**M I N U T E S (subject to agreement at the next council meeting)** of a meeting of Gotherington Parish Council held at 7.30pm, on **Wednesday 13th May 2020** via Conference Call (ConferenceNow) Skype was not used.

Councillors Present: Howard Samuels (Chairman), Beverley Osborne, Simon Tarling, Mavis Rear (Vice Chairman)

Also Present:

Apologies: Borough Councillor Mike Dean

**2020.1/28 Welcome**

The Chair confirmed the meeting quorate, and apologies for absence were received as detailed above.

**2020.1/29To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda below**

None declared.

**2020.1/30 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2020**

The Minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

**2020.1/31 To receive and request Borough Councillor & County Councillor Reports**

**Councillor Mike Dean**

Just a couple of items of interest to report:

Annette Roberts our head of planning has obtained a position closer to where she lives so we have an interim officer picking her workload up until the end of this month, her name is Jeanette Walsh.

You will be aware that collections of garden waste have been reinstated and refuse collection continues to function normally. The council is operating with most of the officer staff working from home and the provision of infrastructure and systems to support this is being put in place. It is quite a big job and the IT departments more than fully employed.

# 2020.1/32 To receive reports from Parish Councillors on any external meetings attended

No Report

**2020.1/33 To receive reports from Working Groups:**

**Finance & Policy**

**Environment – VAS proposal and whether it should be researched by the working group. Carried Forward.**

**Public Rights of Way:** We agreed to ask Vince Larcombe to resume cutting the footpath behind Lawrence’s Meadow and to strim the intruding seasonal growth. Also discussed and agreed to include the paths around the school playing field and the Coffin Path?  It was suggested that Vince Larcombe continue this work for the next three months.

**Cllr. Rear to arrange with Vince Larcombe.**

**Cllr. Tarling reported:**

Persimmon are working on implementing the improvement works as soon as possible. Persimmon have encountered a delay due to GCC’s highway planning department withdrawing the technical approval for the Section 278 agreement which was signed by GCC’s legal agreement team. Persimmon are currently discussing a suitable way.forward which will please GCC’s highway planning department and enable the technical approval to be reinstated.

Also highlighted was the resurfacing of Malleson Road to rectify damage caused by heavy vehicles during construction work

All of the Charles Church South Midlands Management Team are aware of the trigger for the highway improvement works at the Gotherington Cross junction. Their sales department report weekly sales figures to the management team to ensure that no more than 15 houses are occupied. Due to the current circumstances this has resulted in a slowing down of sales and construction on site and therefore we are using this time to resolve the technical approval issue with GCC.

Cllr Tarling to continue to chase Highways and TBC. And if no replies over the next couple of days will escalate within Highways and TBC.

**Ownership of Village Hall with a view to the Hall becoming CIO**

No action at present, to be carried forward

**Recreation: Freeman Field**

It was agreed to ask Wayne Gore to prune hazel nut trees and tidy up other trees/hedges bordering the Hoggin path. Also, to work on strengthening the fence from the playground area to Moat Farm pond.

Wooden slat in picket fence needs replacing, down pipe on RRB loose and guttering on RRB overflows. It was agreed to ask Chris Hollings to undertake this work on behalf of the Council. This may include the access steps depending on discussions as detailed below.

It was agreed to contact Jason Tilley regarding the access steps from FF into adjoining land as to whether they should be repaired or removed and fenced. Also, to bring to the attention of the owners of Moat Farm the tree overhanging onto Freeman field.

**Cllr Samuels to report back on the above issues.**

No decision was taken on the Hoggin path which is in need of TLC, overgrown grass has reduced area to walk on.

It was noted that Wayne Gore is currently engaged in cutting the cricket square on behalf of the Cricket Club.

**RoSPA**

* The timber steps leading to the slide are decayed
* Chain wear on swings needs checking
* Swings need servicing (shackles, bushes etc.)
* Shrinkage of matting, possible trip hazard

These items need attention before play area is reopened. This was agreed to be left to the next meeting.

**Events**

No report at present. It is still hoped to hold some sort of event this year.

**2020.1/34 Public Session** (15 minutes)

**Cllr Tarling** raised the subject of the Cricket clubs wish to use the PC's roller on behalf of Rob Sharp (CC Chairman). It was agreed the Cricket club could use the roller subject to suitable PPE being used.

**2020.1/35 Decision Log**

Was Ratified by all present.

# 2020.1/36 Finance

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

Payments Made Since Last Meeting 11th March 2020

Cleaning (February 2020) £174.50

PATA (Jan, Feb, Mar + Rerun March Payroll) £28.25

GAPTC (Annual subs) £286.18

British Gas (DD) £40.89

TBC (2 \* Brown Bins) £98.00

Garage Work Floor £445.00

Locks for Tennis Courts/Playground £34.32

Loft Installation £549.00

British Gas (DD) £339.86

Locum Duties (Emma Bennett) £130.95

Defibrillator (Battery) £282.00

British Gas (DD) £50.37

British Gas (DD) £187.36

British Gas (DD) £38.55

British Gas (DD) £66.42

Cleaning (March 2020) £184.00

1&1 Internet £17.96

RoSPA (Annual Check) £128.40

IONOS renewal £12.00

**Money in Since Previous Meeting:**

Payments Received Since Last Meeting 11th March 2020

Tennis Cash (Ad Hoc Users) £58.84

JWP Booking via GVH A/C £20.00

JWP Bookings via PayPal £185.05

TBC Precept £14,000.00

TBC Grant £10,000.00

GHN (RRB Rent) £900.00

NB. Replacement lock for RRB wooden gate purchased by Gotherington Cricket Club and installed on May 9th 2020.

The Council is concerned that when the nursery restarts that appropriate actions are taken to reduce the risks of Coronavirus.

1. **To agree the bank reconciliation to 30th April 2020**

The bank reconciliation was £42,500.02

1. **B/F To appoint an Independent Internal Auditor for the 2020/21 accounts**

Cllr Osborne to ask Caroline Ryman if she could be appointed Internal Auditor for 2020/21. If Caroline Ryman was unavailable Councillors agreed the Chair could appoint DKE Audit Services.

4. **Details of grant from TBC**

The council applied for a Covid-19 Small Business Grant for £10,000.00 on the 29th April 2020 and confirmation was received from TBC on the 30th that the grant was approved.

# 2020.1/37 Planning Matters

**20/00202/PIP, Land at The Butts Shutter Lane Gotherington**

The Council did not advise TBC.as originally agreed at the March meeting

**20/00207/FUL Whites Farm, Shutter Lane. 2 properties in garden**

Cllrs discussed the application for the erection of a 2 further infill dwellings. It was agreed that Cllr Tarling would draft a letter to TBC following comments by other councillors which would be incorporated in the final submission. **Cllr Tarling** to submit Gotherington PC’s response.

**19/01071/OUT 50 dwellings proposed on the Meadow (AKA Cook’s Field)**

This is due to be put forward to the TBC Planning committee on June 16th 2020.

**2020.1/38 Malleson Road/ Gotherington Grange Development**

This has been covered in 2020.1/33. Further contact with both Persimmon and Highways is on-going.

**2020.1/39 B/F War Memorial – to consider quotations, funding and legal requirements**

Cllr Tarling advised that no further progress will be possible until Social Distancing is relaxed as the next move is to meet stone masons. No Action possible at present.

**2020.1/40 Clerk Situation**

We have had 2 new applications for the position of Gotherington PC Clerk/RFO and these will be discussed by the Staffing Group. The last applicant did not take up our offer of employment,

**AOB Any Other Business**

It was announced to day by the government that tennis can be resumed but under strict rules. The council discussed this and raised no objections to the tennis courts being reopened. However guide lines would be published on the web site and Facebook pages and appropriate signs displayed on the courts.

Two points were raised by Councillors:

1. should both courts be open for playing at the same time

2. are the courts playable and did the courts need cleaned prior to any playing

These will be put to the Tennis Club for comment before the courts are opened for play.

# 2020.1/41 Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting will be on Wednesday 10th June at 7.30pm via Skype

Signed:………………………………………..

Date:……………………………………………