

Gaddesby Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall
on Monday, 11th June 2012, commencing at 6.45 pm.

Councillors Present

Mrs Jenny Hurst – Chair
Mrs Pat Walton

Mr Gordon Bigam – Vice-Chair
Mr Howard Bakewell

Borough Councillor Mrs Janet Simpson
Mrs Trudy Toon – Clerk to the Council

Action

Apologies – Apologies were received from Councillor Mr Neil Shorrock.

Parishioner/Public Time

There were no parishioners present.

Minutes – Minutes of the previous meeting no's 2012/2013 7-14, having been circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed.

Matters Arising

1. **Speeding Traffic** – Prior to the start of the meeting, Mrs Annette Bond of Gaddesby presented to GPC a list of approximately 200 signatures from the residents of Gaddesby and a list of volunteers who would be willing to operate the traffic speed gun. Mrs Bond had asked Councillors if it would be possible to have a mobile flashing speed limit sign within the village, but Councillors advised that currently GPC are completing the street light programme and that unfortunately funds were not available for such an item, as it was believed that it would cost approximately £3,000.00. During the meeting Councillors discussed the way forward and it was proposed that the Clerk contact Mr Mike Wilson, the co-ordinator for the LCC speed watch scheme to discuss 'what happens next'; all Councillors agreed to this proposal. The Clerk was asked to confirm with Mr Wilson that there would not be any costs involved in going ahead with the scheme. Councillors were very appreciative of the effort that Mrs Bond had put into collecting the signatures, etc, and the Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to Mrs Bond, including that GPC will be contacting Mr Mike Wilson in due course. PC John Scott had informed the Clerk that he had requested the covert camera monitor, but would advise GPC when it is likely to be installed. PC Scott commented that the Police traffic department are aware of the problems, especially in Ashby Folville at the Vintage Car Club meeting held on the second Tuesday of the summer months.
Councillors discussed the speeding traffic in Barsby, in particular at the cross-roads as children cross the busy road from Main Street into Baggrave End in order to meet and play with their friends. It was felt that there would not be the support from the residents of Barsby to operate a community speed watch programme, so the Clerk was asked to contact Mr Graham Hancock at LCC to ask if it would be possible to install some 'children playing' triangle warning signs at the cross-roads on the South Croxton to Ashby Folville stretch of the highway.

Clerk

Matters Arising cont.

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| <p>2. Street Light Programme – The Clerk advised Councillors that Ms Sandra Townson, was currently away on annual leave but would return to the office from Monday, 18th June 2012; at which time the Clerk would ask Ms Townson to provide GPC with a quotation for the items discussed at the May meeting. The Clerk would ask Ms Townson to visit the villages to ensure that the street light programme is nearing completion.</p> | Clerk |
| <p>3. LCC, Melton West Community Forum – Nothing to report.</p> | |
| <p>4. Unspent Funds : Gaddesby Recreation Committee – The Clerk had obtained a quotation from George Walker Ltd for a replacement wooden notice board. The Clerk had also obtained information regarding various different types and styles of notice boards for the Gaddesby Recreation Committee to consider.</p> | |
| <p>5. MBC, Parish Council Liaison – Councillor Bakewell reported that he was unable to attend the informal agenda setting meeting held on Wednesday, 30th May 2012. The Parish Council Liaison meeting would be held on Tuesday, 17th July 2012 at the Council Offices.</p> | |
| <p>6. Replacement of trees in Ashby Folville – The Clerk had spoken to Mr Richard Spooner, the Conservation Officer at MBC, to ask if he knew if it was the intention of the Ashby Carington Estate to replace the horse chestnut and ash trees in Ashby Folville. Mr Spooner advised that he had asked the agents, Brown and Co, but a response had yet to be received. However, Mr Spooner, thought that they would probably replace them but not until the onset of winter. Councillors had concerns as they felt that the trees should be replaced and that it had been an oversight on the part of MBC in not making the replacement a planning condition. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Spooner, stating that the trees in Ashby Folville are considered part of an important tree group within the Conservation Area Village of Ashby Folville. The Clerk was advised that the Ashby Folville Management Plan on the MBC website stated details regarding the protection and the replacement of the trees. The Clerk was asked to send a copy of the letter to Mr J Worley, Head of Regulatory Services at MBC and to Borough Councillor Simpson.</p> | Clerk |
| <p>7. Dog Fouling : Gaddesby Lane, Barsby – A new dog waste bin had been installed on the outskirts of Barsby on Gaddesby Lane.</p> | |
| <p>8. Changes to the Local Bus Service 100 – Statistics regarding the usage of the bus service 100 for the month of October 2011 had been received from Fiona Walker at LCC; these had been circulated to Councillors, via email, prior to the meeting. The statistics showed that the bus service is well used and that it is an extremely vital part of the community. A letter had been received from Mr Martin Hill, 4 Rearsby Road, Thrussington, which expressed his concerns about the proposed changes to the service and urging everyone to respond to the consultation. Copies of letters to Alan Duncan MP and Stephen Dorrell MP had been received from South Croxton Parish Council. It was noted by Councillors that the proposed new ‘demand response service’ would only operate from the villages to Syston and not into Leicester. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of response to the LCC consultation, to include all the points previously raised in the various discussions and the various letters received.</p> | Clerk |

Matters Arising cont.

9. Unsociable gardening activities : No. 21 Baggrave End, Barsby – The Clerk had telephoned Mr Dudley, the Enforcement Officer at MBC, to advise that waste plastic and/or rubber was being burnt on the site. Mr Dudley advised that he would liaise with the Environmental Health department at MBC and would endeavour to visit the site. It was noted that plastic and/or rubber was still being burned in the garden to the rear of the property and that the gardener/maintenance contractor was burning items that he had removed from the gardens of his gardening business customers. Councillors had concerns that MBC were not pro-active in looking into the matter, although appreciated that it was difficult to visit the site at the same time as the toxic waste was being burnt. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Dudley to advise him that the situation was ongoing and that GPC were keen to resolve the matter as soon as possible. The Clerk was asked to send a copy of the letter to Mr J Worley, Head of Regulatory Services at MBC, Ms Victoria Clarke, in the Environmental Health Department at MBC and to Borough Councillor Simpson.

The Clerk had asked Mr Tucker, the editor of the church newsletter, to include a notice in the July edition, to remind all parishioners in Barsby that the burning of any kind of plastic and/or rubber is strictly prohibited.

Clerk

10. Vintage Car Club Concerns – The Clerk had spoken with a representative of the cricket club who advised that the off duty WPC from Barsby had again volunteered to officiate at the Church Lane entrance in order to hopefully try to deter the motorcyclists from parking in the area. It was thought, that tomorrow evenings meeting, Tuesday, 12th June, would not be too busy, hopefully. Councillors remained concerned regarding the limited supervision at the event and felt that if there were further issues at tomorrow evenings meeting then the matter should be referred to PC Scott.

Clerk

11. Blocked Drain : Near to Lawn Wall, Gaddesby – It had been noted that the drain near to Lawn Wall on Ashby Road in Gaddesby remained blocked. The Clerk had, therefore, telephoned LCC, Highways Department to remind them that the drain required their attention.

Clerk

12. Pot Holes : Gaddesby Lane, Barsby and Disused Highways sign : Rearsby Lane, Gaddesby – The Clerk had emailed Mr Graham Hancock at LCC, Highways Department to inform him of the holes in the road along Gaddesby Lane, Barsby and to inform him that there is a disused highways sign in the ditch along Rearsby Lane, Gaddesby. Mr Hancock had subsequently advised that he had asked the highway inspector to investigate both items and to action as necessary. Mr Hancock commented that LCC have resources issues at the present so be patient regarding completion of the works.

Correspondence

Correspondence was made available to Councillors.

Planning Matters

a. Glebe Farm, Pasture Lane North, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Mr P F Chantrell, for the proposed erection of two agricultural buildings; an arable storage barn and a feed store. Councillors resolved to support the application.

Clerk

b. Stud Cottage, 31 Folville Street, Ashby Folville – Application submitted by Mr M Farmer, for the proposed erection of a conservatory to the rear of the existing dwelling. Councillors resolved to support the application.

Clerk

Planning Decisions

a. Nether End, 7 Ashby Road, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Westminster Developments for the proposed construction of five new properties, has been refused planning permission by MBC.

b. Pincroft, 14 Park Hill, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Infront Innovation, for the proposed felling of one weeping willow tree and the removal of two sections of hedging to achieve a clearance of five metres to the property, has been granted consent to work on trees by MBC.

c. Monday Cottage, 6 Main Street, Barsby – Application submitted by Miss Elaine Bird, for the proposed felling of two tree trunks/branches of a Coppice Rowan tree, has been granted consent to work on trees by MBC.

d. Rose Cottage, 4 Cross Street, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Mr Austin Healey, for the proposed felling of five hornbeams/lime trees, has been granted consent to work on trees by MBC.

Representative Reports

1. Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall – It was noted that the Ashby Folville Village Fete would take place on Saturday, 16th June 2012 at the Cricket Pitch in Ashby Folville.

2. Barsby Village Hall Green – Councillor Hurst reported that the queen's diamond jubilee celebrations had been enjoyed by the whole village. However, due to the poor weather conditions the planned street party did not take place but the celebrations took place under marquees and gazebos on the Village Hall Green.

3. Gaddesby Village Hall – Councillor Bakewell reported that at the Village Hall AGM held on Monday, 28th May 2012, all the committee members were re-elected on block. Councillor Bakewell commented that the committee were disappointed that only one Gaddesby parishioner attended the meeting despite the meeting being well advertised. Councillor Bakewell went on to report that financially the Village Hall was in a good position and that the sewage pump problem had been resolved.

Finance**Accounts paid since the last meeting:**

Aon Limited – Annual Insurance Premium, total £1,403.55.

E.ON UK Plc – Street light energy from 01.01.12 to 31.03.12, £217.41 plus 5% VAT £10.87 total £228.28.

Glasdon UK Limited – One dog waste bin for installation in Barsby, £133.74 plus 20% VAT £26.74, total £160.48.

Ian Fraser – Internal Auditor, total £115.00.

Life Education Mobiles (2010) Ltd, Leicestershire Branch – Delivery of the Life Education Programme at Gaddesby Primary School on 24th March 2012.

98 children @ £1.50 each, £147.00 plus 20% VAT £29.40, total £176.40.

The Clerk had written to South Croxton Parish Council to ask if they would be willing to financially contribute towards the 10 children in their Parish.

N.G Pick – Playground maintenance, 01.11.2011 to 30.04.2012, total, £375.00.

Accounts for payment:

E.ON UK – Street light maintenance, ¼ end 30th June 2012, £176.23 plus 20% VAT £35.25, total £211.48. Plus, supply and installation of PL26 Randals Close, Barsby, £1820.00 plus 20% VAT £364.00, total £2184.00.

Total cheque to E.ON UK, £2395.48.

South Croxton Benefice – 1st ¼ payment towards the church newsletter, total £62.50.

Payments Received:

None.

Estimated Balances:

Barclays Bank Business Reserve Account £19,974.61.

Barclays Bank Community Account £7,115.36.

Clerks Remuneration:

The Clerk had telephoned HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), Self Assessment Department to enquire what the guidelines were regarding the taxing of Parish Clerks. The Department advised that to the best of their knowledge, as long as Parish Clerks were either being taxed under the PAYE scheme or submitting a self assessment tax return to the HMRC then it didn't matter which way the Council operated providing they did one or the other. The Clerk asked if a Parish Clerk would be penalised if they were not taxed under the PAYE scheme and they were taxed on a self employed basis and the department said no, providing they submitted their tax return in the correct manner. The Clerk gave details to HMRC that a personal self assessment tax return is submitted to them on an annual basis and they confirmed that it would be acceptable to continue with this way of declaring any income received. The Clerk outlined these facts to Councillors and all Councillors were happy to follow the advice of the HMRC Self Assessment Department. All Councillors agreed that the Clerks remuneration should increase by one scale point as from the 1st April 2012.

Clerk

Audit Commission:

Notification had been received from the Audit Commission that Grant Thornton UK LLP has been appointed the external auditor for GPC as from 1st September 2012 for a period of five years.

Other Business

a. Charnwood Borough Council : Planning Notice – It had been brought to the attention of GPC that an application had been received by Charnwood Borough Council in relation to the field at South Croxton Road, South Croxton, submitted by Mr Paul Seymour. The application proposed the change of use of the field to a Natural Burial Ground with associated parking and access. Councillors did not wish to express any comments or observations to Charnwood Borough Council.

b. Overgrown footpath verges – It had been brought to the attention of GPC that the grass on the footpath verges from the Church to Main Street in Gaddesby had become very overgrown. It was thought that it was the responsibility of LCC, Highways Department to cut the verges; the Clerk was asked to check that this was the case and if so to ask them to cut back the verges as necessary.

Clerk

c. Overgrown grass verge – It had been brought to the attention of GPC that the grass verge at the Barsby crossroads, when turning out of Baggrave End, heading towards South Croxton, had become overgrown. Again the Clerk was asked to report this to the LCC Highways Department.

Clerk

d. Apologies for the next meeting – Borough Councillor Mrs Janet Simpson and Councillor Mr Gordon Bigam gave their apologies for the July meeting.

Arrangements for the next meeting:

Monday, 2nd July 2012 at Gaddesby Village Hall, commencing at 6.45 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Chair.