

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON TUESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2017

Present: Councillors: Holt, M Humphrey, D Humphrey, Mrs Hall, Mrs Hunns and Ms Reynolds

Apologies: Councillors Walpole, Lay, Ms Clark and King

11/17 **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public present

12/17 Minutes of previous meeting held on 3rd January 2017 were confirmed and signed

13/17 Situation concerning Councillor Walpole to be discussed at item 12

14/17 None of the Councillors had any personal or prejudicial interests to declare

15/17 **POLICE MONTHLY UPDATE**

The Police continue to attend local primary schools at the start and end of school times to engage with the children and parents/guardians. During a recent visit to the school, they were approached by two residents of Gorefield, who have advised that they have recently experienced several incidents of speeding. Whilst they undertake speed enforcement patrols with the Special Constables of Cambridgeshire Police, they are still looking for volunteers to set up their own speed watch community groups. Approximately 4 or 5 volunteers would we been required.

Hare coursing still remains to be a problem in various rural locations. Additional patrols are continuing throughout the rural villages in order to combat this problem.

There have been several incidents recently where number plates have been stolen from cars. Most of these incidents have taken place whilst the cars have been parked on driveways.

Shed burglaries have been an issue over recent weeks, where thieves are mainly stealing power tools. People are asked to try and make their sheds as secure as possible by fitting an alarm, and using a strong hasp and staple – securing with smooth head bolts which cannot be undone with a screwdriver. People could consider painting your house number and post code onto expensive items such as lawnmowers, which make it more difficult for the thieves to sell.

COMMUNITY CONTACT POINT

Will take place on Tuesday 21st February 2017 at 14.00pm – 15.00pm. The main aim of the Community Contact Point is for local residents to have their say on any issues they are having in the area in which they work and live. The Police along with Fenland District Council will be in attendance. A survey can be completed to highlight areas of concern

and can also be found online at :

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WisbechCommunitySafety>.

CRIMES REPORTED IN THE GOREFIELD AREA JANUARY 2017

1 x Burglary

1 x theft of diesel from a motor vehicle

16/17 **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Village Voices

A piece is required for the March addition. Clerk will do this, will include information about Community Contact Point and volunteers for Speed Watch.

Enforcement Issue Cattle Dyke

No information received from Councillor Ms Clark, Councillor M Humphrey will remind her about the issues.

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

(1) **Highway Matters**

Flooding along High Road – the Highways engineer has inspected the location and found that there is no highway drainage in this area. There would have possibly been a ditch where the front of the property is now which has possibly been filled in, this would have been natural drainage for the carriageway. The verge outside the property is now higher than the carriageway and there is no natural drainage to allow water to come off the carriage, which is now causing the water issues.

(2) **Play Equipment**

The Chairman inspected the play equipment and checked items mentioned in the report. He has mended the seat but all the other items mentioned were superficial and no attention was need at the moment.

(3) **Grants for skate park**

Application forms for the Cambridgeshire Communities Innovation Fund and the Lottery have been printed off. Councillor M Humphrey will look at these with a view to making applications for funding.

(4) **Consultation on Removal of BT phone box**

The consultation period has now expired and as there has been no response from Fenland DC the Parish Council is able to go ahead with the adoption of the BT phone box. A contract is to be signed and a payment of £1.00 has to be sent with it. The Chairman signed the contract on behalf of the Parish Council. BT stipulates that the Community Heatbeat Trust should be used to supply the defibrillator, a Powerheart G5 in a locked AED cabinet. A quotation for these has been requested.

18/17 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Copies of all correspondence will be circulated to Councillors

19/17 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning application withdrawn:

F/YR16/1106/F – change of use of 1 bed annexe to 1 bed dwelling involving part demolition of existing building – Annexe at Beechwood Cattle Dyke

Planning Application received:

F/YR17/0011/F – Erection of a 2 storey 3 bed dwelling – Thistledown Farm Cattle Dyke –the Parish Council challenges the point about the existing mobile home as this has been the subject of enforcement and would object to the application as it is development in the open countryside without any justification.

Paperless Notifications

From the 1st July Fenland DC will be e-mailing consultations and no longer be sending paper copies when notifying about planning applications. Clerk will send notification e-mail onto Councils so they can look at the application on the Planning Portal. There is also the option to view them on the screen in the Community Hall.

20/17 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Accounts to be paid:

	Cheq No	Nett	VAT	Gross
BT Adoption of BT phone box	100899	£1.00	£0.00	£1.00

Balance of Accounts

Current account	£32,377.16
Business Premium account	£2,160.57
High Interest account	<u>£802.28</u>
	£35,340.01

21/17 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Nuisance phone calls are a problem but unfortunately there is not a lot the Parish Council can do about them

Large pot holes in Wolf Lane to be reported.

22/17 **Resignation of Councillor Walpole**

Unfortunately as Councillor Walpole has now missed the last 7 meetings it is with regret that the Parish Council will have to accept his resignation. Clerk will contact Fenland DC to put in motion the procedure that has to be gone through before a co-option can take place.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 7th March 2017

Signed Date