

Minutes of the Griston Parish Council meeting held on
Friday 7th July 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in the back room at the Wagon & Horses Public House

Present:- Cllr Rose Woolhouse (Chairman), Cllr Nicky Hornsey, Cllr Tracy Johnson,
Cllr Peter Ginger, Cllr David Barnett and Cllr Marie McGuinness

Other Members Present:- 4 members of the Public, PCSO Damian Wicks and PCSO Dion
Phillips

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no apologies to be received.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda

There were no Interests to be received.

3. To confirm and accept the minutes of the meeting held on July 7th 2017

The minutes of the meetings had been circulated. Cllr Hornsey proposed that the minutes of July 7th be accepted as accurate records of the meetings, seconded by Cllr Woolhouse and carried, so the Chairman signed them as true copies.

4. To discuss any matters from the minutes of July (not on the agenda)

Regarding the property on Church Road, the fence follows the boundary line. The bus shelter was built with Highways permission. Highways will be informed that there is partial infringement on the land and a letter will be sent.

Regarding the Babes In The Wood Festival, the £1,000 loan can be repaid to the Parish Council and the Clerk received a cheque for this amount. On the Recreation Ground retention of a 6' fence around the play ground is required and this job will be carried out by Cllr Barnett and Cllr Ginger.

The Chairman suspended the Parish Council meeting for the Public Participation Period.

Highways will need to be contacted regarding the verge on Long Meadow Close and Church Road because work was done to sort out an electric problem but the verge has been left in a mess.

Those present commented on the non attendance of Cllrs Bowes and Cowen, even though they are invited to the meetings.

The Chairman closed the Public Participation Period and resumed the Parish Council meeting.

5. To discuss the Parish Councillor vacancy

The person that had applied to become a Parish Councillor has decided not to become a Parish Councillor now. So the Parish Councillors will continue to try to get the vacancy filled.

6. To discuss the recreation ground

Purchase of new zip wire seat, purchase of stakes for the orchard, Recreation Ground Fencing and to discuss the Recreation play equipment report.

In the report, there is no item that is classed more than moderate risk. Nothing seems to be dangerous. A few repairs have been done. The existing cushion flooring needs to be removed and de-weeding needs to be done. Then it needs to be replaced with a new membrane and new cushion floor, which will probably cost about £300.00. Cllr Barnett thought a gardener should be approached and advice sought regarding suppliers and cost. As a skip will be needed Cllr McGuinness will speak to Pit Skips to see if she can negotiate a discounted price. The Parish Council will be ordering the cushion flooring and membrane and the cost will be about £1,000.00. Cllr Barnett is keen to attend a course on playground inspections. It is now urgent to get the materials ordered. The Parish Council agreed that Cllr Barnett can go ahead and order what is needed. He will get some help from a resident present at the meeting.

7. To discuss Correspondence

There was no correspondence to discuss. The Clerks & Councils Direct magazine will be circulated.

8. To discuss the maintenance of the village

The weeds and the nettles outside the Quantrill site have now been cut. A letter will be sent to SCWS asking that the nettles be cut back that are impinging on the pavement and reducing the width of the footpath on Chapel Road.

There is a dog fouling problem in the village, so the Breckland Dog Warden will be contacted.

9. To discuss Highways Matters and Speeding within the village

The person who had been parking a van dangerously on a corner has been spoken to and this is not occurring now. There is speeding on Chapel Road and Manor Road, plus a few others. PCSO Wicks is responsible for tackling the speeding issues in the village. He, along with PCSO Phillips has to cover 280 square miles, which involves about 33 rural villages. The 2 PCSOs present spoke about their work. They reported that the speed safety camera van can come and carry out some speed checks. But evidence needs to be gathered to prove there is a problem. Firstly the situation will have to be 'risk assessed'. Regarding vehicles parking on corners, not a great deal can be done about it. Untaxed vehicles were discussed and the advice was to report it on the Breckland Council website. Funding for a SAM2 sign will be investigated.

10. To discuss Council stationery

The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council has its own stationery printed with a Logo on it. She proposed that the Village Sigh be used as the Logo. This proposal was voted on and was carried but was not unanimous. 100 sheets would cost £21.60 to get printed.

11. To receive an update on the land purchase

Cllr Woolhouse has received a draft copy of the Transfer paperwork. Cllr Woolhouse proposed the £12,000.00 charge be paid, seconded by Cllr Johnson and carried unanimously.

12. To receive crime figures from the SNAP meeting, if available

There had been 5 crimes reported during the past 12 months.

There had been 1 burglary, but not a dwelling. There had been 1 instance of Harassment.

There had been 2 instances of Criminal Damage, businesses. They have been Filed. There has been 1 Theft of Heating Oil. It has been Filed.

13. To authorize financial payments

Cllr Woolhouse proposed the following necessary financial payments be authorized, seconded by Cllr McGuinness and carried:-

Mazars LLP (external audit) £120.00, Playdale Playgrounds Ltd £86.81, F W Myhill & Son Ltd £35.42.

Cllr Woolhouse proposed that there be a Maintenance Fund of £100.00, seconded by Cllr Hornsey. This would allow urgent payments to be made, up to £100.00 without the need for a meeting to authorize it.

The Parish Council agreed to allow the Clerk to apply for some funding through the Transparency Code Funding Grant to allow her to obtain some Website training.

14. To discuss the organisation of parish council work, previously described as 6 pillars

The 6 Pillars idea is to be dissolved by the Parish Council. It was decided to form an Employment Sub Committee and the members of this Committee will be Cllr Johnson, Cllr Hornsey and Cllr Woolhouse.

15. To discuss taking forward the Village Appraisal

This is going forward. There will be another meeting soon and it will go on the November agenda.

16. To receive an update on the decommissioned Telephone Box

The telephone box would cost £1.00 to adopt it. However, it was decided that the ongoing maintenance cost of the B.T. Box would be high and it would have to be moved to a different place. So this idea will not go forward and it will not be bought.

17. To discuss grass cutting in the Churchyard

When the contract is up for renewal, the invoices will be sent to the Clerk and if the job was not done well, then some quotes from other companies will be sought. Cllr Barnett proposed that when the current contract is up for renewal, the P.C.C. should be informed that the Parish Council wish to take over the contract. If a new contractor is necessary, then 3 quotes will be obtained.

18. To present the Clerk with a Contract of Employment

The Clerk was given a copy of the contract. She will read it and give Cllr Woolhouse her comments. It will be officially finalised at the November meeting.

19. To receive items for next agenda

- Update on the Skate Park
- Clerk's contract of employment
- Update on the fencing at the bus shelter
- Update on the application for a SAM2 sign
- Village Appraisal
- Council stationery

20. To confirm date, time & venue of meeting in November

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 9th November at 7.30 p.m. in the back room at the Wagon & Horses Public House

There being no other business to discuss, Cllr Woolhouse declared the meeting closed at 9.09 p.m. and thanked everyone for attending.

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Chairman

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Date