

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON TUESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2017

Present: Councillors: A Holt, Mrs K Hall, M Humphrey, D Humphrey,
Mrs Robinson and Ms Reynolds

Apologies: Councillors Mrs Hunns and Ms Clark

105/17 **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public present

106/17 Minutes of previous meeting held on 3rd October 2017 were confirmed and signed

107/17 There were no additional items for consideration

108/17 None of the Councillors had a personal or prejudicial interest to declare

109/17 **POLICE MONTHLY UPDATE**

They continue to visit rural schools in the area, and have been giving talks with year 5 and 6 pupils on Internet Safety.

PCSO Norton-Smith recently attended the Art Club at the Community Hall and Sports Pavilion and left some Halloween posters with the group so they can put the posters in their windows to state they do not want "Trick or Treaters" at their properties. Hopefully this has helped to reduce any unwanted visitors!

Speed Enforcement is ongoing, and further dates are to be arranged during November. We are still actively seeking volunteers to set up their own Speed Watch Community Groups, in their own or surrounding villages. If you have 3 or 4 volunteers who are interested, please contact the PCSO, and it can be discussed further. Other local villages which have adopted this scheme have been very successful. Their efforts have already had a significant impact on speeding issues in their village. Community Speed Watch Teams can not only educate drivers regarding their speeds, but also provide Police with location and times where Enforcement checks can be undertaken to the best advantage.

CRIMES IN THE GOREFIELD AREA OCTOBER 2017

2 x Burglaries

1 x Arson (not endangering life)

GENERAL CONCERNS

There has been an increase in shed burglaries in some of the north rural areas of Wisbech, where large quantities of tools, and farm machinery batteries have been stolen.

There have also had several reports of theft of domestic heating oil within the rural areas, where full tanks of oil have been stolen.

Hare Coursing is an ongoing problem, and the coursers are often operating on the border of Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire, as it is easier to escape the Police by going cross border into a different county. The Hare Coursers are often in large type 4x4 vehicles, so if you see anything suspicious, please report it to the Police.

There have also been several thefts of lead from rooftops from various building types across Cambridgeshire. Please check buildings regularly for any signs of lead theft, as considerable damage can be caused when this is removed.

Whilst regular Police patrols are undertaken in the rural villages, we encourage the public to report all crimes. By reporting all crimes, it helps to identify the areas of criminality, and we can then determine which areas would benefit from additional Police patrols.

The installation of security lights and CCTV cameras (where possible) are a good deterrent in preventing crime. Further crime prevention advice can be found on the Cambridgeshire Constabulary website.

If you see anything suspicious, or have any information regarding any of these issues, please contact 101, or 999 in an emergency.

110/17 **MATTERS ARISING ON THE AGENDA**

(1) **Highway Matters**

Meeting held at Bellamy Bridge attended by the three Parish Councils (Wisbech St Mary, Parson Drove and Gorefield). The Local Highway officer is to obtain a price for the re-lining of the junction. A LHI application is to be submitted jointly by all three Councils applying for the maximum £10K.

This Parish Council has already put in an LHI application for speed reduction measures for High Road. The Council will wait for the outcome of this before any agreement can be made as to the expenditure to be committed to the Bellamy Bridge project

(2) **Play Equipment**

Latest report points out that the fixing is broken on the back stop of the zip line. The Chairman will inspect this

(3) **Streetlight Gote Lane**

The streetlight contractors have attended this site because the streetlight was reported as on all the time. They were unable to undertake any repairs as a local resident stated that it was in his front garden and refused access. A suggestion was made that the light be taken away.

(4) **Defibrillator Training**

Training session has been arranged for Tuesday 2nd November at 7 pm in the Community Hall.

(5) **Request from a member of the public for a Bus Shelter**

The Council has previously tried to install bus shelters but nowhere suitable was ever found to site one. If a suitable site could be found the Parish Council would be very pleased to get one installed.

(6) **Updating and adoption of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations**

Updated copies of these have been circulated to all Councillors before the meeting. It was unanimously agreed that these updated documents be adopted by the Council.

111/17 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Outreach Councillor Training to be held at Doddington

Three sessions are to be held 18th and 25th January and 1st February. Clerk to confirm to Councillors what topics are to be discussed

E-mail received from Alan Lay our previous Cambs C Councillor stating that he is disappointed to hear about the costs that are to be incurred for the streetlights and he feels Councillor King should fight for non payment for Parish Councils.

Copies of all other correspondence will be circulated to Councillors

112/17 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Received notification from planning enforcement that Thistle Down Farm should be putting in a planning application.

The recycling plant at Chalk Road has been reported to Cambs CC as it comes under comes under their jurisdiction.

Planning applications approved:

F/YR17/0702/F – erection of a 2 storey front and side extension involving demolition of existing rear extension and erection of a detached triple garage with 1 bed annexe above – Peartree House High Side

F/YR17/0712/F – erection of a single storey rear and side extension and 2 storey side extension to existing dwelling involving demolition of garage, sunroom, kitchen and store – Homefield Fendyke Lane

Planning application refused:

F/YR17/0828/O – erection of a dwelling (outline application with all matters reserved) at land west of Bradleys Farm Honey Hill Road

113/17 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Accounts to be paid:

	Cheq No	Nett	VAT	Gross
Fenland DC (rent for Churchill Road allotments)	100922	£50.00	0.00	£50.00
Royal British Legion (Poppy wreaths)	100923	£50.00	0.00	£50.00

Balance of Accounts

Current account	£23,225.16
Business Premium account	£21,161.11

High Interest account

£802.28

£45,188.55

114/17

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Vehicles being parked on the pavement in Gote Lane are causing a nuisance to pedestrians. Another piece to be put in Village Voices on the Parish Council page

Graffiti has been put on the walls of the Bowls Club and several road signs around the village. Highways to be asked to clean up the signs and Councillor M Humphrey will contact the Bowls Club to find out if they will be able to remove the graffiti as it very offensive and several mothers wish to see it removed before their children see it.

Speeding vehicles continue to be a problem at the western end of the village and the bus continues to park on the grass verge and the road is also cracking.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 5th December 2017

Signed Date