

Minutes of the meeting of Griston Parish Council held on Tuesday 1st September 2015 at Angelica Place.

Attending: Malcolm Bellingham (Chairman), David Barnett, Tracey Johnson, Stephanie Merritt-Morling, Andrew Merritt-Morling, Malcolm Newby, Stewart Southgate, Philip Cowen (District Councillor), Don Clarke and one member of the public.

1. Apologies received from PCSO Tonya Winsley.
2. There were no Declarations of Interest
3. The minutes of the meeting of July 7th were confirmed and signed.
4. Matters arising:
 - a) Village sign. Fiona Davies had sent quotes for options, to repair and repaint existing sign £1830, to make a mould and mould a resin sign, paint and lacquer £1980, to make a reusable mould and mould a resin sign, paint and lacquer £2040. Fiona suggested that funding may be available. Philip Cowen said Breckland might be able to offer match funding. Harry Stebbing suggested a cast aluminium sign at a cost of £2524 for single sided or £2954. Don Clarke, who had previously worked on the village sign at Wayland Prison, suggested a steel sign could be made at the prison workshop at a cost of approximately £350 plus a donation to the prison chosen charity. He suggested members look at the Caston sign which had been made at the prison. An initial request to the Governor would be required. Mr Newby asked what the timescale would be, Mr Clarke thought about two months. It was agreed this would work well if the sign was away during the darker months.
 - b) Clerk. There had been no applicants for the position. The Clerk suggested trying the NALC website again and she would also reword the item for The Waylander and the website and put a notice on the notice boards.
 - c) Former MOD land. The Clerk had spoken to the solicitor but he still had no information about the claw back implication. He suggested contacting the MOD solicitor to ask if they would waive the claw back clause as the land was to be used for recreational purposes.
 - d) Griston Community Committee funds. The chairman reported the marquee was now back in the village. The funds had not yet been received as both signatories had been on holiday. Mr Newby asked if the funds would be put into the Council's bank account or kept separate in view of the request that they be ring fenced for "the good of the village". It was felt that this would not be a problem if put into the Council account.
 - e) Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Mrs Merritt-Morling said a co-ordinator would be required. She would put an item together for the website and The Waylander to see how many people were interested.
 - f) Speed Watch Scheme. The Clerk said a minimum of six people were required but PCSO Winsley had suggested if not enough people come forward it might be possible to join with the Caston group if they are willing. An item to be put on website and The Waylander
5. Police. The latest crime figures showed ten crimes five of which were in the village.
6. Recreation ground:
 - a) Annual inspection report. All items requiring attention were low risk, the main items were the matting under the zip wire and erosion by the tunnel.

Mrs Merritt-Morling had received reports of nettles under some equipment.
The Chairman would check on these and the erosion by the tunnel.

b) Fire in litter bin. Following a fire in the litter bin believed to have been caused by a hot barbecue tray it was agreed there should be a “No barbecues” sign.

7. Highways:

a) Damaged verge. The previously reported damaged verge had been checked and there did not appear to be a problem. The Clerk to check with Highways to see if there is a by-law regarding parking on verges.

8. Correspondence:

a) Parish Partnership Scheme. Norfolk County Council sent details of the scheme for 2015/16. Mr Barnett asked if a gate could be provided from Stans Walk to the recreation ground as the fence was continually being damaged. Mr Cowen said he did not think this would meet the criteria. Mr Barnett proposed the cost of installing a gate be investigated, seconded Mr Merritt-Morling. Mr Newby said would this be a kissing gate to allow for pushchair and mobility scooter access. This was agreed and the Clerk asked to obtain prices. The Clerk pointed out permission would have to be obtained from the Ministry of Justice.

9. Planning:

a) J Gulliver application to create a new access at The Manor House had been granted permission.

10. Financial:

10.1 Mr Barnett proposed the following accounts be paid, seconded Mr Southgate

a) Berryman – glass recycling £12.17 plus £9.38 to replace un-cashed cheque

b) Manorcourt Day Centre – hire of room £8

c) RG Maintenance Services – churchyard grass cutting £216

d) Breckland Council – uncontested election £75

e) Pearce & Kemp Ltd – 6 months street light maintenance £100.80 less £36 overpaid on previous contract £64.80

f) Stephanie Merritt-Morling – mileage claim £11.43 paint for dog waste bins £7.45

10.2 Change of Bank Mandate. The clerk distributed Personal Information Forms to new councillors and the Change of Mandate form was signed.

11. Adoption of new Standing Orders. The Clerk informed Councillors the Draft Standing Orders would need a minor amendment in that item 15 b should be that councillor’s summons to a meeting be delivered by email OR by delivery or post, in case of problems with internet, computer etc. Mr Barnett proposed and Mr Newby seconded the Standing Orders with the amendment be adopted.

12. The External Audit had been completed with no problems.

13. AOB:

a) Litter pick. Mrs Merritt-Morling reported that the last litter pick had collected the least amount since the litter picks had begun. The chairman thanked her for organising the litter picks.

b) Events. Mrs Merritt-Morling asked if anything would be organised to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday in 2016. She suggested reviving the carol singing round the village and said she was organising Griston Revival which will be a 50’s event. She thought the council should consider activities and events for Young Griston and also the provision of a defibrillator. She asked if Thompson had a defibrillator and if so did Griston share this. It was confirmed Thompson had one but this was not shared. The Clerk said that

- Ovington Council had purchased their village telephone box and put a defibrillator in it. The previous council had turned down a similar offer but she had now received a further letter from BT and would put this on the agenda for the next meeting. Mrs Johnson said teenagers felt the equipment on the recreation ground was too young for them, but they would like a skatepark.
- c) Former Quantrill site. The chairman said he had visited the site and the company that were clearing the concrete from the site should be finished by mid September.
 - d) The date of the next meeting was set for Tuesday 3rd November.