

GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH JANUARY 2015

Venue: The Church Centre, Gotherington

Present: Councillors: David Hearn, Phil Aplin, Iain Angus, John Stroud, Jacquie Waine, Ellen Cooke, Caroline Ryman, Sylvia Stokes and David Ward. Clerk: Christine Benfield

In Attendance: 4 members of the public; 1 of whom arrived later during the meeting.

1501 .APOLOGIES

- None

1502. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- None received

1503 .MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9th December 2014

- The minutes of the meeting were approved as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman

1504. CLERK'S REPORT

The chair reported on actions from the last meeting as follows:

1505. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- No report

1506. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- No report

The meeting was adjourned whilst members of the public could make comments under Public Question Time.

1507. FINANCE

- The financial statement was accepted and signed by the Chairman.
- The accounts were distributed.
- The current budget reviewed.
- The precept finalised as £12,000. That is a 0 % increase.
- Cllr Aplin was asked to add an extra line to the accounts to show a net surplus or deficit.
- Cllr Aplin explained that any part of the grant received for the Neighbourhood Development Grant not spent by the end of March will have to be repaid.
- Reminder for Chair re: invoice for Remembrance Wreath.
- Budget required re: training for new Councillors; agreed £500.
- Accounts in good condition. Proposer Cllr Cooke, Seconder Cllr Waine. All 9 Councillors in favour.

1508. PLANNING MATTERS

- None as such. Planning meeting to be called if and when required.

1509. UPDATE ON 2 POTENTIAL PROJECTS.

- Cllr Aplin updated Council on S106 funding and possibility of two projects (MUGA and Nursery Improvements).
- Presently there is not much going on; we need to find more information about the grants. It is early on in the discussions.

1510. APPOINTMENT OF CLERK AND RFO

- Chair welcomed new Clerk Christine Benfield and gave Contract of Employment to sign.
- Clerk is to organise training with GAPTC.

1511. Recruitment of parish Councillors.

- Vacancy for 5 parish councillors, Chair suggests ask for 6/7 to come forward to force an election.
- Actions: Notes on Notice Boards, shop notice board, topics and mentioned at various public meetings.

1512. Allocation of Responsibilities for retiring Councillors

- Councillors leaving are to share their responsibilities with the new Clerk.
- Clerk to give all Council her contact details.

1513. Discussed the possibility of Summer Fete. Link to item 1515

- Council felt that there was a lack of interest from residents to go ahead with this and little time to achieve.
- Council explored it could be beneficial to link organisations together.

1514. Council agreed to the conversion of the PC Website to Wordpress

- It was agreed that Claire Douglas should be thanked for all her work and that she would continue to be the web master for the PC website in Wordpress.
- Cllr Hearn proposed, Cllr Waine seconded, All 9 Councillors in favour.

1515. Discussed the reforming of Rec Club. See item 1513

- Council discussed that contact was needed with motivated villagers willing to take this forward.
- Councillors suggested to link bonfires, summer fete, rec club, film club. Link of names to form a group.
- As the Village Hall management committee comprises representatives from each of the organisations using the hall; it was suggested that a similar organisation with representatives from the users of the Freeman Field i.e. football, cricket, tennis, petanque, scouts, Rex Rhodes building should be encouraged.
- Cllr Hearn and Cllr Ryman to ask residents and to organise 'Freemans Field' meeting of groups.

1516. That War Memorial is to be considered to be a Historic Site.

- Cllr Hearn proposed, Cllr Waine seconded. All 9 Councillors in favour.

1517. Council discussed possibility of development of smaller building for tennis/petangue on grounds of tennis hut.

- Further exploration required.
- Anj Patel to be asked for more details of projects that can be funded and what the available funds are.
- Council believe it to be beneficial to start a wish list for future funding opportunities.
- Parish Plan Actions update: Cllr Angus presented possible sites for the gym equipment and council felt the best place was on the east side of Freeman's Field, opposite Moat Farm. To be voted on at next meeting.

1518. Council explored recent anti-social behaviour of litter under Railway Bridge in Manor Lane, car being there and possible drug litter.

Cllr Stokes updated incident no 322. In hands of police, no further action required presently.

1519. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- CCTV
- Position of Outdoor Gym equipment.
- Painting of Rex R building
- Explore Retiring Councillor duties and sharing of needed responsibilities.
- Council to appoint appropriate Auditor
- Steering Group meeting on 14th January and a Public Meeting to be held on 13/14/15th February in the Village Hall.
- Training opportunities available for Clerk and Parish Councillors

1520. DATE, TIME and VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING

7:30 pm on Tuesday 10th February 2015 at the Church Centre

At this meeting village residents brought up the following issues.

Malcolm Hudson asked if the parish council has contacted Mr Andrews who is our registered snow-plough officer. Cllr Aplin asked that when Mr Andrews was coming out if he can deal with the snow, needs to be done on an unofficial basis when it snows heavily as it's a private road; Can what happened 3 years ago be a yes?

Michael Stevens asked should PC congratulate highways on an excellent job they have done on Cleeve rd. Cllr Hearn made reference to the letter received from Cllr John Stroud (author of report) with reference to the summary/account of the Cleeve Road resurfacing work. This had been circulated to all parish councillors and was later sent to Glos Highways. Mr Stevens then asked if priority for school entry could be given to villager children. Cllr Ryman answered with the school entrance criteria known of siblings etc.

Council was asked if Northwood Estate Agent sign could be removed, Clerk will organise.

Pathway to tennis courts is overgrown, to be reviewed in March.

Council was asked if road sweepers were in action. Councillor Cooke reported that Borough Councillor Keyte had been able to establish that much of the village was omitted on the existing schedule; this is now rectified and the roads are now being swept using the new inclusive data.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45 pm