

Minutes of the Meeting of Glatton Parish Council Held on 3rd September 2014

Present:

Paul Williams (PW)

Stephen Smith (SS)

Brian Hackman (BH)

Gill Denton (GD)

Paul Cole (PC)

3 residents of Glatton attended the meeting.

Following the resignation of Lynette Prain, Paul Cole has been co opted as a new councillor. PW welcomed PC to the council.

1. Apologies

BH sent his apologies.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 14th May 2014 were signed by the chairman as a true record of proceedings.

3. Matters Arising

Matter 11(iii) - PW has spoken to the owner of the property regarding the removal of the white concrete blocks protecting the grass verges without success.

Matter 10(ii) – Clerk has responded to Kimbolton and Stonely Parish council confirming that Glatton would like to join. No further response has been received.

Matter 11(iv) – Further bulb planting is not a priority at the moment.

4. Revised Code of Conduct

SS proposed that the New Standards Regime and Code of Conduct, identical to the one formally accepted by the District

Council at its meeting held on 30th April 2014 be adopted. PC seconded. The council unanimously adopted the new code of conduct. It is now necessary for all members to complete the register of members' interests to be returned to HDC.

5. Community Speed Watch Report

There is a new structure in place which required the volunteers to be retrained by the police. This has now been completed. Three more volunteers have joined the group which spreads the work load and more volunteers would be welcome and can be trained by PC. The village now has to share the speed watch equipment with Wansford and so Glatton has the equipment on a fortnightly basis. A third village may also join the rota, which means less availability for Glatton.

There has also been a safety assessment and speed watch can now be operated in the 40 mile per hour section on Infield Road and our coordinator is happy to support any application to reduce the 40 mph speed limit to 30 mph. Since restarting there have been several sessions on Infield Road and two sessions on High Haden Road. The evidence shows that on Infield Road more than 50% of the traffic is travelling below 33 mph and so would not be affected by any speed limit change. The majority of the traffic is travelling within the 40mph speed limit, although there have been a small amount travelling at excessive speeds of up to 60mph, and a couple of near miss accidents at the junction have been witnessed.

On a recent survey carried out via the Glatton web site when asked the question would they like the speed limit on Infield Road reduced from 40mph to 30 mph, 27 out of 29 respondents stated that they would like the speed to be reduced.

The trial of the vehicle activated speed sign, although it collected quite a lot of data, did not slow the traffic. Community speed watch and people getting letters makes a difference and our coordinator has said that if we produce the evidence he will back that up with police.

Another issue is the speed of vehicles on High Haden Road past the livery and horse riders using the road. The cost of signs on

the verge is very expensive. However signs on private land are not chargeable by Highways. If the livery owners speak to nearby land owners there would be a possibility of erecting some warning signs on private land.

6. Local Highways Improvement Bid

Apply for reduction of speed limit on Infield Road from 40mph to 30mph which will cost £3,000 and painted roundels and dog tooth paint marking with extra signage on all four entrances to Glatton at a cost of £1,000 each. Total cost will be £7,000 with a contribution from Glatton of up to 50% (£3,500). Clerk to submit application.

7. Village Green

Evidence to support the application to register the land on B660 as a village green has been submitted and notices to that effect have been placed on the village green. Any objection must be received on or before 1st October and will be disclosed for any comment. If there are no objections then the land will be registered as a village green. The Highways Authority will continue to own the land and will continue to be responsible for the trees.

8. Hedges

There are several overhanging tree branches and hedges which obscure sight lines at the junction of High Haden Road and Infield Road and a overgrown hedge beyond White Roses towards Sawtry. It is agreed that PW will approach Bob Widd to provide a report and a quote to prune the necessary trees and hedges.

9. Cold Calling Signs

Sawtry Road and Infield Road do not currently meet the necessary criteria to justify setting them up as cold calling zones.

10. Finance Report/Budget

The balance in the current account is £808.73 and in the business reserve account is £9,586.36. The external auditors report has been returned. The auditor drew attention to significant weakness in relation to the budget but recognised that action has been taken to address this for 2014-2015. The audit is currently being displayed on the village hall notice board and is available for a small charge.

11. Correspondence

i) North Hunts Community Car Scheme – Provide transport for elderly, disabled and those unable to access public transport. Carole will put this on the web site. Clerk asked to send a donation of £50.00 to North Hunts Car Scheme and £25.00 to Caresco.

ii) Carole Green has put information on the web site concerning an online consultation on Household Recycling Services which will run to Friday 26th September.

Open Meeting

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

i) Pot holes on High Haden Road have not yet been repaired even though they have been marked up for repairs for several months now. Clerk to contact HDC to enquire on the progress.

ii) Speeding motor bikes – Speed watch can arrange to set up when the motor bike club is in the area, however no motorbikes have been caught exceeding the speed by speed watch.

iii) Roy expressed his thanks for the medal presented to him at the D Day commemoration.

iv) Many comments from residents have been received expressing the opinion that speed watch is making a difference.

12. Any Other Business

GD is considering retirement as a councillor, but has been persuaded to continue.

13. Date of next meeting - TBA

Meeting closed at 8.05pm