

MINUTES of the meeting of the GRASSMOOR, HASLAND AND WINSICK PARISH COUNCIL held on 14 December 2016 at the Grassmoor Community Centre.

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs P J Hemsley (in the Chair)

Councillors I F Barlow, Mrs J Bedford, Mrs A Browne, B Garbutt, E Grant, Mrs E A Hill, Mrs J A Round-Hill and Mrs L Thomas.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Three members of the public attended the meeting to complain about pot holes on Broom Drive and Furnace Close, parking on the grass verges on Broom Drive and dog fouling near the School. It was noted that the issue of parking on the verges had been raised with both the County Council and the District Council without success. Councillor Mrs J A Round-Hill would raise the issue of parking and the potholes with the County Council.

Concern was also expressed over the condition of the local authority housing in Grassmoor. Councillor Mrs E A Hill reported that improvements were to be discussed in the New Year.

POLICE/PARISH LIAISON

The Clerk reported that Natascha Engel MP had written again to the Police and Crime Commissioner following further correspondence to her from Inspector Nicholson which did nothing other to confirm that Police Officers would no longer routinely attend Parish Council meetings. A response was awaited. The Clerk was asked to write again to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Clerk had received an email from PCSO Disney to confirm that a local male had been arrested and charged in relation to the recent spate of shed break ins in Grassmoor. However, unfortunately, despite the efforts of the Police to get him remanded, he was granted bail until 5 January 2017.

2634. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors A H Booker and M Grayling.

2635. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Councillors I F Barlow, Mrs J Bedford, Mrs A Browne, Mrs P J Hemsley and Mrs L Thomas declared personal interests in the item relating to Grassmoor Community Centre (Minute no. 2640 refers).

2636. MINUTES RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 November 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2637. ITEMS IN EXCLUSION

An item relating to a staffing matter was to be considered as an exempt item in Part II of the agenda.

2638. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Responsible Financial Officer presented for information, the bank reconciliation to 14 December 2016 which showed an overall balance of £102,182.92. Councillor B Garbutt signed a copy of the reconciliation.

Accounts due for payment and details of income received were presented and it was agreed that payments be authorised as detailed below:

Date	Details		No	TOTAL	VAT
01/12/16	Severn Trent	Pavilion Water	DD	£13.33	
01/12/16	EON	Pavilion Electricity	DD	£22.00	
01/12/16	J Marriott (1)	Salary and expenses	BACS		
01/12/16	R Ackrill (2)	Salary	BACS		
01/12/16	M Dvinson (3)	Salary	BACS		
01/12/16	A Ward (4)	Salary & Expenses	BACS		
01/12/16	R Ackrill	Expenses	BACS	£64.38	£3.77
01/12/16	Grassmoor Community Centre	Grant and Room Hire	BACS	£2,050.00	
01/12/16	Platinum Electrical	MUGA Lighting Repairs	BACS	£219.00	£36.50
01/12/16	HMRC	Tax & N I	BACS	£646.14	

It was noted that a payment of £5,600.00 had been received from the County Council in respect of the shed to be provided on the Allotments from the Community Priorities Fund.

It was noted that the Pension Staging date for employees wishing to take up pensions was 1 January 2017.

RESOLVED to (a) authorise Councillor B Garbutt to sign the bank reconciliation to 14 December 2016; and
(b) approve the payment of accounts as detailed above;

2639. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was reported that the "Christmas Cracker" event organised primarily by Councillor B Garbutt had proved to be a great success and was enjoyed by all who participated. The Parish Council wished to thank Councillor Garbutt for organising the event and it was agreed that a record of the event be included in the next edition of the Newsletter.

It was reported that the County Council had objected to the Christmas tree lamp columns attachments which had been put up at Corbriggs. They were however, the responsibility of Temple Normanton Parish Council.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2640. GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Clerk reported that the Community Centre was having problems with its email and internet connections. The problem was being looked into including using a new provider.

It was also reported that the annual boiler service had identified that the boilers would most likely need replacing in the near future.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2641. BARNES PARK

The District Council had agreed to chase up the work to repair the fencing.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2642. CCTV

It was reported that the CCTV system at the Community Centre had been making a noise. NW Systems were looking in to the matter.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2643. MILL LANE ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had received the funding from the County Council for the new shed on the site.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2644. GILL LANE ALLOTMENTS

There were no matters to report relating to Gill Lane Allotments.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2645. GRASSMOOR LAGOONS

There were no matters to report relating to the Lagoons.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2646. BIG LOCAL

The Chairman reported that the keys for the new noticeboards were held in the Community Centre. There had been some issues with the Mill Lane noticeboards

following objection from local residents. The noticeboards were available for general community use and could be used by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2647. BARNES PARK PROJECT

The County Council had confirmed that the cost of completing the project to the planning stage would be £4k. The Parish Council were happy to proceed to the planning stage. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask the County Council for an estimate of the costs of providing detailed design plans in order that tenders could be obtained.

RESOLVED to (a) agree to move to the planning stage of the project at a cost of £4k; and
(b) ask the County Council to estimate the costs of moving to the detailed design stage.

2648. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Clerk reported that the Service had gone well and had again been well attended. It was agreed that in the future, the area in front of the seating should be “coned off” to enable those seated to see the Service.

It was noted that a total of £62.98 had been raised for the Royal British Legion Appeal.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2649. FLOODING BARNES PARK

Chris Rogers from the County Council's Flood Risk and Transport Asset Management Team, attended the meeting to update the Parish Council on the current position regarding flooding issues in Barnes Park and Norfolk Avenue. He had tried to get Yorkshire Water involved in the issue but without great success. Part of the problem was that the ditch running along the Durham Avenue boundary to the Park had over the years, been filled in and the land subsumed into the neighbouring properties. It was considered impractical to reinstate the ditch so it was felt that the best option would be to look at alternative flood defence ideas to see if they were workable and affordable. The Clerk agreed to liaise with Mr Rogers with a view to arranging a meeting to look in to this further.

RESOLVED to arrange a meeting with the County Council and District Council to look in to developing an affordable flood defence scheme in the Park.

2650. FRACKING

The Clerk reported that fracking was a highly emotive and difficult issue which needed to be considered in a meaningful and measured way by the Parish Council. The County Council had issued advice to Parish Councils in respect of fracking issues which the Clerk agreed to circulate to all members.

RESOLVED to circulate the County Council's advice on dealing with matters relating to fracking.

2651. BOUNDARY REVIEW

The Clerk reported that the Boundary Commission of the ward arrangements for the North East Derbyshire District Council area with a view to ensuring electoral equality for voters in terms of the numbers of electorate per ward. They were seeking the Parish Council's views on any changes it wished to see. It was agreed that the Clerk submit representations to the Commission recommending that the status quo be maintained.

RESOLVED to respond to the Boundary Commission recommending that the status quo be maintained.

2652. PLANNING MATTERS

The Clerk reported on the following planning matters received since the last meeting;

Application No.	Description	Comments/objections/material considerations
16/00768/FL The Croft, Mile Hill Mr G Booth	Log Cabin to house rehabilitation tank	The District Council had conditionally approved this application.
16/01195/DIS CON Mile Hill Farm Mr A Kirkwood	Discharge of conditions 7 (nesting sites) and 8 (Plant compound)	The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

RESOLVED to note the report

2653. PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2017 - 2018

The Clerk and the Responsible Financial Officer reported on the Parish Council precept for 2017-18. The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that the Government had withdrawn the grant element of the Parish Council's funding. The grant funding would be withdrawn over four years to 2020-21. In effect therefore, the Parish Council had to address approximately an £18k deficit in its funding, excluding other budget pressures and inflation between now and 2020-21. At the end of this period, the Parish Council would not be reliant on any grant funding to supplement its income.

Members were reminded that the Parish Council faced potential budget pressures over this period including:

- Repairs and maintenance of the Community Centre including a new boiler
- CCTV maintenance and replacement
- Increased park maintenance costs taking account of a larger pavilion and new toilet facilities.

Whilst the Parish Council had relatively healthy reserves, it had used some in recent months, particularly on maintenance at the Community Centre. Use of reserves was always on a one-off basis and continued use of reserves could not be sustained in the longer-term. To do so would leave the Council potentially exposed if a large and unexpected outlay of expenditure was required.

In order to plan ahead to address the financial deficit in full by the end of 2020-21, the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer presented to the Parish Council a budget for 2017-18 and projected budgets for the next three financial years thereafter, up to 2020-21.

In order to address the immediate position, the Parish Council agreed a budget as detailed at Appendix A and also to set a precept of £99,484, which represented an increase of 9.1%. It was agreed that the Clerk fully explain the need for the increase in the precept in the next edition of the Newsletter.

In terms of the budgets and precept for 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, the Parish Council accepted the need to increase the precept in order to manage the funding deficit. However, they asked the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to revise the projected budgets to allow for a more equitable increase in precept each year over the three years and report back to a future meeting of the Council.

The Parish Council agreed not to increase its charges for Gill Lane and Mill Allotments, the use of the cricket and football pitches and also the Pavilion for the coming year.

RESOLVED that (a) the precept for 2017-18 be set at £99,484;
(b) the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer revise the projected budgets for 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 and report back to the Parish Council;
(c) the need for the precept increases in the next edition of the Newsletter; and
(d) no increases be made to the Parish Council's fees and charges.

Recorded Vote

For: Councillors I F Barlow, Mrs J Bedford, Mrs A Browne, B Garbutt, E Grant, Mrs J A Round-Hill and Mrs L Thomas.

Against: None

Abstained: Councillor Mrs E A Hill

2654. DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS - CIRCULARS

The Clerk presented for the Parish Council's attention DALC Circulars 14/16 and 15/16.

RESOLVED to note the report.

2655. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED that under Section 1(20) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the business set out in the Agenda item(s) (to be specified by the Parish Council) on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the following summary of proceedings.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC HAD BEEN EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

Staffing Matter (information relating to an employee)

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Chairman