

Minutes of the Meeting of Glatton Parish Council Held on 9th December 2015

Present:

Paul Williams (PW)

Stephen Smith (SS)

Brian Hackman (BH)

Gill Denton

4 residents of Glatton attended the meeting

1. Apologies

Paul Cole sent his apologies.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2015 were signed by the chairman as a true record of proceedings.

3. Matters Arising

8(iii) - The clerk contacted HDC to confirm that the map was not colour coded and was asked to colour the areas on the map which the Parish Council maintained and give details of the appointed grass cutting contractor. This was completed and returned.

4. Speed Calming and Community Speed Watch Report

The new reduced speed limits are in place. Speed Watch sessions are continuing on both B660 and Sawtry Road. The community speed watch signs have also been replaced with a new style sign.

5. National Lottery Funding for Speed Watch Equipment

PC is applying for National Lottery funding to purchase speed watch equipment. It will be necessary for any money to be paid through the Parish Council. In the absence of PC this matter will be carried over to the next meeting.

6. Village Green

The parcel of land adjacent to the B660 known as the Village Green has on 30th October 2015 been officially registered on the Register of Town and Village Greens Number HGV60. The registration documents can be viewed on the Glatton web site. Thank you to all the residents who completed questionnaires. Clerk to write to Hugh Appleby who made the original application to inform him.

The land is owned by Cambridgeshire County Council who is responsible for the maintenance of the trees. Bob Widd to be asked for advice on the current condition of the trees.

7. Stones on the verge at Infield Lodge, Infield Road

Jo Challis (Highways Officer) has been notified about these stones. The response is that they will be tolerated if they are painted white, regular shape and set a uniform distance from the verge, Budget constraints mean that they can no longer justify putting in the white plastic posts unless there is persistent over run damage to the verge. The stones in question however are all very irregular shapes, brown and hard to see. PW has taken photographs of the stones in question and responded to Jo Challis. Her further response is awaited.

The metal grill in the culvert running alongside B660 has debris building up behind it. If the grill breaks under the weight of the debris then the road will flood. The owners of Roundhills Farm are believed to have installed the grill. SS to investigate and attempt to obtain contact details of the current owners so that they be approached to clear the debris.

8. Finance Report

The balance in the current account is £894.93 and the balance in the Business Reserve Account is £7,592.46. It is agreed that a charitable donation of £30.00 should be given to Caresco. The grass cutting for next season will remain at the same price of £2,070.00. Agreed that wish to renew the grass cutting at that price for the next season 2016.

The external audit for the year ended 31/3/15 has been completed, and the notice of conclusion was displayed as required. The external auditor made the following comment “Section 1 Box 9: Information received from the Body indicates that the assets have been revalued to current insurance value. Please note that proper practice, as specified in the Practitioners’ Guide, only requires that assets are recorded at their original cost and no adjustment is required until disposal. Where original cost is not known a proxy such as insurance value may be used but this value should remain constant throughout the period of ownership and not be revised to reflect current values.”

9. Budget and Precept

A copy of the budget is attached. Agreed to hold the precept at the same amount as last year. Clerk to apply for a precept of £4,000. Proposed by BH and seconded by SS.

10. Correspondence

Notification received from the Local Government Boundary Commission that there is a further limited consultation for the Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire and the final recommendations will now be published on 9th February 2016.

PW and Helen Ford attended a training event for planning on 30th November 2015 at Huntingdon District Council. Clerk to forward the notes from the training session to all councillors.

Clerk has received notification that as from 1st April 2016 all Parish Council planning application will be by e-consultation and there will be no hard copies sent after this date.

Open Meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting for those in attendance to raise any matters of concern.

i) Pot holes have appeared at the top of High Haden Road, and also on Sawtry Road opposite the farm entrance. Clerk to report.

ii) The section of Infield Road, running alongside the Village Green is being used as a cut through to avoid the cross roads at the end of Sawtry Road. There isn't a "Give Way" sign at the end of this road. Also on occasion large lorries have been known to park there overnight. Clerk to report to Jo Challis the Highways Officer to discover whether there is any possibility of making this road "Access Only" and preventing overnight parking.

iii) It is understood that there is money available from Cambridgeshire County Council to help with the cost of grass cutting. Clerk to investigate.

iv) Clerk is a member of SLCC. CALPAC is an alternative and is especially useful when it comes to the training needs of new councillors. Anticipate that there will be two new councillors after the May election and a membership of CALPAC will be reconsidered at that point.

11. AOB

i) The telephone box has been painted by Roger Allen. Clerk to send a note of thanks.

Possible uses of the telephone box are as a book exchange, or as a possible location for a defibrillator machine. Understand that the cost has come down and is now around £1,000. Agree to investigate this in principle.

ii) There is a meeting of the Local Joint Forum at Huntingdon District Council offices on 11th Jan 2016. Unfortunately no one is able to attend.

iii) There has been a lot of crime in the area recently especially in Great Gidding. The church roof in Glatton has an alarm. Everyone must remain vigilant.

12. Date of next meeting – TBA

Meeting closed at 8.10pm