

Minutes of the Meeting of Glatton Parish Council  
Held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Present:

Paul Williams (PW)

Stephen Smith (SS)

Brian Hackman (BH)

Lynette Prain (LP)

Gill Denton (GD)

1 resident of Glatton (Paul Cole) attended the meeting in order to present a community speed watch report to the councillors.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2013 were signed by the chairman as a true record of proceedings.

3. Matters Arising

SS has as yet been unsuccessful in his attempts to contact Steve Dighton but will continue to pursue this matter.

4. Open Meeting

PW suspended the meeting in order for Paul Cole (resident) to present the community speed watch report:

There are 8 volunteers in the group and there have been 17 sessions since August. Paul handed out a summary of the data. The sessions have taken place predominately on Sawtry Road, with one session taking place on High Haden Road. 1,200 cars have passed through the speed watch, with approximately 18% of vehicles travelling in excess of 30 miles per hour. Traffic travelling through the speed watch increased by about 50% in school term time. Any car travelling at 35 miles per hour or above should receive a letter from the police and any vehicle

caught travelling at extreme speed the police will take immediate action with a visit to the offending driver. The highest speed recorded in Sawtry Road is 59 miles per hour. Unfortunately it has come to light that our speed watch group had not been correctly registered. This has now been rectified, and there has been an apology from the police, but disappointingly no action has or can be taken in respect of the vehicles speeding up to the point of registration. Going forward the data from the speed watch session is e mailed to the police and the correct action will be taken immediately.

It has also become clear that we need to recruit more volunteers to the group who will require to be trained by the police.

Currently the group is allowed to monitor the 30 mile per hour areas on Sawtry Road and High Haden Road. Paul has made an enquiry to the police regarding permission to monitor 40 mile per hour area on Infield Road and is awaiting a response. We will continue with the speed watch and try to recruit more volunteers. Councillors would like to investigate permanent speed community watch signage.

Paul Cole left the meeting.

#### 5. Grass Cutting Contract

Grass cutting this season has been totally unsatisfactory, with the grass having been cut once or twice at the beginning of the season. Clerk has attempted to contact Mr Davis on numerous occasions without success and believes that he is no longer operating. Clerk is currently in the process of obtaining three quotes for the 2014 season. The company that we eventually appoint will be required to have public liability insurance. Enquiry to Sawtry Parish Clerk as to who cuts the grass in Sawtry. PW will also make an enquiry about taking out public liability insurance himself and provide a quote for grass cutting.

#### 6. External Auditors Report

The external audit has now been completed. Attention has been brought to significant weaknesses in relation to the

assessment of significant risks and the budgetary process. We must ensure that action is taken to address these areas of weakness in a timely manner.

#### 7. Financial Regulations

Clerk has prepared a set of financial regulations which the council approve and adopt. Proposed by PW and seconded by BH.

#### 8. Risk Management Report

Clerk appointed as RFO. Proposed by LP and seconded by SS. Clerk prepared the risk management report which was approved.

#### 9. Budget and Precept

The financial report – there is a balance of £897.03 in the current account and £6,883.48 in the business reserve account. Council approved the payment of £48.00 for the clerk to renew membership of SLCC. Clerk presented the budget for 2014-2015. The budget includes £750.00 should there be a contested election in the next year (especially as two of the councillors have their houses on the market for sale). It also includes £3,000 for grass cutting which is the worst case scenario. We do have a substantial reserve in the bank, but this will probably be required for traffic calming and tree maintenance. The council approve the precept request at £3,700. Proposed by LP and seconded by SS.

#### 10. Correspondence

i) One box of records has been collected by Richard Anderson for archiving. He suggested that the cost for binding of these documents should amount to no more than £40.00 (this amount to be included in the budget). The records that were sent dated back only to September 1984, leaving a big gap in the records and history of Glatton between 1894-1984. Clerk to make further enquires as to where these records might be.

ii) Letter from Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner, concerning the launch of neighbourhood alert. It is free to sign up to members of the public. Clerk to pass this Carole.

iii) The local carers support team are running information stands in a variety of local places, including Huntingdon library, to give information on rights, advice and support to carers. This letter has been passed to Carole for publication on the web site.

iv) Application to register land on B660 as a village green. This application was first made in 2010. We have to provide evidence that the land was used by a significant number of inhabitants as of right in lawful sports and pastimes for a period of 20 years. Clerk has asked whether as the land would still be in the ownership of the Highways Authority and registered as a village green, who would be responsible for the trees. Also some of the inhabitants who gave evidence before and have now left the village, whether their previous evidence can be supported by people who have not lived in the village for twenty years. General discussion as to whether we would qualify as really the land is too small for organised sports such as cricket or football. We would like to protect the land as a village green to prevent future development of the land. There is a preliminary report regarding the state of the trees on this land, and most of the trees are diseased and there will be considerable expense in the near future.

## 11. AOB

i) Pot Holes – especially outside Paddock View on High Haden Road. Clerk to register the pot holes on the HDC web site.

ii) Fly Tipping – At top of High Haden Road, in the entrance of the farm on the right hand side, one particular car owner stops there, has his lunch and throws all the rubbish into the ditch. LP to get car registration and report to the council and to the police.

PW presented a framed certificate of appreciation to BW for his many years of hard work on behalf of Glatton Village.

10. Date of Next Meeting – TBA

The meeting closed at 8.15pm