

**Gaddesby Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall**  
**on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019, commencing at 6.45 pm.**

**Councillors Present**

Mrs Jenny Hurst – Chair  
 Mr Gary Fox – Vice-Chair

Mrs Pat Walton  
 Mr John Simon

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

**Action**

**Apologies** – Apologies were received from Councillor Mr Gordon Bigam and Borough Councillor Mr Robert Child.

**Parishioner/Public Time**

There were no parishioners present.

**Minutes** – Minutes of the previous meeting no's 2019/2020 14-19, having been circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed.

**Matters Arising**

1. **Councillor Vacancy** – A notice, to advertise the vacancy for a Gaddesby Councillor had been included in the July/August edition of the church newsletter. The Clerk had put notices on the village notice boards to advertise the vacancy.
2. **Neighbourhood Development Plan** – Councillor Simon reported that the Neighbourhood Development Plan and its seven appendices were complete and ready for a six-week consultation with the Parish and the relevant stakeholders. It had been hoped to begin the six-week consultation week commencing Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019. However, there had been difficulties in posting the lengthy and comprehensive document to the Gaddesby Village website – although Mr Simon Hargrave had overcome the problem. Additionally, it would not be possible to include a notice in the church newsletter 'The Bridge' until September – the months of July and August are combined. Therefore, Councillor Simon reported, it had been decided that the six-week consultation would begin during September, as it was a requirement to publicise the document as widely as possible.
3. **Gaddesby Children's Play Area : Tree Root** – A letter had been sent to Mr and Mrs Lockwood of 16 Park Hill, Gaddesby to advise that a tree root and a small shoot could be seen lifting the surface of the MUGA in one area and that it was believed that the root could be from one of the large popular trees which were growing along the boundary of their garden.  
 A letter of response had been received from Mr and Mrs Lockwood which requested various further information in relation to the matter.  
 The Clerk enquired with the GPC insurance broker, BHIB, to ascertain if GPC would be insured against subsidence and for such an issue. After contacting the insured company, Aviva, they advised the Clerk that insurance against subsidence would require buildings cover as the MUGA has a tarmac base.

**Matters Arising cont.****3. Gaddesby Children's Play Area : Tree Root cont. –**

As GPC do not have buildings cover the MUGA would not be insured against the lifting of the surface.

Councillor Simon advised, that having looked at the GPC insurance policy documents, GPC have legal expenses cover and that a claim may be possible against Mr and Mrs Lockwood. Councillor Simon agreed to contact BHIB for further guidance on the way forward.

Councillor  
Simon**4. Gaddesby Lane, Barsby – Nothing to report.**

It had been brought to the attention of GPC that a large branch had broken off an Ash tree which is situated in the hedgerow along Gaddesby Lane, Barsby near to Barsby village. It was felt that the tree had become very overgrown and that further branches could be at risk of breakage. It was understood that the hedgerow was the boundary of a field owned by Everards Brewery Limited.

The Clerk was asked to email Mr Stewart Marshall at LCC to advise him of the situation with the Ash tree and to enquire if GPC should contact Everards Brewery directly or if LCC would contact them?

Clerk

- 5. Clerk's Employment –** Following the recommendation from Internal Auditor, Mr Richard Willcocks that 'in view of the advice given by HMRC, the Clerk should be recognised as an employee of the Council and that a formal contract of employment should be provided, which includes disciplinary and grievance procedures', the Clerk looked at the NALC template Contract of Employment on their website. Councillor Fox also agreed to look at the suitability of the NALC template, but was unable to access the NALC website. Councillor Fox would telephone NALC directly to obtain a template copy.

Councillor  
Fox &  
Clerk

- 6. Water Leak, Baggrave End, Barsby –** The Clerk reported that water was still leaking from the area and that Severn Trent Water had been informed and were currently liaising with homeowners in the area.

**7. Street Lighting, Gaddesby –**

**Corroded Street Light Column, Park Hill, Gaddesby –** As requested Ms Sandra Townson at E.ON provided GPC with a quotation for the replacement of the existing corroded street light column as follows:

- To remove the existing corroded street light column and to supply and install one, 4 metre column complete with strimmer guard and to re-use the existing bracket and lantern at a cost of £682.00 plus 20% VAT £136.40, total £818.40.
- To transfer the service from the old column to the new column, installed in the same position at a cost of £409.00 plus 20% VAT £81.80, total £490.80.

Additionally, Ms Townson provided GPC with an estimated quotation for the conversion of the existing light bulb to an LED light bulb and gear tray suitable for the Iffley lantern at a cost of £495.00 plus 20% VAT £99.00, total £594.00. Following discussion, Councillors agreed to proceed with the replacement of the street light column and agreed to the conversion to an LED bulb for the purpose of an experimental 'trial' light. All Councillors agreed to the additional cost. Councillors asked the Clerk to enquire if it would be possible for the LED bulb to be a warm white light?

The Clerk would confirm the order with Ms Townson at E.ON.

Clerk

**Matters Arising cont.****7. Street Lighting, Gaddesby cont. –****Leaning Street Light Column, The Cottage, 5 Chapel Lane, Gaddesby –**

Ms Sandra Townson at E.ON advised that the overgrown tree required trimming back further before the street light column could be straightened.

The Clerk reported that the Ross-Wilson family agreed to arrange to have the works carried out.

**Lanterns attached to wooden poles, Paske Avenue, Gaddesby –**

Mr Josef Curry, a technician for Western Power Distribution emailed the Clerk to advise that the wooden pole which is situated outside number 40 Paske Avenue is sound, with no signs of rot. However, the wooden pole which is situated outside number 26 Paske Avenue is rotten – that is to say that Western Power would not climb it to carry out any works.

Councillors noted the comments from Mr Curry.

**8. Community Active and Rural Enterprise (CARE) – Nothing to report.****9. Willow Tree, Baggrave End, Barsby, LE7 4RB –** The Clerk was pleased to report that the dead willow tree had been cut down.**10. MBC, Borough Election, Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 –** Following the comments of GPC, a response had been received from MBC Officer, Ms Adele Wylie, Director of Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer), which advised that the comments of GPC were noted and that it was agreed that MBC should have done more to inform the electorate that the election for Asfordby was uncontested. Ms Wylie added that MBC would ensure that in future the electorate are written to, notices are put up and that there is adequate publication of the election result prior to the election day. Ms Wylie apologised for any inconvenience caused in relation to the booking of the Village Halls. Ms Wylie went on to reassure GPC that the matter would be dealt with by the Elections Team in a more efficient way in the future.**11. Direction Bollard, South Croxton Crossroads –** Councillors were pleased to note that the direction bollard which is situated at the South Croxton crossroads had been reinstated.**12. RoSPA Play Area Safety Inspection Report –** Councillor Hurst reported that, along with Councillor Fox they inspected the Gaddesby Children's Play Area in order to discuss the findings within the RoSPA Play Area Safety Inspection Report. Councillor Hurst reported that, in their opinion, the following required repairs/protective surfaces:

- Gate – Councillors Hurst and Fox were unable to find a finger entrapment on the side of the gate.
- Multi-play Toddler House – the removal of protruding bolts was required. Rotting timbers required repairing. The side rails require sanding down. The covers were broken on the side steps. It was felt that the play house required a general tidy up – the Clerk was asked to contact local handyman 'Tave' to ask if would be able to provide GPC with a quotation for the remedial works to the play house.

**Matters Arising cont.**Councillor  
Hurst/Fox  
& Clerk**12. RoSPA Play Area Safety Inspection Report cont. –**

- Cabin Slide – a protective surface was required at the bottom and underneath the slide.
- Multi-play with Swings – a protective surface was required underneath the swings. No rotting timber found.
- Log Climber – underneath surface found to be satisfactory.
- Swing Nest – a secondary support to the block was required and the nest seat could be a potential finger trap – the Clerk was asked to contact the manufacturer to ask if these two items were relevant as the equipment was relatively new.

The Clerk was asked to contact ‘Playscape Playgrounds’ – a local company, based in Langham, Oakham recommended by Borough Councillor Child, to ask if they would be able to meet with GPC in order to provide a quotation for the necessary protective surfaces.

**13. Footway from The Lodge, Ashby Folville to Barsby** – As Councillors felt that a tractor mounted mower did not sufficiently mow into the footway, the Clerk forwarded a request to LCC, Highways Department to ask if the footway from The Lodge, Ashby Folville to Barsby village could be included in the mowing schedule as an ‘urban’ cut rather than a ‘rural’ cut.

**14. Overgrown Highway Verges, Barsby** – The Clerk emailed LCC, Highways Department to report that the highway verges in Barsby had become very overgrown.  
Councillors were pleased to note that the verges had been trimmed back.

**15. Overgrown Footpath from St. Lukes Church to Main Street, Gaddesby** – The Clerk reported to LCC, Highways Department that the footpath from St. Lukes Church to Main Street, Gaddesby had become overgrown, particularly the area surrounding the War Memorial and required cutting back.

**16. Broken Fence, on the Bridle path from Pasture Lane, Gaddesby to Ashby Road, Gaddesby** – The Clerk reported to LCC, Highways Department that some of the boundary fence, which is situated along the bridle path from Pasture Lane, Gaddesby to Ashby Road, Gaddesby had broken, with nails sticking out from the broken wood and required repairing.

**17. Additional Street Nameplate, Baggrave End, Barsby** – The Clerk emailed MBC to ask if it would be possible to install an additional ‘Baggrave End’ street nameplate on the small piece of green, near to the street light column along Baggrave End, Barsby.

**18. Blocked Drains, Gaddesby** – The Clerk emailed LCC, Highways Department to ask if all the drains in Gaddesby village could be cleaned out as they were full of leaves and debris.  
The Clerk was pleased to report, that following this request, the drains were cleaned out at the end of June.

**Correspondence**

Correspondence was either emailed or made available to Councillors as necessary.

**Planning Matters**

**a. The Hall, 2 Main Street, Gaddesby, LE7 4WG** – Application submitted by Mr and Mrs Jinks for a proposed new dwelling. (Replaces previously approved application no: 15/00826/FUL).  
Councillors resolved to support the application.

Clerk

Councillor Simon declared an interest in the following application:

**b. Land adjacent to 7 Ashby Road, Gaddesby, LE7 4WF** – Application submitted by Mr K Watson for the proposed construction of a residential development of eight dwellings (two and one and a half storey houses) and a proposed garage to number two Church Lane.

Clerk

Notification had been received from MBC that amended plans had been received in relation to the application.

Following discussion of the amendments, Councillors agreed that the previous comments submitted to MBC still applied.

**‘For Information Only’**

**c. ‘Gledholt Cottage’, One Church Lane, Barsby, LE7 4RF** – Application submitted by Dr Catherine Haworth, for consent to work on trees, for the proposed felling of one Conifer tree.

**Planning Decisions**

**a. The White House, 15 Baggrave End, Barsby, LE7 4RB** – Application submitted by Mr and Mrs Walker for the proposed installation of a new dining room window, has been granted planning permission by MBC.

**Representative Reports**

**1. Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall** – Councillor Walton reported that the St. Mary’s Church Fete held on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 on the cricket field, Ashby Folville was well attended.

**2. Barsby Village Hall Green** – Councillor Hurst reported that two successful events had taken place recently – ‘Music at the Mill’ and a wedding session for ‘Friends of the Village Hall Green’.

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

None.

**Accounts for payment:**

E.ON Energy Solutions Limited – Street light maintenance, ¼ ending 30.06.2019, £182.65 plus 20% VAT £36.53, total £219.18.

E.ON UK Plc – Street light energy, ¼ ending 30.06.2019, £566.66 plus 5% VAT £28.33, total £594.99.

Melton Borough Council – RoSPA Play Area Safety Inspection, £54.00 plus 20% VAT £10.80, total £64.80.

Trudy.M.Toon – Clerks salary and expenses from 01.04.2019 to 30.06.2019, salary £1,333.28 plus expenses £111.54, total £1,444.82.

**Finance cont.****Payments Received:**

03.06.2019 – Barclays Bank Business Premium Account – Interest from 04.03.2019 to 02.06.2019, total £4.19.

**Estimated Balances:**

Barclays Bank Business Premium Account: £13,057.82.

Barclays Bank Community Account: £3,330.76.

The latest bank statements were made available for Councillors.

**Transfer of Funds:**

Councillors agreed that £2,000.00 should be transferred from the Business Premium Account into the Community Account; the Clerk was asked to carry out this transaction.

Clerk

**Other Business****1. Telephone Kiosk, Folville Street, Ashby Folville** – Ashby Folville parishioner

Mrs Angela Patton enquired if GPC would be happy for Ashby Folville village to adopt the telephone kiosk situated on Folville Street, Ashby Folville for their use. It was understood that as a representative of the village Mrs Patton would contact British Telecom to apply to adopt the kiosk as part of their ‘Adopt a Kiosk’ scheme. Councillors were in agreement that Ashby Folville village could apply to adopt the kiosk – Councillor Walton would advise Mrs Patton.

Councillor  
Walton

**2. St.Lukes Church, Gaddesby – Churchyard mowing/maintenance** – The Clerk advised Councillors that the vicar of the Parish, Reverend Neil Stothers had telephoned to ask if GPC would be willing to take on the responsibility of the ‘closed’ section of the churchyard at St.Lukes Church, Gaddesby. The Reverend Stothers advised the Clerk that approximately two thirds of St.Lukes Churchyard is ‘closed’. Following discussion, Councillors agreed that GPC would not be able to fund the mowing/maintenance as the Parish precept is very limited and GPC has many statutory requirements to fund. In addition, GPC already contribute to all three villages with the churchyard maintenance grant of £75.00 per year.

Clerk

The Clerk was asked to respond to the Reverend Stothers with the comments of GPC.

**3. St.Lukes Church, Gaddesby – Overgrown Holly Hedge** – It had been brought to the attention of GPC that the holly hedge, which is situated along the footpath of St Lukes, Church, Gaddesby had become overgrown. This was making it difficult for parishioners and visitors to the area to use the footpath as the hedge was overhanging into the footpath. The Clerk was asked to report the matter to the vicar of the Parish, Reverend Neil Stothers.

Clerk

**4. Development of a GPC Website** – Due to the difficulties incurred with posting the Neighbourhood Development Plan onto the Gaddesby Village website and with the legal requirement to post many other documents to a website, Councillor Simon felt that GPC should perhaps have a separate website. This would include all three villages within the Parish.

Councillors  
Fox &  
Simon

Following discussion, Councillors were in agreement – Councillor Simon agreed to look into this further.

As the Clerk had limited time available, Councillor Fox volunteered to fulfil the training requirement in order to produce and update a GPC website.

**Other Business cont.**

**5. GPC Information Leaflet** – It had been brought to the attention of GPC that the information leaflet, which is shown on the Gaddesby village website, was now out-of-date and requiring updating. It was agreed to remove the information leaflet from the website; the Clerk was asked to contact Mr Simon Hargrave.

Clerk

**6. The Cottage, One Main Street, Barsby, LE7 4RH** – During the last month, GPC had been made aware that new replacement UPVC windows had been fitted to The Cottage, One Main Street, Barsby. After reporting the matter to Development Control at MBC, Mr Andrew Cunningham, Planning Officer for MBC reported that he had visited the site, with a colleague and that the replacement windows and doors which have been installed would fall under ‘permitted development rights’ and planning permission would therefore, not be required. Mr Cunningham noted that the windows installed are powder coated aluminium windows and not UPVC as previously reported.

**7. D66 Footpath, Baggrave End, Barsby, LE7 4RB** – It had been brought to the attention of GPC that the entrance to the D66 footpath, Baggrave End, Barsby, where the top of the steps joins with the driveway, had become very overgrown with stinging nettles. The Clerk was asked to email LCC, Highways Department to ask if they could arrange for the area to be strimmed.

Clerk

**8. Overgrown Hedge, Church Lane, Barsby, LE7 4RF** – It had been brought to the attention of GPC that the hedge at the entrance to the footpath which runs from the Tower House, Church Lane, Barsby towards Ashby Folville had become overgrown. It was the understanding of GPC that Mr and Mrs Paul Murray of Orchard House, 3A Church Lane, were the owners of the hedge situated on the left-hand side. The Clerk was asked to write to them to ask if they could arrange to have the hedge trimmed back.

Clerk

**9. Request for Hedgehog Warning Traffic Sign** – A request had been made to GPC, by a Barsby parishioner, for a new hedgehog warning traffic sign for installation at the Barsby crossroads.

Clerk

It was understood that the Transport Secretary, Chris Grayling, unveiled the new sign on June 17<sup>th</sup> 2019, which warns road users of hazards due to animals in the road ahead. The Barsby parishioner felt that Barsby crossroads could be an ideal location to install such a sign due to the rural nature of the village. The Clerk was asked to email LCC, Highways Department with the request.

**Arrangements for the next meeting –**

Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at Gaddesby Village Hall, commencing at 6.45 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Chair.