that the interim clerk write a letter from the Parish Council, thanking Councillor Coleman for all her efforts during her terms with the council.

Declarations of Interest in the following agenda: -

There were no declarations of interest from any of the councillors present in respect of the agenda.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 28th October 2016: -

In respect of the matter raised at the meeting regarding the possible local sewage treatment plant, it was stated that Anglia Water had sent a representative to the village and he had conducted a half day survey accompanied by Councillors Mann and James.

(2)

From some feedback, it was suggested that the report may not go in favour of Gedney Hill as all the residents surveyed stated that they did not have any problems or concerns. The report from Anglian Water will need to be discussed when it is issued, but the council will have the opportunity to appeal against the findings if they so wish.

If individuals do have any specific problems then they should contact Anglian Water direct.

Councillor Redgate asked if the 1975 survey had been reviewed and the clerk will follow this through.

It was agreed that the minutes were a true record of the proceedings and the minutes were duly signed by the chairman.

The clerk reminded all present that meeting minutes will appear on the website prior to the following meetings in line with current legislation.

Police: -

Although there was no Police representative present at the meeting, the new PCSO Antonietta (Toni) Gordon, had promised to be present if no incidents occurred at the time of the meeting.

Post Meeting.

An apology was received from the PCSO as she had been committed to an incident at the time of the meeting. She sent a report below: -

The report for the past month in the area is as follows;

1 x report of a theft of batteries along North Rd, Gedney Hill on 12/01/2017. At the time there were concerns of a Van that was acting suspiciously in the area.

There have been 29 reports of Hare Coursing in The Suttons area over the past month. We are trying to get to as many incidents as we can, could I please encourage members of the public to still keep calling in the incidents and also any suspicious behaviour.

Further issues raised were concerning the speed of vehicles through the village. This is again to be reported to the Police.

Following the break-in of McColls shop it was asked if the lighting at the rear of the shop should be improved however the Chairman stated that this was the responsibility of McColls to undertake this.

Highways: -

As identified in the Public Forum the hedge along South Eau Bank will be reported. A further issue was raised concerning the white lining in the centre of the road at the junction of North Road and Lincoln Avenue. It was stated that the line was worn and difficult to see and there had been some accidents at that spot. Councillor Webb stated that he would look into the matter.

(3)

The condition of some of the roads have been brought to the attention of the council, in particular, along North Rd, Station Rd and Highstock Lane. These issues are to be reported to Sue Cooper at "Highways"

It was further stated that a light was out in Highstock Lane.

Planning: -

The clerk informed the meeting that no new applications had been received since the last meeting. There was, however, some concern that the Tree Preservation Order (TPO) associated with Planning Application H07-1199-16 for The Chestnuts, North Rd, had been passed and the work carried out without the council being aware of any application being made.

Precept: -

The matter of the annual Precept was discussed and the current account balances, together with the predicted outgoings until the end of March, were presented. A figure of £8500 was suggested to ensure that the accounts still had sufficient funds to cover both predicted and unforeseen outgoings for the new financial year 2017/18. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that this figure be submitted however the clerk stated that, to date, she had not yet received the Precept application form. This will be chased.

Sports Pavilion.

The cost and availability of contractors to undertake the redecoration within the month of February was discussed, and it was decided that, in order to complete the works by March, then the councillors and local volunteers would undertake the work themselves.

It was agreed that the work should commence the first weekend in February and an appeal for volunteers would be placed on the notice board and on the village website.

The clerk again advised that, once the redecoration has been completed, she will be attempting to contact potential users of the sports field, inserting adverts in the local press and organising an open day to promote the availability of the premises.

Councillor Redgate offered to provide a list of all local teams in order that they could be contacted with a view to hiring the facilities.

Clerks report and Accounts.

The clerk reported that the balances for the Parish Council and Sports Pavilion were as follows up to 17th January 2017.

Gedney Hill Parish Council –	Current Account- £5931.12
	Business Reserve Account £1517.57

Sports Pavilion -	Current account- £726.92
	Business Reserve Account £729.62

Total Cash - £8905.23.

Cash out for the work implemented by Circlefire on the Pavilion was paid for from the Wryde Croft Wind farm grant. The money was paid into the GHPC council account.

(4)

Request that this money be transferred back into the sports pavilion account, from which the invoice for the work done by Circle Fire had been settled.

Monies out for the period 26th October 2016 to 17th January 2017

GHPC: –

Clerks Wages - £633.34

M. Ford wages - £170.50

Lockable storage cabinet - £76.45

Postage & Stationery - £106.23

Total £986.52

The telephone line for the clerk was cancelled (01406 3803840) on January 20th and a final bill is awaited although we are informed that we are in credit.

Sports Pavilion: -

The Circle Fire invoice has been paid from this account, although the funds for this remain in the Parish Council account. We are, as yet, (due to change of signatories,) unable to transfer the money for this from the P.C. account so the balance looks artificial low.

A bill has been received from EON for £46.25. Anglia Water bill is also due.

Until cheque signatories have been updated by the bank, cheques cannot yet be signed.

Other

The clerk advised the council that the Citizens Advice Bureau had asked for a poster, advertising their services, is displayed. It was agreed that this notice will be displayed on the notice board.

A.O.B.

The chairman advised the council that three applicants had applied for the position of Parish Clerk and that interviews would be conducted in the near future by Councillors Mann, Coles and Redgate. Councillor James declared a Declaration of Interest in one of the candidates and therefore will not take part in the process of interviewing and selection of a new Parish Clerk

Dates of Next Meetings.

The date of the next meeting will be March 20th 2017 at 18.30 hours in the Memorial Hall.

Meeting Closed at 20.05.

It should be noted that the posting of minutes on the website takes place prior to acceptance and approval of them by the attendees of the relevant meeting.