

Gedney Hill Parish Council

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Minutes of the Gedney Hill Parish Council Meeting held on Monday
20th March 2017 in the Memorial Hall at 18.30.

Present: -

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

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

It was noted that Mr Winston Brown from the Lincs. Free Press/Spalding Guardian had previously requested that he attend the meeting. He was therefore in attendance in this role and as a member of the public.

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

Public Forum: -

A question was raised regarding the future of the former ELS building at the end of North Rd. in respect of its intended future use. The Chairman replied that, to date, there had been no official communication to the Parish Council regarding it.

Apologies for Absence: -

There were no apologies for absence presented.

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 23rd January 2017: -

It was noted that these minutes are now posted on the website.

Matters Arising.

There were no comments and no matters arising from the minutes.

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

Police: -

Our new PCSO Antonietta (Toni) Gordon was present at the meeting and introduced herself to the council.

Her comments were as follows in respect of issues since the last meeting: -

There has been little activity within Gedney Hill.

There have been 6 burglaries within the Sutton area but, as these were on allotment areas and tools have been taken, it is presumed that this has been down to youngsters.

There have been 2 thefts of 500 litres of heating oil since 3rd of March and residents should be on the lookout for suspicious occurrences.

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There have been 6 reports of vehicles being broken into. All these vehicles have been at the owners' premises and it was felt that these had not been properly secured at the time.

There have been a total of 25 reports of suspicious vehicles in the area possibly for Hare Coursing (39 last meeting). It appears that the reduction is due to it being the end of the season.

The police are asking for residents to inform them of any suspected activities in the area.

There have been incidents of bogus door to door fish sellers in Long Sutton. They are charging extortionate rates with one person having had something thrown at them. They have no Identification or traders Licences and local residents should be aware.

There has been an attempted caravan theft at Sutton St. James.

There was a comment in respect of "salesmen" knocking on doors telling householders that they can get them grants for Double Glazing.

Other Police matters.

The Chairman was concerned about speeding through the village both along Hillgate and North Road, especially past the school. The PCSO has noted this issue.

Appointment of a New Parish Councillor.

Following the statutory notice for nominations of a new councillor there were no applications. The council was therefore advised by the returning officer, to co-opt a new councillor as soon as possible.

There were two persons identified and both were well suited to do the job in their respective ways. The council discussed the merits of both these persons and it was proposed to the meeting that Mr. John Venters be co-opted to be the new Parish Councillor. The vote was put to the existing councillors and it was unanimously agreed that Mr Venters be co-opted.

Appointment of a New Parish Clerk.

The Chairman stated that a new Parish clerk had been appointed and would take up duties on 1st April.

The Chairman thanked the Acting Clerk, Shirley, for all her hard work and stated that she had done an excellent job in the interim period.

The new clerk, Dominique Leedham was introduced to the meeting.

The Chairman stated that all councillors must adhere to the confidentiality clauses in respect of any council business, and all councillors were re-issued a copy of the 2007 No.1159. The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

A copy of this is to be sent to the new Parish Councillor along with the other required documentation required for signing.

Policies and Procedures.

The Chairman stated that there were a number of policies and procedures that had been identified as being required as a matter of legal responsibility. These will need to be written and approved by the Parish Council.

Existing policies and procedures need reviewing on an annual basis for content and suitability. It was suggested that the above documentation be written prior to the AGM and that these policies/procedures, as well as the existing ones, all be reviewed at the date of the next AGM, this being the anniversary date for all future reviews.

Highways.

Councillor Webb identified that that was to be a road closure in West Drove North from 10th April to 12th April. The notice will be placed on the Parish Notice Board and posted at relevant points around the village.

Concerns were raised about the state of the roads around the village and, in particular, at the top of Station Rd. on the bend, where the road is falling away. Councillor Webb stated that the Highways committee were continually monitoring the state of the roads and issues were being addressed with resources being allocated as available.

Planning: -

The clerk informed the meeting that one new application had been received since the last meeting in respect of application H07-0192-17. This application had been reviewed by the Parish Council and it was stated that there were no concerns to be raised by GHPC.

There were other concerns raised in respect of construction timber-work being undertaken at one property and of a barn being potentially renovated.

Councillor Seymour advised the council that, if this was the case, then both issues would require planning permission and that the SHDC Enforcement Officer should be advised who will then review the situation.

Sports Pavilion.

The redecoration/refurbishment of the Sports Pavilion has now been completed. The Chairman advised that the Pavilion has been inspected by the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation in respect of the Wryde Croft Wind Farm Community Fund.

Councillor James advised that he had completed the final sign off forms and the project should now be closed.

There was discussion into the way forward to promote the use of the sports field and it was agreed that an open day be initiated with a date proposed as May 13th. This was agreed and will be discussed further outside this meeting.

Mr Brown has kindly offered to do a press article on this with photographs of the Pavilion and persons involved in the work which was done by volunteers.

Post Meeting. A date has been agreed for Saturday 25th March, all persons have been notified and a photographer will be present.

Clerks report and Accounts.

The balances for the Parish Council and Sports Pavilion are as follows up to 20th March 2017

Gedney Hill Parish Council –	Current Account = £2954.27
	Business Reserve Account = £1517.57
 Sports Pavilion -	 Current account = £3228.84
	Business Reserve Account = £729.62

Total Cash = £8430.34

Cash out for the work implemented by Circlefire on the Pavilion was paid for from the Wryde Croft Wind Farm grant.

The money from the Wryde Croft Wind Farm Grant has now been transferred into the Sports Pavilion Account from the Parish Council Account by cheque.

Monies out for the period Jan. 23rd 2017 to March 20th 2017**G.H.P.C:**

Clerks Wages = £633.34
 Handyman's wages = £75.60
 DF11 charging fees = £60.00
 Expenses = Clock winding, £80.00
 Final Phone bill £149.00
 Sundry Items. Auditor £60.00,
 Poppy Wreath £25.00,
 Mole treatment £72.00
 Repayment of the wind farm grant £2772.00
 Total = £3451.96

Sports Pavilion: -

A bill from EON for £42.65 has been paid.
 Expenses, Paint, brushes etc. 2 new doors, 6 hinges, 2 locks = £155.53
 Mole Man = £72.00
 Total = £270.18

Monies In for the period Jan 23rd to March 20th 2017

Deposited into the P.C. account.

There was a refund of £96.98 from BT regarding a telephone bill prepayment.

There has been a Payment of £220 for a burial including the one off admin fee of £20

There has been a payment of £640.00 from a parish family for the interment of one member and reservations of 3 further plots for the rest of the family.

Monies in Sports Pavilion.

The Wryde Croft Wind Farm Grant of £2772.00 has now been transferred to the sports pavilion account.

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The forms and documentation from Grant Thornton for the annual Audit will not be sent out until the end of March.

There has been an application for a further inscription on a memorial.

A request has been received from S.H.D,C. Grants for Growth & Efficiency Programme. This is relevant to business only. They have asked that information be posted about their services to businesses in our area.

The invoice for the Lalc Annual subscription fees has been received, If we wish to continue to be a member it will be £233.23. (Council agreed.)

A.O.B.

There was no other business identified.

Dates of Next Meetings.

The date of the next meeting will be May 22nd in the Memorial Hall at 18.30

This will also be the date for the AGM of the Parish Council.

Meeting Closed at 19.38.

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.