

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Glatton Parish Council  
Held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2013

Present:

Paul Williams (PW)  
Stephen Smith (SS)  
Brian Hackman (BH)  
Gill Denton (GD)  
Lynette Prain (LP)

4 residents of Glatton attended the meeting

1. There were no apologies

2. Election of Chairman

BH did not wish to be nominated for the position. He expressed his thanks to all previous councillors and clerks that he had worked with during his many years as chairman. PW was elected as chairman (proposed by BH and seconded by LP and GD) PW expressed thanks on behalf of himself and the village to BH for his many years of hard work and stewardship of the Parish Council.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

SS was elected as vice chairman (proposed by LP and seconded by PW)

4. Appointment of Internal Auditor

Following the resignation of Richard Hanwell, James Pugh FCCA was appointed as the internal auditor.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2013 were signed by the chairman as a true record of the proceedings.

6. Matters Arising

i) Trees – the work has been completed on the trees outside Poet's Rowe. SS felt that pollarding had been more severe than he had expected, however the council had been guided by HDC tree officer and now the trees were beginning to sprout they looked less of an "eye sore". The Diamond jubilee tree guard has been installed and the tree is flourishing.

- ii) Culvert on High Haden Road - the fences guarding the road from the brook have been replaced.
- iii) Posts outside Ganymede – the owner of Ganymede was not prepared to paint the posts white, but has installed reflectors on each of the posts which is a big help with visibility.
- iv) Village green – SS has examined the file regarding previous attempts to acquire the land on the B660 known as the “Village Green”. If the council were to pursue the idea of acquiring the land what would be the consequence of the likely costs and liabilities of maintaining the trees? SS to approach Bob Widd to prepare a report on the trees.
- v) No cold calling signs – the old faded signs have been replaced.
- vi) Pot Holes – our new councillor Simon Bywater is doing a tour of the area to investigate the state of the roads. Apart from dips in the road as a result of subsidence outside Shoe String Cottage and Paddock View, the roads are currently in a decent state of repair.

## 7. Speed Calming Measures

PW prepared a report and attended a competitive tendering panel to ask for a grant towards the cost of a build out on Sawtry Road similar to the one in Abbots Ripton. It has been said that we cannot have a hard build out because of the lack of street lights, however the build out in Abbots Ripton does not have street lighting. The presentation appeared to be well received and we are currently waiting for the outcome. Speeding in the whole of the village must be considered, not just Sawtry Road and SS would like the possibility of the due restriction signs both on High Haden Road and Infield Road being moved further back along the road from the village investigated.

## 8. Community Speed Watch

There has been no progress. A request for volunteers via the Glatton web site produced only three volunteers. Community speed watch requires a minimum of three volunteers at any one time. LP to re launch the appeal for volunteers and to contact the speed watch police man to coordinate the people that have already volunteered. Some people are concerned about volunteering because of the possibility of abuse, which is one of the reasons the police recommend teams of three. Community Speed Watch would cover the whole village not just Sawtry Road.

## 9. Finance Report and Annual Return

i) The internal auditor has raised some concerns concerning our lack of a budget and risk assessment. He has suggested that we adopt SLCC Financial regulations. This is a standard document which is a “one size fits all”. We must plan a budget so that we know what our requirements are prior to requesting the precept. Clerk to draft a financial regulations document suitable to our size of council and to prepare a budget for approval at the next meeting. The internal audit having been carried out, the council approved the 2012/2013 annual return and governance statement for submission to the external auditor.

ii) The council having examined the asset register and having considered all risks authorised the clerk to renew the insurance with Zurich to pay the premium.

iii) The council agreed that the clerk’s salary of £600 should be paid on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013.

### Open Meeting

The chairman opened the meeting for those in attendance to raise matters of concern

i) There has been posted on the Glatton web site information concerning an open meeting which is being held by the police on 29<sup>th</sup> May at Hinchingbrooke.

ii) A resident confirmed that he is satisfied with the pot hole repairs that have been carried out.

iii) Unfortunately one resident confirmed that he would be too busy to volunteer for the community speed watch but that he would and has been parking his car on the road which slows drivers down as they negotiate the obstacle. He confirmed that his wife would not be volunteering because of fear of abuse. SS confirmed that some people were under the impression that the council weren’t treating the speeding issue seriously, he wanted people to know that the council were taking the problem seriously but that they were tied by regulations and finance. It is a serious problem but we all need to help tackle it, by contributing and volunteering with the speed watch scheme. The responsibility is with the whole village.

## 10. Correspondence

i) Introduction of Electronic Consultation – The council have been notified that all planning correspondence will be by e mail and that plans and related documents will be on line. This does not take into account the fact that not everyone has internet access and that it is not easy to view the plans on line. The clerk will notify the council that we will require at least one hard copy of planning applications.

ii) We have received an invitation to attend a Town and Parish Council Planning Forum. Clerk to notify that we will not be attending

iii) We have been contacted by HACT, a charity running a ring and ride bus service (formerly Nene and Ouse Community Transport). Their representative was unable to attend our meeting today, but would like to attend a future meeting. Leaflets have been handed to Carole Green.

iv) Two residents have passed to the council information concerning the possibility of establishing a bluebell wood. However the only really suitable area of land is in private ownership, and so the council will not be pursuing this idea.

v) The Cambridgeshire Bobby Scheme has sent information concerning their charity with a request for a financial donation. The council expressed an interest in the scheme and would like to consider it further. Clerk to send the web link to members. The council would like to support Caresco and the Citizens Advice Bureau with a donation of £25.00 to each. Clerk to arrange this.

vi) We have been contacted by Cambridgeshire Archives to ask whether we would be interested in archiving our Parish Council records. Clerk to respond to register our interest.

## Any Other Business

Automatic Defibrillator – BH is continuing with his investigations. The machines are easy to use and SS has volunteered training. Volunteers would not be required as it would be available to all. It would be located in a box outside the village hall with an access code. However being in a public place, it may be open to vandalism. The cost of the machine would be via fund raising with the possibility of a grant. The main question is whether it would be worth while considering the size of the population of Glatton.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm