

GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Parish Council Meeting)
of a meeting of Gotherington Parish Council held at 7.30pm, on **Wednesday 13 November 2019** in the Rex Rhodes Building, Gotherington.

Councillors Present: Chairman Howard Samuels, Vice Chair Mavis Rear, Allen Keyte, Simon Tarling, Bev Osborne

Also Present: Gill Jennings Clerk/RFO, Borough Councillor Anna Hollaway, 2 members of the public

2019.11/14 Welcome, confirm meeting quorate, and to receive apologies for absence. The Chairman will then formally ask if anyone intends recording or filming the meeting.

Cllr Samuels advised the meeting that he had received Cllr Brown's resignation that evening. Cllr Harmer was absent.

2019.11/15 To consider an application for co-option

Councillors considered the application received from Mr. Ken Leech and **his co-option was proposed by Cllr Keyte, seconded by Cllr Rear, all in favour.** Cllr Leech signed his declaration of acceptance of office.

2019.11/16 To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda below

Cllr Tarling declared an interest in Ashmead Close trees, 23.3.

2019.11/17 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th October 2019

The Minutes were agreed as a true record with a note against item 10/12 that the footpath was temporarily closed until March 2020

2019.11/18 To adopt a Memorial Bench Policy (circulated)

Proposed for adoption Cllr Samuels, seconded Cllr Osborne, all in favour

2019.11/19 To receive Clerk's report on S106/Think Tank 19.1 Agree review of Working Groups and make appointments (circulated)

The Council agreed with the review of the working groups to deliver objectives identified at the Think Tank meeting. Appointments were agreed as follows:

Recreation – Cllr Osborne, Leech, Samuels

Environment – Cllr Rear, Keyte, Harmer

Finance & Policy – Cllr Tarling, Samuels, Keyte

Events – Cllr Samuels with volunteers

It was agreed that up to 2 non councillors could sit on a 3 councillor working group to offer specialist advice

19.2 Consider S106 survey on priorities and agree the way forward

The proposed projects were considered a good start and would be put to the residents for their input and additional suggestions. **Clerk to draw up the survey.**

The survey will be distributed to every household and collected through the village hall, shop.

2019.11/20 To receive and request Borough Councillor & County Councillor Reports

Cllr Hollaway advised that Tewkesbury Borough Council have not yet decided the criteria for CIL payments. The Council have lost their Appeal on the Stoke Road site with the Inspector citing the lack of 5 year land supply and disregarding the houses which have been built and underway.

Cllr Hollaway reminded the parish council that they had been offered further advice on the housing needs survey.

2019.11/21 To receive reports from Parish Councillors on external meetings

Cllr Samuels and Keyte attended the Town & Parish Council Seminar on the 12th November where a sketchy explanation of CIL was given. They were interested to hear about the Counter Fraud unit, volunteer litter pickers and the Borough Council Plan. Parish Councils attending expressed their frustration at being ignored in planning and S106 matters.

Cllr Osborne had attended Bishops Cleeve Parish Council meeting where the matter of the new primary school was discussed with great disquiet.

2019.11/22 Public Session (15 minutes)

4.2 To receive elector questions/comments regarding items on this agenda (Three minutes max per parishioner)

A resident/developer was present to explain the proposed development of 9 houses in Malleson Road. He explained that the smaller units of 2 & 3 bedroom houses would take up the same footprint as 6 larger properties and he hoped that the Parish Council could remove their objection now that the Planning Officer had recommended permission. It might in some way mitigate the threat of further mixed development. Councillors discussed this at length, out of public session, and it was proposed by Cllr Samuels, seconded by Cllr Tarling that the Council retains the position set out in the Gotherington Development Plan and that there is no change to the Council's previous comments. Carried by a majority of 3. (2 abstentions)

A resident raised the following points:

Perhaps the council could also survey residents on projects which S106 cannot pay for?

A. Yes this will be done.

What is the county council doing with pre-school developer contributions – can these be used to support Gotherington provision.

A. Clerk to make enquiries.

Pavement at Malleson Road needs extending.

A. Already noted by Footpaths Working Group

Can Parish Council publish the budget expenditure?

A. Financial information will be published on the website at the end of the financial year.

The footpath to Manor Lane has been ploughed up by farmer and needs reinstating.

A. Resident asked to report to GCC rights of way.

2019.11/23 Finance

1. To receive the recommendations of the Finance Working Group regarding hire charges and agree the way forward (report circulated)

The wording of an agreement between the parish council and football/cricket clubs was circulated. The agreement was to cover charges for hire of facilities and maintenance of the field by the clubs. It was agreed that this could be put to the clubs for their views but that there should be an agreement for each club with a review of the charges at the end of each year. **B/F**

2. To receive the draft budget for 2020/21 and consider any additions/changes (circulated)

A draft budget had been circulated anticipating agreement in 23.1. Councillors are to review this at the December meeting following a meeting with the tennis club and another hirer. **B/F**

3. To approve payments to date (circulated) and budget report (circulated)

Cllr Samuels advised payment of the following items was due:

Grasscutting £180

Cleaning £218

Water £142.75

Fencing £400

Admin Expenses £22.95

Admin £485.44

HMRC £121.40

Land Registry £7

New keys for Boiler Room £12.80

These payments were approved by unanimous vote.

The budget report showing expenditure for £2353.22 and income £3752.66 was noted.

The Council discussed a quotation for work to trees in Ashmead Drive but it was decided that responsibility rested with residents in Aggs Close. Cllr Samuels to liaise.

4. To agree the bank reconciliation to 31st October 2019 (circulated)

The Bank reconciliation to the end of October £35951.63 was agreed.

5. To receive the report from the councillor audit (circulated)

The report was noted.

6. To adopt 2019 Financial Regulations (circulated)

Adoption proposed by Cllr Samuels, seconded by Cllr Osborne, all in favour

7. To authorise investment of reserves in easy access deposit account at TSB
The Investment Strategy being:

- To keep funds accessible
- To keep funds earning interest
- To keep funds secure
- To restrict the investment term (min 3 month – max 12 month)

Councillors agreed the Strategy. Cllr Samuels/Clerk were authorised to open an account with TSB at 1% interest and to transfer £21,000 to the new account.

8. To receive a report on community broadband/wifi (Cllr Tarling)
Cllr Tarling had investigated possibilities of connection and provided a report on the costs. The village hall committee would consider whether the cost could be covered and whether the service was necessary.

9. To authorise a debit card for RFO's use in purchase of petty cash items
Proposed Cllr Osborne, seconded Cllr Leech, all in favour

10. Hallmaster administration
Cllr Samuels advised there was some difficulty in ensuring keys were available and collected from hirers therefore the village hall had installed a code lock.
The Council agreed that the costs of installing a blue tooth enabled key box should be investigated for council premises.

2019.11/24 Planning Matters

1. Proposed Location of New Primary School

Agree the consultation response (draft Cllr Osborne)

The response was agreed.

2. Tewkesbury Local Plan – Homelands Farm Rural Business Centre

Agree the consultation response (draft Cllr Tarling circulated)

The response was out of time, but councillors had submitted their own comments.

3. Developer Consultation – Outline plan of 50 houses & community facilities located behind Ashmead Drive – discuss whether meeting with developer required (details circulated)

The Council would review the option of a meeting when an application is submitted.

4. To note Planning Decision - 19/00808/FUL - 14 Gretton Road - Permitted Noted

5. To appoint a representative to the Wingmoor Liaison Forum (details circulated)

Cllr Keyte advised that it was not necessary to attend Forum meetings but that he would arrange a site visit for councillors.

Councillors discussed support to Stoke Orchard PC regarding the Gilder Sewage Sludge Application hearing and agreed the clerk should write in support of their objections.

6. Progress with GDP review and terms of reference for working group

Cllr Tarling proposed terms of reference for the working group to review the GDP. Cllr Keyte was concerned that the review was taking place too soon and requested that the council took advice from Tewkesbury Borough Council. **Cllr Hollaway was asked to facilitate this.**

7. Discuss planning enforcement actions required from Footpaths Working Group report – Charles Church site

The developer appears to have installed a new tarmac footpath which stops short of the limit of their development and does not accord with development plans. Pedestrians are leaving the pavement to walk the road where they cannot be seen by approaching traffic. The Working Group also queried why the junction to the A435 has not been improved.

Standing water building up around the entrance to Brunel Way also needs investigation.

It was not clear whether this was a planning enforcement action or County Highways matter. Clerk to make enquiries

Other issues of fly tipping and damaged sign had been reported.

2019.11/25 War Memorial – to consider quotations, funding and legal requirements

Cllr Tarling reported that he and Cllr Samuels/Cllr Keyte had met with Julian Bagg of Tewkesbury Borough Council to discuss the work allowed under listed building consent and to obtain a specification for the works. Enquiries of the War Memorial Trust revealed that GPC had been offered a grant to restore the lettering in 2014 but this had not been taken up. A new grant application would be required following listed building consent and acceptance of a tender.

2019.11/26 To initiate an In Bloom Group

Cllr Samuels said that some interest has been shown in creating floral displays around the village, looking after planting etc, and he would post something on Facebook.

2019.11/27 The Council may adjourn to discuss a legal matter in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) 1960 Act.

1. Covenant on Land – (Cllr Tarling) – **Clerk to obtain Land Registry documents**
2. Bad debt collection (RFO) – **Cllr Tarling/Samuels to make arrangements for a discussion. It is proposed that monthly payments of £1000 by Standing Order might be necessary.**

2019.11/28 Date of Next Meeting

11th December 2019