

Gaddesby Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Gaddesby Village Hall
on Monday, 14th May 2012, commencing at 6.45 pm.

Councillors Present

Mrs Jenny Hurst – Chair
 Mrs Pat Walton
 Mr Neil Shorrocks

Mr Gordon Bigam – Vice-Chair
 Mr Howard Bakewell

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

Mrs Elaine Hawkrigg, Mrs Annette Bond - Gaddesby Parishioners
 Mrs Rosemary Holt, Mrs Rowan Bradley – Barsby Parishioners
 Mr Graham Stockdale – Ashby Folville Parishioner

Action

Election of Chair/Vice-Chair

Councillor Mrs Jenny Hurst was elected as Chair (proposed by Councillor Mrs Pat Walton and seconded by Councillor Mr Howard Bakewell).

Councillor Mr Gordon Bigam was elected as Vice-Chair (proposed by Councillor Mr Howard Bakewell and seconded by Councillor Mrs Jenny Hurst). Both Councillors confirmed that they were happy to accept these roles of office for GPC.

Councillor Hurst thanked Councillor Bakewell for his contribution to GPC during his two year term of office as Chair. Councillor Bakewell thanked all Councillors for their continued help and support.

Apologies – There were no apologies received.

Parishioner/Public Time

Mrs Elaine Hawkrigg, Mrs Rosemary Holt, Mrs Rowan Bradley and Mr Graham Stockdale attended the meeting as they wished to express their concerns regarding the proposed changes by LCC to the local bus service 100. As the current service is no longer financially viable, the proposal by LCC is to discontinue this service and to replace it with a demand responsive service. All those present at the meeting agreed that currently there are too many buses running per day but the proposed changes were unacceptable. The main areas of concern and the points raised during discussion are as follows:

- It would be extremely difficult for parishioners to travel to work or college, to hospital or doctor's appointments, to the train station, etc.
- It would be isolating for parishioners, especially for young people and for the elderly who do not have any other form of transport. Also for young mums and for those with disabilities.
- LCC are carrying out a consultation on the proposal, which runs until the 9th July, but it was felt that some parishioners may find it difficult to respond to the consultation. Councillors urged that as many parishioners as possible should respond to this.
- The demand responsive service may be too expensive for parishioners to use.

Parishioner/Public Time cont.

County Councillor Orson advised that it was necessary for LCC to make huge savings in costs in the public transport department and urged all bus users to respond to the consultation. County Councillor Orson went on to explain that all bus services were being cut across the Borough. The Clerk informed Councillors that LCC only wanted bus users to respond to the consultation as this would give a true picture of the usage. Councillors were of the opinion that those living in rural areas are required to pay large sums of money in council tax and in return receive minimal services from LCC.

Mrs Annette Bond attended the meeting to express her concerns regarding speeding traffic primarily, along Ashby Road, Gaddesby. Mrs Bond explained that, along with her husband, they had owned a property in Gaddesby for a number of years, but until recently had rented the property out but had now moved back into the village. Since moving back into the village Mrs Bond had noticed a considerable increase in speeding traffic along the main route through the village. Mrs Rowan also expressed concern regarding speeding traffic in Barsby and particularly at the cross-roads as children cross the busy road from Main Street to Baggrave End in order to meet with their friends. It was suggested by Mrs Bond that the LCC speed watch scheme be introduced within the villages to try to cut down on the excessive traffic speeds along these busy roads. It was understood that speed watch is carried out in the villages of Burrough-on-the-Hill and Somerby and that this had proved to be very successful in reducing the number of speeding vehicles through the villages. Additionally, these villages have a mobile speed limit sign which is also very effective. It was suggested that some 'children playing' warning signs could be installed in Barsby which may help to reduce the speeds in which the vehicles travel and would make motorists aware that children are in the area.

Mrs Bond explained that Mr Mike Wilson co-ordinates the speed watch scheme for LCC and that the support of the village must be obtained in order for the scheme to go ahead. Mr Wilson had informed Mrs Bond that 200 signatures must be collected and six volunteers must agree to be trained to operate the traffic speed gun. Therefore, Mrs Bond would gather the necessary signatures from the parishioners of Gaddesby. Mrs Bond advised that several parishioners had expressed an interest in operating the traffic speed gun.

In the meantime the Clerk was asked to contact PC John Scott to ask if the covert camera could again be installed along Ashby Road, Gaddesby in order to monitor the speed and volume of the traffic travelling through the village.

Clerk

Minutes – Minutes of the previous meeting no's 2012/2013 1-6, having been circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed

Matters Arising

- 1. Closure of Syston fire station** – The Clerk reported that a member of the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service had informed that a new fire station is currently under construction on the outskirts of Birstall and will hopefully open in March 2013 and that once the station becomes fully operational during April 2013 then the fire station at Syston will close. The Clerk had been informed that if a fire or an emergency should occur, then the response time to the villages would not be affected.

Matters Arising cont.

2. Street Light Programme – Ms Sandra Townson at E.ON had advised the Clerk that the engineers had attended the lantern at Baggrave End, Barsby in order to carry out the conversion of the existing orange light to a low energy white light. However, Ms Townson advised that as the lantern was not a Philips M126 lantern then it was not possible to install the conversion tray and gear. Following discussion Councillors were unsure if the lantern was necessary as it was only partially visible, therefore, the Clerk was asked to contact E.ON to ask if the lantern could be switched off for a trial period, in order to see if it is required. Councillors resolved to try to complete the ongoing street programme and asked the Clerk to obtain a quotation from E.ON for the replacement of the two existing concrete columns both situated at Paske Avenue, Gaddesby. Additionally, the street light survey listed that there was one concrete column remaining in Chapel Lane, Gaddesby; the Clerk was of the opinion that this column had been replaced during the last two years and agreed to check this prior to contacting E.ON. If this was not the case then the Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation for the replacement of this column also. Councillors agreed that the light fittings on the Old Post Office in Gaddesby and on Stallard House in Ashby Folville should be changed from an orange light to a low energy white light; the Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation from E.ON for this conversion. It was hoped that once these works have been carried out, the street light replacement programme would be complete.

Clerk

3. LCC, Melton West Community Forum – The Clerk informed Councillors that the Community Forum Budget Decision Evening would take place on Tuesday, 29th May 2012 at the Council Offices.

4. Bus Shelter in Barsby – A letter had been received from Brown and Co, on behalf of the Ashby Carington Estate. The letter advised that the Estate feel that a bus shelter at the proposed location could be prohibitive to any future development of the farmyard and a danger to farm traffic when trying to enter and exit the site. It was their opinion that an alternative site for the proposed bus shelter should be found. Councillor Hurst advised Councillors that due to the proposed LCC cuts in the bus service at the present time, the installation of any new bus shelters had been put on hold. However, since GPC had been allocated the funds to install a new shelter then LCC had informed Councillor Hurst that GPC could retain the £1,500.00 already received.

5. Unspent Funds : Gaddesby Recreation Committee – The Clerk had spoken to Mr Jeff Bodycote, a representative of the Gaddesby Recreation Committee regarding how they would like to use some of the remaining funds in their fundraising account. Mr Bodycote advised that a replacement notice board seemed a favourable suggestion but he would have to liaise with the other members of the committee. In the meantime he asked the Clerk to obtain a quotation from George Walker Ltd for a similar type of replacement notice board. The only difference being would be that the top of the new board would include a slight overhang in order to prevent the notices from getting too weathered. Councillors were of the opinion that a board with a plastic cover would be preferable, so that the notices were not subject to the weather; the Clerk would inform Mr Bodycote of this, so that he could put the various options forward to the committee members.

Clerk

Matters Arising cont.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>6. MBC, Parish Council Liaison – Notification had been received from MBC, that an informal agenda setting meeting, in preparation for the Parish Council Liaison meeting, would take place on Wednesday, 30th May 2012 in Council Chamber One at the Council Offices, commencing at 6pm. Councillor Bakewell agreed to attend on behalf of GPC.</p> | <p>Councillor
Bakewell</p> |
| <p>7. Replacement of trees in Ashby Folville – Nothing to report. The Clerk was asked to telephone Mr Richard Spooner, the Conservation Officer at MBC, to ask if it was the intention of Ashby Carington Estate to replace the horse chestnut trees in Ashby Folville.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |
| <p>8. MBC, Parish Council Priorities – The Clerk had emailed Ms Emma Trahearn, the Community Policy Officer at MBC, to advise that GPC do not have a Parish Plan.</p> | |
| <p>9. Dog Fouling : Gaddesby Lane, Barsby – A dog waste bin had been received from Glasdon UK Ltd. The Clerk would liaise with Councillor Hurst with regard to finding a suitable location for the installation of the bin.</p> | <p>Councillor
Hurst &
Clerk</p> |
| <p>10. Changes to the Local Bus Service 100 – See parishioner/public time. Additionally, a letter had been received from South Croxton resident, Mr Paul Barker, regarding the proposed changes to the local bus service 100. The letter included copies of letters sent to the local MPs, LCC and the County and District Councillors. Mr Barkers letter stated that the proposed changes were totally unacceptable. Councillor Bakewell agreed to copy the letter for the Clerk to then circulate to Councillors. Following discussion Councillors decided to write to LCC with the concerns of GPC, but prior to this Councillor Bigam agreed to obtain some statistics and costings from LCC; a letter would then be drafted at the June meeting.</p> | <p>Councillors
Bakewell &
Bigam &
Clerk</p> |
| <p>11. Unsociable gardening activities : No. 21 Baggrave End, Barsby – The Clerk advised that the matter had been reported to Mr Dudley, the Enforcement Officer at MBC, who explained that if the gardener/maintenance contractor had permission from Mrs Griffiths, the land owner, to carry out the activities of shredding, chain sawing, etc, then there was very little action that MBC could take. However, Mr Dudley agreed to again go and visit the site and would endeavour to speak with Mrs Griffiths. It was understood that waste plastic and/or rubber had been burnt on the site, which had caused an extremely unpleasant smell. Councillors were of the opinion that the burning of any kind of plastic or rubber is strictly prohibited as they could create dangerous fumes and potentially could be harmful to parishioners, especially those with chest complaints. It was thought that the Environmental Protection Act 1990, prohibited such burning. The Clerk was asked to telephone Mr Dudley to again draw the matter to his attention and to ask if he could visit the site as a matter of urgency. In the meantime, the Clerk was asked to include a notice in the church newsletter pointing out to parishioners that the burning of any kind of plastic and/or rubber is strictly prohibited.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |

Matters Arising cont.

12. Vintage Car Club Concerns – The Clerk had spoken with a representative of the cricket club who agreed that the motorcyclists should be discouraged from parking their motorcycles in Church Lane, Ashby Folville. However, he agreed that this would be very difficult to enforce, but an off duty WPC from Barsby had volunteered to officiate at the Church Lane entrance to hopefully try to deter the motorcyclists from parking in the area and by trying to encourage them to park elsewhere. Councillors understood that the April meeting had been well supervised and that there had not been any reported problems or incidents. However, the May meeting had been cancelled, due to the wet weather conditions. The Clerk was asked to again speak to the member of the cricket club to ask that the level of supervision is maintained during the busy summer months.

Clerk

13. Blocked Drain : Near to Lawn Wall, Gaddesby – The Clerk had telephoned Severn Trent Water to report the drain blockage to them, but they advised that it was the responsibility of LCC, Highways Department to deal with problems with drains in the Highway. The Clerk, therefore, reported the matter to the Highways Department at LCC, who confirmed that they were already aware of the problem and that the ‘gully sucker’ would attend to the blockage in due course. LCC went onto advise that if the drain remained blocked once it had been cleaned out then it would be the responsibility of LCC to investigate the matter further.

Correspondence

1. Risk Assessment – The Clerk circulated to all Councillors a completed copy of the annual risk register, which was considered and was duly accepted by GPC. A copy of the register would be kept on file for future reference.

Clerk

2. Advance notice of a temporary traffic regulation order – Notification had been received that LCC would be making a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order under section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 in order that Western Power Distribution can safely carry out cable works on Pasture Lane, Ashby Folville. The letter advised that the Order would be in place from 30th May 2012 for the duration of 12 months and that the works are anticipated to last for approximately one day. A press release would be issued shortly before works begin to confirm the dates and duration of the closure.

Correspondence was made available to Councillors.

Planning Matters

a. Pincroft, 14 Park Hill, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Infront Innovation, for works to trees within a conservation area, 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. Councillors resolved to support the application.

Clerk

Planning Matters cont.

b. Nether End, 7 Ashby Road, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Westminster Developments for the proposed construction of five new properties. Amended plans had been received which confirmed the width of the footpath and the access measurements into the site. Councillors did not wish to add any further comments, but asked the Clerk to clarify where the access to the existing cottage is, as the plans do not show this. A letter had been received from the MBC, Planning Department to advise that the application would be considered by the Development Committee on Thursday, 24th May at Parkside, Burton Street, Melton Mowbray, prior to which the Development Committee would be visiting the site at 3.50pm. The letter informed that anyone wishing to address the Committee must notify the Development Control Team no later than three working days before the meeting (ie, Monday before a Thursday meeting). Councillor Bakewell agreed to address the Committee on behalf of GPC; the Clerk would advise the Development Control Team of this.

Councillor
Bakewell
& Clerk

c. Monday Cottage, 6 Main Street, Barsby – Application submitted by Miss Elaine Bird, for works to trees within a conservation area, for the proposed felling of two tree trunks/branches of a Coppice Rowan tree. Councillors resolved to support the application.

Clerk

‘For Information Only’

d. Rose Cottage, 4 Cross Street, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Mr Austin Healey, for works to trees within a conservation area, for the proposed felling of five hornbeams/lime trees.

e. Ridgemere, 7 Park Hill, Gaddesby – Application submitted by Mr and Mrs M Jones, for the proposed construction of an attached double garage. Councillors resolved to support the application.

Clerk

Planning Decisions

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

Representative Reports

1. Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall – Nothing to report.

2. Barsby Village Hall Green – Councillor Hurst reported that a committee meeting had been held to discuss and plan the forthcoming queen’s diamond jubilee celebrations. Councillor Hurst advised Councillors that, following the purchase of a new mower, there remained approximately £2,520.00 in the current account.

3. Gaddesby Village Hall – Councillor Bakewell reported that the new hot water heater had been installed in the Village Hall and that up to £2,000.00 would be spent on improving the sewage system.

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

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.

Biffa Recycling Ltd – Membership for the MBC Green Waste Club, two green composting wheelie bins, total £53.44.

The Clerk was pleased to advise Councillors that the two bins had been received recently.

Accounts for payment:

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 would write 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.

Clerk

Payments Received:

05.03.2012 - Barclays Bank Business Reserve Account – Interest from 05.12.11 to 04.03.12, total £2.00.

30.04.2012 - MBC, first precept payment of 2012/2013, total £7,250.00.

09.05.2012 - H.M Revenue and Customs, VAT repayment from 01.09.11 to 31.03.12, total £1,037.87.

Estimated Balances:

Barclays Bank Business Reserve Account £19,974.61.

Barclays Bank Community Account £9,574.07.

Bank Reconciliation : 31st March 2012:

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

Annual Audit of Accounts 2011/2012:

The accounts for 2011/2012, having been completed, were signed by the Clerk, Mrs Trudy Toon, then inspected and signed by the outgoing Chair, Councillor Mr Howard Bakewell. The appointed internal auditor, Mr Ian Fraser, had inspected and checked the accounts and had produced an annual report, which was circulated to all Councillors. The accounts would be made available for public inspection and the Clerk would forward the annual return to Clement Keys, the appointed external auditors, in order for them to complete the audit process.

Clerk

Finance cont.**Clerks Remuneration:**

The internal auditor, Mr Ian Fraser, brought to the attention of the Clerk that as from 06.04.11, all Parish Clerks must be taxed under the PAYE scheme and must no longer be considered self-employed for tax or NIC purposes. Councillors were already aware of this but had previously resolved to wait for further guidance from MBC, as it was understood that MBC had agreed to pursue the matter on behalf of the Parish Clerks. Councillors felt that if the Clerk were to become taxed under the PAYE scheme then it could involve many other implications for GPC, ie pension provision. With this in mind the Clerk would look into the matter further, so see if there would be any way in which the Clerk could continue to be taxed on a self-employed basis.

Clerk

Other Business

1. Pot Holes : Gaddesby Lane, Barsby and Disused Highways sign : Rearsby Lane, Gaddesby – Two Highway matters had been brought to the attention of GPC. The first one being a number of pot holes in the carriageway on Gaddesby Lane, Barsby and the second one being a disused Highways sign in the ditch on Rearsby Lane, Gaddesby, near to Underwood Lodge Farm. The Clerk was asked to report these matters to the LCC, Highways Department.

Clerk

Arrangements for the next meeting:

Monday, 11th June 2012 at Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall,
commencing at 6.45 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Chair.