

Minutes of the Meeting of Glatton Parish Council  
Held on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2013

Present:

Paul Williams (PW)

Stephen Smith (SS)

Brian Hackman (BH)

Lynette Prain (LP)

Gill Denton (GD)

2 residents of Glatton attended the meeting

Simon Bywater, Councillor attended the meeting

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2013 were signed by the chairman as a true record of proceedings.

3. Matters Arising

Village Green - SS has asked Bob Widd to have a look at the trees on the piece of land known locally as the village green. Unfortunately Bob is currently very busy and hasn't had an opportunity prior to this meeting. SS however believes that the land in question is a piece of land on a busy road and not suitable as a village green and that the piece of land by the church which is in the ownership of the parish is much more suitable and safer for children to play on. Also the liability for the large trees which are known to have issues may be too onerous.

4. Speed Calming Measures

Unfortunately the bid for funding speed calming measures has been unsuccessful. We are currently on a reserve list and if it becomes impossible to implement any of the approved bids

then it may be possible to proceed with our bid. It is anticipated that there will be a budget for minor improvements in 2014/2015 and we may apply again. We would be able to go ahead if we were in a position to fund the project ourselves, however at the current time we do not have the funds. We are going ahead with the community speed watch imitative and depending on how successful that is we will consider whether we proceed with an application for funding in the next cycle. Simon Bywater will put us in touch with Susan Piper who can advise on the types of traffic calming measures that are available to us and the costs involved. SS is to contact Steve Dighton to understand why the bid failed and what we need to do to improve the chances of funding in the future. Simon Bywater happy to help us pursue this.

## 5. Finance Report

The donations to Citizens Advice Bureau and to Caresco of £25.00 to each have now been made. The balance in the current account is £897.03 and in the business reserve account is £6882.59. The financial regulations and budget will be ready for approval at the next meeting so that we will be in a position to ascertain our precept request. We cannot build reserves but we can include in the budget an amount to help us complete the traffic calming measures which the whole village would like to be implemented.

## 6. Correspondence

i) Response from D. Tysoe (councillor) to the draft local plan consultation. LP would like it to be noted that more houses in Sawtry mean more traffic through Glatton which impacts on our village.

ii) Letter from HDC that the financial support which was received last year to mitigate the impact following changes to housing benefit is not likely to be available this year. In our case the Parish grant was £31.00.

iii) E mail correspondence from Richard Anderson at Cambridgeshire/ Huntingdon Archives concerning the possible storage of records. There is no cost for the deposit or storage of the records. The only cost is for card covered bound wallets at £5.00 each. Clerk to pursue this.

## 7. Open Meeting

PW opened the meeting for those in attendance to raise matters of concern.

i) There has been a significant increase in people leaving dog poo bags along the verges. GD is picking up several per day and disposing of them. We don't have a specific dog poo bin in the village. There is £1,000 fine for littering, so if anyone sees this happening a quiet word is probably the best approach initially. Carole Green will put something on the web site.

ii) Concern about the lack of people prepared to volunteer in the village and concerning a big hole that may potentially occur on the Parish Council when LP and BH are successful with their house sales and leave the village. PW reported that there are some fresh faces helping the Village Hall Committee and so hopefully some of these people will step forward when the need arises.

## 8. AOB

i) Grass Cutting – BH doesn't think this is going very well this season. PW has recently completed an extra cut on the village green. Andy Davis agreed to cut the grass twice per month during the growing season, although this wasn't required during the very hot spell. He has charged for one cut this year, although is always quite slow with billing. Clerk to contact him.

ii) Great Fen Project – BH has received correspondence from the Great Fen Project and would like to invite them to a meeting to find out more about what they are doing.

LP left the meeting

## 9. Planning Application at White Roses, Sawtry Road

SS – refusal. We must protect the village and protect the quality of the space it offers. It is important to maintain the quality of the village.

PW – refusal. In the conservation area we must protect the inter house spacing because that is the character of Glatton.

BH – refusal. The proposed house is squashed onto the garden of the cottage.

GD – refusal. The proposed house is too close, and will take away from the listed building.

## 10. Date of next Meeting – TBA

The meeting close at 7.40pm