

Minutes of the meeting of Griston Parish Council held on Monday 8th January 2018 at the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Griston.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

In attendance: David Barnett (Chairman), Tracey Johnson (Vice Chairman), Marie McGuinness, Peter Ginger, Nicky Hornsey, Richard Ottoway (Wayland Partnership) and two members of the public.

1. Apologies were received from Claire Bowes, County Councillor.
2. There were no declarations of interest in any item on the agenda.
3. Minutes of the meeting held 27th November 2017 were confirmed and approved without amendment.
4. Matters arising from the November minutes: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD
 - Skate Park - The Chairman informed the meeting that he had ascertained from Breckland Council that there are no apparent rules or regulations regarding the siting of a skate park, other than noise considerations. It was agreed that DB would go back to Breckland Council for further guidance, particularly regarding use of the recreation ground. A member of the public voiced his concerns over the dangers of the children currently skateboarding on Thompson Road.
 - Item 21 November agenda – it was agreed that the PC would add to the £300 from the Griston Festival to the PCC for electrical work in the Parish Room, up to a further £200.
5. Correspondence received:
 - The Chairman read a letter from George Freeman MP regarding the rat-run between Watton and Thetford, concerned with excessive speeds, traffic levels and HGV's. It was the general opinion of the PC that this was not the reality of the situation. It was agreed to accept the National Playing Field Association membership of £10 for the next year.
 - The Chairman read a letter from Philip Cowan (Breckland Council) offering funding of up to £3897 for play and recreational purposes. It was agreed that we have a need in Griston, DB to reply.
6. The Chairman welcomed Richard Ottoway from The Wayland Partnership. He outlined projects currently underway in the Partnership.
 - i) Dementia garden at Wayland House
 - ii) Job Club offering help with CV writing etc.
 - iii) Community Fridge, for redistribution of unwanted but edible food.
 - iv) Community grants of up to £500 available for young people from a pot of £8000.
 - v) Plans for the Icen Partnership to improve access to Peddars Way

7. There were no planning applications. The PC discussed ways of ensuring a more unified approach in considering future planning applications, and it was suggested by PG that if necessary a meeting should be called to fully discuss any implications.
8. Update regarding purchase of land in Carbrooke Road. The Chairman informed the meeting that Solicitors fees had now risen to £2885. The previous Chairman had been aware of this but had not shared the information with the rest of the Council. The purchase is still waiting for the final MOD sign-off.
9. There were no crime figures available.

10. Financial payments:

i)	Pearce and Kemp (street lighting)	£100.80
ii)	Stationery and ink for the Clerk	£ 36.47
iii)	Citizens Advice Bureau donation	£ 50.00
iv)	Wayland Partnership	£450.00

The Chairman confirmed that, whilst acting as Clerk temporarily, he was able to report that the accounts were in order, and balanced. The budget for the Precept was unanimously agreed at 2.8%.

11. Plans for a playground and land clearance working party were deferred to the next meeting, when, hopefully, the weather will have improved.
12. It was agreed that the accounts would be checked by the PC three times per year, NH agreed to do this in May 2018.
13. Items for inclusion on next agenda:
 - i) Playground working party
 - ii) Land clearance working party
 - iii) Council tax liability on Parish Room

14. Next meeting will be on the 15th March 2018 at 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 8.05pm

