

Gaddesby Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall
on Monday, 2nd April 2012, commencing at 6.45 pm.

Councillors Present

Mr Howard Bakewell – (Chair)
 Mr Neil Shorrocks
 Mr Gordon Bigam

Mrs Jenny Hurst – (Vice Chair)
 Mrs Pat Walton

County Councillor Mr J T Orson
 Mrs Trudy Toon – Clerk to the Council

Mr Peter Pritchard - Gaddesby Parishioner

Action

Apologies – Apologies were received from Borough Councillor Mrs Janet Simpson

Parishioner/Public Time

Mr Peter Pritchard notified Councillors that a new application had been submitted by Westminster Developments for the proposed construction of five new properties at the site at Nether End, 7 Ashby Road, Gaddesby. The Clerk advised Mr Pritchard that the matter would be discussed later in the meeting.

County Councillor Orson advised Councillors that Gaddesby Primary School would be converting to academy status and that a new head teacher had been appointed at Somerby Primary School.

Councillors felt that it was unfortunate that Schools were put in such a position that they had to convert to academy status.

Minutes – Minutes of the previous meeting no's 2011/2012 69-73, having been circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed.

Matters Arising

1. **Gaddesby Village Website** – Councillors were of the opinion that the Gaddesby Village Website was well set out and informative and should be beneficial to parishioners. Councillor Bigam confirmed that he would be happy to have his email address, along with his telephone number included on the site.
2. **Closure of Syston fire station** – The Clerk had emailed the fire services to ask if Gaddesby, Barsby, Ashby Folville and all the surrounding villages would have adequate cover by the fire service if the station at Syston closed and was relocated to Birstall; a reply had yet to be received, the Clerk was asked to contact the fire service again.
3. **Street Light Programme** – Ms Sandra Townson at E.ON had advised the Clerk that they had taken delivery of the conversion trays and that the conversion of the lantern at Baggrave End, Barsby would take place shortly.

Clerk

Matters Arising cont.

- 4. Gaddesby Children's Playground** – The Clerk had forwarded a letter to Mr Rob Hunt, of the Gaddesby Children's Playground Supporters Group, confirming that, in the event of any damage being caused to the gates, fencing or surface of the MUGA, GPC would cover the cost of the necessary repairs. Mr Hunt had subsequently forwarded the letter to Groundwork UK, along with the final invoice in relation to the MUGA project.
- 5. LCC, Melton West Community Forum** – Notification had been received that a further £10,000.00 would be available from the Melton West Community Forum and that any proposals/project ideas should be submitted to LCC by Tuesday, 8th May 2012. Following which the Community Forum Budget Decision Evening would take place on Tuesday, 29th May 2012; venue to be confirmed nearer the time.
- 6. Bus Shelter in Barsby** – Mr Alex Stroud had advised the Clerk that he had referred the proposal from GPC to the agents for the Ashby Carington Estate, Brown and Co, who would subsequently bring the matter to the attention of the trustees of the Estate. A reply had yet to be received from Brown and Co, so Councillor Shorrock was asked to remind Mr Stroud of the matter and to advise him that the project had to be completed by 30th June 2012.
- 7. Unspent Funds : Gaddesby Recreation Committee** – As the refurbishment of the Gaddesby Children's Play Area had been completed, the Clerk was asked to contact the key members of the Gaddesby Recreation Committee, either Mr Jeff Bodycote or Mr Simon Hargrave to ask them how they would like to use the remaining funds in their committee bank account. It was suggested that they could either use the unspent funds to purchase a new notice board for Gaddesby or that they could put the funds into the Village Hall account.
- 8. MBC, Parish Council Liaison** – Minutes of the last Parish Council Liaison meeting held on Monday, 23rd January 2012 had been received and were circulated to Councillors. Notification had been received from MBC that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday, 17th July 2012 at 7.00pm in the Council Offices, Parkside. Councillor Bakewell agreed to attend on behalf of GPC.
- 9. Replacement of trees in Ashby Folville** – Councillors were pleased to note that the beech tree adjacent to the cricket pitch in Ashby Folville had been replaced. However, it remained unclear if the horse chestnuts would be replaced. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Richard Spooner, the Conservation Officer at MBC, to ask if it was the intention of the Ashby Carington Estate to replace the horse chestnuts.

Councillor
Shorrock

Clerk

Councillor
Bakewell

Clerk

Correspondence

- 1. Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils** – A letter had been received from the Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils (LRALC) outlining the benefits of becoming a member of the Association. The letter advised that the total membership fee would be £196.24 from 01.04.12 to 31.03.13. Councillors discussed the matter but resolved not to join at the present time.

Correspondence cont.

2. LCC, Broadband Leicestershire – Notification had been received from LCC to advise that they are working with a wide range of public, private and voluntary sector partners to improve broadband connectivity across the County. It was hoped that all Leicestershire premises would have access to super-fast broadband by 2017, subject to funding, with at least 90% connected by 2015. As part of the LCC broadband Leicestershire programme, a household and business survey had been developed. Parishioners and business were being encouraged to complete the survey so that LCC are able to identify the areas with poor connectivity. The survey and further information can be obtained on the LCC website at www.leics.gov.uk/broadband. Councillors noted the information received, but were already aware of the programme and had individually responded to the survey.

3. MBC, Parish Council Priorities – An email had been received from Ms Emma Trahearn at MBC to advise that in her role as Community Policy Officer, she develops and implements strategies, objectives and council wide policies and procedures. In addition to reviewing and monitoring existing strategies and procedures, to ensure consistency across the Council. As part of the role, Ms Trahearn is to refresh the Sustainable Community Strategy which includes looking at all Parish Plans developed and looking at their priorities to see if they have changed, have been achieved or remain the same. The Clerk was asked to advise Ms Trahearn that GPC do not have a Parish Plan.

Clerk

Correspondence was made available to Councillors.

Planning Matters

a. Ridgemere, 7 Park Hill, Gaddesby – Applications for full planning consent and conservation area consent, submitted by Mr and Mrs M Jones, for the proposed demolition of the existing garage and the proposed construction of a replacement double garage. Councillors resolved to support the application.

Clerk

‘For Information Only’

b. Grooms Cottage, 4 Folville Street, Ashby Folville – Application submitted by Mr Gordon Bigam, for listed building consent, for the proposal to remove one internal wall to the property to form a larger living room.

c. St. Luke’s Church, Church Lane, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Mr David Wyrko, for works to trees within a conservation area, for the proposed felling of one Acacia tree situated at the west end of the churchyard at St. Luke’s Church. Councillors resolved to support the application.

Clerk

d. Nether End, 7 Ashby Road, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Westminster Developments for the proposed construction of five new properties. A replacement planning application had been received which showed minor amendments to the original plan. Councillors were of the opinion that the previous concerns submitted to MBC still applied, with the addition of several other observations; namely that although plot one no longer overlooks the properties onto Church Lane, the large property on plot four does still overlook these existing properties. Additionally, that outline planning permission was originally granted for the construction of five properties including the refurbishment of the cottage on the site, so the new application for five properties is an overcrowding of the site. The Clerk would forward the comments to MBC.

Clerk

Planning Decisions

- a. Messengers Lodge Farm, Rotherby Lane, Gaddesby** – Application submitted by M.R and M Taylor for a proposed new farm driveway, has been granted planning permission by MBC.
- b. ‘Wisteria’, One Main Street, Gaddesby** – Application submitted by Mr David Batchelor, for the proposed crown reduction of one Cedar, one Bramley apple and one Horse Chestnut tree, all by one to two metres, has been granted consent to work on trees by MBC.

Representative Reports

- 1. Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall** – It was understood that the Spring Supper would be held on Thursday, 19th April 2012 in the Parish Hall.
- 2. Barsby Village Hall Green** – Councillor Hurst reported that a committee meeting had been held recently to discuss future events; these events included a cheese and wine feast evening, a skittles evening and the queen’s diamond jubilee celebrations.
- 3. Gaddesby Village Hall** – Councillor Bakewell reported that currently the Village Hall lettings were good and that unfortunately the sewage pump problem was ongoing. Councillor Bakewell also reported that the Hall hire fees would be increased and that a new electricity meter was being fitted. Additionally, there had not been any further problems with the Gaddesby School Community committee (GSC) and that the Village Hall AGM would take place on Monday, 28th May 2012, when it was hoped that Gaddesby parishioners would attend.

Finance

Accounts paid since the last meeting:

Ashby and Barsby Village Hall – Hire of Hall, 5 meetings @ £12.00 each, total £60.00.
 Gaddesby Village Hall – Hire of Hall, 7 meetings @ £12.00 each, total £84.00.
 St. Mary’s Ashby Folville, PCC – Churchyard maintenance grant, total £75.00.
 St Luke’s Gaddesby, PCC – Churchyard maintenance grant, total £75.00.
 Barsby Village Hall Green – Green maintenance grant, total £75.00.
 E.ON UK Energy Services – Street light maintenance, ¼ end 31st March 2012, £176.23 plus 20% VAT £35.25, total £211.48.
 Leicestershire and Rutland Playing Fields Association – 2012/2013 annual subscription, total £14.00.

Accounts for payment:

Barsby Village Charity – General maintenance grant, total £300.00.
 Mr P R Featherstone – Extension to the paled fencing and new disabled access ramp at the Gaddesby Children’s Play Area, £1660.00 plus £332.00 VAT, total £1992.00.
 Trudy.M.Toon – Clerks salary and expenses from 01.01.12 to 31.03.12, salary £1163.76 plus expenses £114.77, total £1278.14.

The Clerk asked Councillors if it was their wish that GPC should join the MBC Green Waste Club, in order to obtain a green compost wheelie bin for use at the Gaddesby Children’s Play Area. Although Councillors felt that it was yet another expense, they were of the opinion that GPC should join the Green Waste Club so that Mr Pick, the maintenance contractor for GPC could dispose of the grass cuttings, etc at the Play Area. The Clerk would look into the matter and would ask if a reduction is available for Parish Councils or charities; the Clerk was asked to obtain two green wheelie bins.

Clerk

Finance cont.**Payments Received:**

29.03.12 – Groundwork UK – Final payment for MUGA project, total £1660.00.

Estimated Balances:

Barclays Bank Business Reserve Account £19,972.61.

Barclays Bank Community Account £4,909.78.

Bank Reconciliation : 31st December 2011:

A copy of the latest bank reconciliation was circulated to all Councillors.

Other Business

1. Dog Fouling : Gaddesby Lane, Barsby – It was brought to the attention of GPC that dog fouling had become a problem on the grass verge near to the new properties at King William Court, Gaddesby Lane, Barsby. Councillor Hurst asked Councillors if it would be possible for GPC to install a new dog waste bin at this end of the village, possibly in the vicinity of the ‘Barsby’ village nameplate. Councillors carried out a vote, in which three Councillors out of five agreed to the proposal; therefore the Clerk was asked to order a dog waste bin from Glasdon UK Ltd.

Clerk

2. Changes to the Local Bus Service 100 – It had been noted that, as part of the LCC cutbacks, the local bus service 100 may have a reduction in the number of buses running on a daily basis or may be discontinued altogether. It was understood that a public consultation was being carried out until the 9th July 2012.

3. Unsociable gardening activities : No. 21 Baggrave End, Barsby – It had been brought to the attention of GPC that a gardener/maintenance contractor from Thurmaston was using the garden/field at no. 21 Baggrave End, Barsby to dispose of garden waste. It had been noted that the contractor brought the garden waste to the site, where he then spent most Sunday afternoons and some evenings, either shredding or chain sawing the waste or lighting bonfires. It was understood that some parishioners felt that the noise and unpleasant fire smells most week-ends was becoming rather tiresome and irritating. Additionally, it was thought that as a gardener/maintenance contractor he should not be using the site as an area to dispose of the garden waste. Although the matter had been drawn to the attention of MBC on a previous occasion, the Clerk was asked if the matter could again be reported to Mr Dudley, the Enforcement Officer at MBC.

Clerk

4. Vintage Car Club Concerns – Concerns had arisen from some Ashby Folville parishioners regarding the vintage car club held on the evening of the second Tuesday of the summer months in Ashby Folville. Parishioners were concerned that motorcyclists were parking their motorcycles in Church Lane and were generally gathering around the area of the Church. It was felt that access in and out of the properties at Church Lane was becoming difficult and some parishioners found the behaviour of some of the motorcyclists both anti-social and intimidating. It had been asked if the motorcyclists could be discouraged from parking their motorcycles along Church Lane, which in turn would hopefully prevent them from gathering in and around this area. The Clerk was asked to approach the cricket club to ask if Church Lane could be closed off in some way; ie could the car parking marshalls direct the motorcyclists to park their vehicles elsewhere. Councillors all agreed that it was the responsibility of the cricket club to fulfil this request. Councillors asked the Clerk to point out to the members of the cricket club that if no action is taken, then GPC would refer the matter to the local Police.

Clerk

Other Business cont.

5. Blocked Drain : Near to Lawn Wall, Gaddesby – It had been noted that a drain on Nether End/Ashby Road, Gaddesby, near to Lawn Wall had become blocked, making rainwater unable to drain away sufficiently. Councillors were of the opinion that the gulley sucker had cleaned the drain fairly recently and felt that there may be a blockage of some kind. The Clerk was asked to contact Severn Trent Water to report the matter to them.

Clerk

Arrangements for the next meeting : Annual Meeting of the Parish Council -
Monday, 14th May 2012 at Gaddesby Village Hall,
commencing at 6.45 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Chair.