

GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE Parish Council Meeting HELD ON 10th November 2015

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

Present : Councillors David Hearn, Sylvia Stokes, Allen Keyte, Bev Osborne, Caroline Ryman, Howards Samuels and David Ward, Les Howard, Rod Churchill

Gill Cannon, (clerk).

Cllrs Mel Gore and Rob Bird

10 members of the public

Apologies : None

15.11.2 **Declarations of Interest** – None

15.11.3 **Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2015** – Approved and signed

15.11.4. **Clerks report** : - The clerk's report had been circulated and was accepted.

- a) The VAS signs are not solar powered. Solar powered signs are used in accident black spots. The signs will have 2 batteries – one for use and the other for charging. We need to appoint someone to take charge of the signs. Cllr. Samuels has volunteered.
- b) Following Council decision concerns have been expressed by the clerk on the Council's behalf to the planning department re the Elm Tree cottage planning application re damage to heritage and street scene.
- c) Rex Rhodes update – see later agenda item
- d) Ownership of the Village Hall - See later agenda item.

15.11.5. **Borough Councillor's report.** Cllr Gore reported back on the discussions she had had with Michael Glaze of Highways re Shutter Lane. Confirmed the widening of Shutter Lane, resurfacing of 20 metres of it's length and provision of VAS signs.

15.11.6 **County Councillor's report**

- a) Cllr Bird confirmed that the proposed road closures advertised in respect of the dates of the Cheltenham races (13th and 14th November) have been cut from all day closures to 10am – 1pm and then 3.30pm-6.30pm. These road closures are in part an experiment to determine future parking and traffic flow when Cheltenham races are active which activity is expected to increase with the new stand. The Council expressed concern about the effect these closures will have on the shops in Cheltenham.
- b) The junction of A435 and Malleson Road. Cllr Bird confirmed what had been reported by the clerk at the last meeting in respect of his meeting with Highways.

Cost is an issue now there will be no s106 money from Moat Farm but the improvement is still rated fairly highly due to safety concerns. The original plan was costed at £40-£50k but is now being re-costed. Cllr Keyte suggested that when the Council knows the cost we could consider approaching TBC to establish whether any of the existing (Shutter Lane) s106 money could be used.

c) Cllr Bird has asked the developers of Shutter Lane site to contact Council with regard to proposed road closures to enable drainage to the site.

15.11.7 Cllr Stokes proposed changes to the role of Clerk/RFO to enable the clerk to spend more time on the clerk side of the role. Cllr Keyte had volunteered to take the RFO role for 6 months and work with the clerk to simplify procedures. Cllr Hearn seconded. The vote in favour was unanimous.

15.11.8 Cllr Stokes reminded the Council of the responsibilities of Councillors and that the monthly meetings are a formal event and that the Council is governed by rules and regulations being accountable as all layers of Government are. She asked that Councillors prepare for the meetings by reading the documents before hand and ensuring that all emails are circulated and read in order that all Councillors can answer residents' queries. Cllr Stokes pointed Councillors to The Good Councillor Guide, The Code of Conduct and Standing Orders. All external emails should go through the clerk and care should be taken to ensure that recipients of emails are the people for which they are intended – care must be taken when using “reply all”. Communications between Councillors should be kept confidential. Cllr Hearn requested that there be a volunteer to keep the village notice boards up to date. Cllrs Howard and Samuels offered to take this responsibility. Cllr Hearn proposed and Cllr Stokes seconded the proposal that Cllr Samuels and Cllr Howard would take responsibility for the notice boards between them. Vote: unanimous

15.11.9 **Financial statements** were approved and signed. Councillors were reminded to consider projects needed for 2016/17 for inclusion in the budget to be discussed at the next meeting. A separate closed meeting will discuss this prior to the next GPC meeting. Clerk to schedule.

15.11.10 **Planning**

- a) No new planning applications received this month
- b) Shutter Lane s106 Cllr Keyte confirmed his discussions with TBC in this respect. There are 3 pots of money i) £13,073 to be spent on play facilities in the Rex Rhodes triangle – any surplus to be used for the Village Hall ii) money to be spent on dog bins and signage in the area around the development iii) £41,569 to be used to provide sporting facilities for the whole community. Cllrs to discuss at interim meeting and determine suitable projects.
- c) Shutter Lane road closures. Councillors to meet with developers as soon as possible. Clerk to arrange meeting

15.11.11 **Appointment of Snow warden.** Cllr Osborne volunteered. Proposed Cllr Hearn, seconded Councillor Keyte – confirmed by unanimous vote.

15.10.13 **Fix date for APM 2016** – deferred until March meeting

15.11.14 **Tree clearance and Gym equipment** – Cllr Churchill confirmed that the trees have been pruned and the area is ready for the installation of the gym equipment which is scheduled for 23rd November. The beam has to be moved and various quotes have been obtained. Cllrs Churchill and Osborne to organise the removal and re-siting of the beam in the most cost effective way.

15.10.15 a) **Rex Rhodes Building update.** There is a need progress the correction of the drainage issues to the side of the Rex Rhodes Building. The cost of this work is expected to be no more than £500 + VAT. Cllrs Osborne and Samuels with obtain quotes which can then be sent to TBC for approval and payment through the Shutter Lane s106 money.

b) A site meeting was held re the playground and costs of £6,000 quoted. This did not cover the provision of a covered area for the sandpit. The nursery have indicated that they would be happy without a sandpit. Cllrs Osborne and Samuels will obtain quotes which can then be sent to TBC for approval and payment through the Shutter Lane s106 money.

c) Lights - Six lights will be replaced as follows –

- i) Right hand end of building. ·
- ii) Over main entrance. ·
- iii) Over changing room entrance.
- iv) Replace 1 existing exterior light fitting between changing room and main entrances. · Alter wiring so new light is controlled by a time lag switch. This light is over the defibrillator, the existing one no longer works.
- v) Remove existing high level exterior floodlight on left hand gable end and alter wiring to suit new low level light fitting. This is for car park
- vi) Install wiring for additional exterior light at left hand end of building. One of the lights will have a manual over ride so that it can be kept on for as long as it is needed

The cost of the electrical work is £345.00 (inc VAT) Quotation attached.

The cost of the Philips Black PIR Low Energy Wall Light 16246/93/16 is £31.14 x 6 = £186.84 (inc VAT)

Overall cost is £531.84

Cllrs Osborne and Samuels with obtain quotes which can then be sent to TBC for approval and payment through the Shutter Lane s106 money.

15.11.16 **Neighbourhood Development Plan –**

- a) Progress is being made and comments have been received following the latest draft being considered by TBC. Amendments will be made and the final draft will be delivered to TBC by the end of November. The public consultation will commence at the beginning of December. The period of the grant is approaching it's end. Cllr Ward and Cllr Keyte to review expenditure.
- b) Terms of Reference. Cllr Hearn had produced a Terms of Reference document to clarify the role and powers of the NDP steering group. Adoption of this document proposed by Cllr Hearn, Seconded by Cllr Keye. Carried by unanimous vote.

15.11.17 **Ownership of Village Hall** – The clerk reported on her findings confirmed with NALC.

- a) The provision of a village hall fulfils one of the powers conferred on local council under section 133 Local Government ACT 1972. Under section 139(1)(b) of that Act a local council can act as a custodian trustee of a village hall, because it benefits all or some of the people living in its area. If a council is the custodian trustee of a village hall used for charitable purposes then the ownership of the hall is vested in the council. The council has no legal role in the management of the village hall but it is subject to decisions concerning legal title to the hall which are made by the body or committee of trustees that it has nominated to manage the hall. Thus vesting in the charity commission was unnecessary but is easily reversible.
- b) With regard to reclaiming VAT - A local council which purchases equipment or building materials or pays for building work for a village hall may reclaim VAT under s33 of the VAT 1994 provided that all of the following conditions are met :-
 - i) the goods and services are ordered by and supplied to the council in its own name (with the VAT invoice made out in the name of the council)
 - ii) the goods and services are paid out of the council's own funds or those of another local authority or central government (e.g. through a grant)
 - iii) **the council gives or loans the goods or services to the village hall and does not recover any of its costs from the village hall committee or from a private individual or another voluntary body that obtains any direct sole benefit from the use of those goods and services.**
 - iv) where a project is part funded by the village hall the council contracts to carry out a specified part of the work or to purchase specific materials before the project commences.

It would therefore appear that we can reclaim the VAT but not be repaid by the village hall committee. .

Clerk to investigate returning the village hall to GPC ownership including the implications around Council Tax.

Cllr Hearn thanked the clerk for getting to the heart of the matter.

15.11.18 **2016 Village Fete** – Now confirmed to take place on 12th June 2016. Plans are progressing but a budget needs to be agreed to enable the booking of bands and other entertainment. Cllr Hearn proposed that £500 should be made available to enable the fete planning to continue. Cllr Ryman seconded. Confirmed by unanimous vote. Cllr Hearn confirmed that a piece in respect of the fete had been written to appear in the next edition of Topics. Cllr Hearn also confirmed that on the following day there will be a guest cricket match Gotherington v The Royal Household.

15.11.19 **Tennis Pavilion** – deferred for discussion at interim meeting.

15.11.20 **Plaque on the village hall** – The Village Hall committee has indicated that they no longer want the plaque to be displayed on the village hall and propose to move it to the Rex Rhodes Building. Cllr Osborne proposed move; seconded Cllr Samuels. Defeated 2 votes for , 5 against, 1 abstention.

Public Concerns

- Unexplained activity of surveyors in the area of Manor Lane and Gretton

- Road. Also work around the Meadow – a possible wildlife survey.
- The warning signs were old GCC signs – perhaps Highways would be able to confirm the purpose of this activity.
- Could the agenda be sent out by email. Clerk confirmed problems with mailing list.
- The new bus service met with approval but a further bus stop would be appreciated.
- Bus routes will be altered during periods of road closure (see 15.11.6a).
- A change to dog laws had been observed in Northamptonshire it was wondered whether this applied in GCC area.

Meeting closed at 9.35

Items for Next Agenda

1. Admission criteria for school
2. Budget

Financial Statement précis

Purpose	Receipt	Payment
Nursery Rental	3099.75	
Grass cutting		150.00
Display boards		
NDP		259.80
New cleaner RRB		76.00
Final payment		
Old cleaner RRB		160.00
Clerk's salary		267.26
Expenses storage RRB		9.90
Expenses		
Meeting Painswick		9.00
Tree Maintenance		624.00
Total	3099.75	1555.96