

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOREFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL ON TUESDAY 4TH JUNE 2024

Present: Councillors: Mrs Hodgson, M Humphrey, Mrs E Bramley, Thatcher and Mrs N Hempsall,

Councillor S King

Apologies: Councillor G Booth and Mrs D Cuttler

49/24 **Public Participation**

None

50/24 Minutes of meeting held on 7th May 2024 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

51/24 No additional items for consideration

52/24 Councillor Humphrey declared a personal or prejudicial interest in any item concerning the Community Hall as he is a member of the Playing Field Committee and Councillor Mrs Hempsall declared an interest in the item concerning allotments as a family member is a lease holder

53/24 **MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None

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(1) **Highway Matters**

E-mail received from Cambs CC Highways advising that the drainage scheme for Gote Lane is due to be completed in late June and work should be undertaken late September and should take 3 weeks.

(2) **Speed Watch**

There was no report this month as Councillor Mrs Cuttler was unable to attend the meeting.

(3) **Reports from Cambridgeshire and Fenland DC Councillors**

Councillor King reported that he had received the following information regarding the bus service for Gorefield. At present no bus maps are available but has provided a copy of the bus time table. Councillor Seaton who is a representative on the Cambs & Peterborough Combine Authority has asked Councillor King to request Parish Councils to provide details of bus service requirements, Contacting him directly would be appreciated.

This has also been received from the Assistant Director Transport of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority:

“The website link is below and this covers the detail of the 30 new/improved bus services with a short survey.

[Better Buses - Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority \(cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk\)](http://www.cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk)

Councillor Nethsingha will be available on 9th July at 30.30 pm to meet with Parishes and a further meeting is being arranged for all the Parishes concerned to discuss the bus services in the area.

With regard to encroachment along Back Road – this has now been confirmed and it is proposed that Cambs Highways will contact the property owners involved.

Oxford Drive – Tilia Homes are still waiting for the Deed of Grant of Easement but the changes have been approved for the handover land to Fenland DC.

Speed warning signs for school area- will be considered at the Highways and Transport meeting on 2nd July.

Bellamy Bridge – funding is in place to provide new warning signs and road markings and any minor improvements that are identified.

Traffic lights at Sutton Road – work will commence on 10th June to replace the traffic lights and will last for approximately 5 weeks.

Road resurfacing of Church Road, Church End and Gorefield Road is planned to commence on 9th September to 4th October. It was suggested that if this was done during August there would be less disruption to the school.

Gorefield Road Leverington damaged 30 mph sign to be replaced. There is also another one missing Gorefield High Road.

(4) **Quotation for repairs to play equipment**

Received from Online Playgrounds. This covers all the repairs identified in the ROSPA report but also replacement of all the wooden posts. The costs is £11,185.70 which is thought to be too much at this time. To be asked to re-quote to cover only the outstanding repairs necessary.

(5) **Co-Option of Councillors**

Unfortunately Nick Turner was unable to attend this meeting as he is on holiday.

(6) **Allotment inspection report and review of rents**

Several Councillors toured around the allotments and were all be kept in very good condition especially the garden allotments at Churchill Road.

The rents should remain as they are as they are in line with other rents in the area.

55/24 **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

56/24 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Affordable Housing for Households with links to Gorefield

Following on from the presentation last month an information received a long debate was held. Some Councillors were in favour and others were not. So it was agreed that the response should be that a unanimous decision could not be reached and the following points should be noted:

Location of site there are possibly more suitable sites around the village
Number of properties proposed is very excessive for a low growth village
Are social and affordable housing required in the village as there are empty properties in the village at the present time

A public consultation should be undertaken before any planning application is submitted

Local school capacity and village amenities such as public transport which is very limited should be considered

Planning application:

F/YR24/0374/F – Convert integral garage to form additional living accommodation to existing dwelling – Threeways 70 High Road – no objections

57/24 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Certification of Annual Governance and Accounting Statement 2023/24

The Annual Governance statement was completed and approved and the Accounting Statement was approved and both were signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

Account to be paid:

	Cheq No	Nett	VAT	Gross
Community Heartbeat (replacement pads for defibrillators)	101149	£121.95	24.39	£146.34

The internal auditor has suggested that a new accounting system be used so it would be simpler to pass on information in the future. A cloud passed programme called Scribe Accounting has been suggested. The clerk has been using the application for free for a month and is happy with it. The cost ongoing cost will be £12.00 per month paid by direct debit. It was agreed that this should be purchased.

Balance of Accounts

Current account	£6,078.70
Business Premium account	£31,571.72
High Interest account	<u>£5,892.69</u>
	£43,543.11

Chairman suggested that some of the money in the current account be transferred over to the savings account. All agreed that this should be done.

58/24 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Birds Drove large pot holes appearing again.

The Primary school would like to thank the Parish Council and the Chairman for providing the D Day 80 flag and flag pole. The flag is now flying.

Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 2nd July 2024 meeting at 7 pm at Gorefield Church Hall.**

Signed Date