

# Minutes of Gillingham Parish Council Meeting

## 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022

**Councillors Present:** Cllrs M. Brown, C. Hoare, B. Warman, J. Ward, and S. Webber

**Also Present:** Clerk.

The Chairman was absent from the meeting, there is no Vice Chairman. Cllr Warman kindly volunteered to chair the meeting.

- 1. Election of a Chairman and the signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.** The confirmed Cllr Massingham's intention to stand down as Chairman. Cllr Hoare proposed Cllr Warman. This was **Resolved** to appoint Cllr Warman as Chairman. Cllr Warman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 2. Election of a Vice-Chairman:** Cllr Hoare proposed Cllr Webber. It was **Resolved** to appoint Cllr Webber as Vice-chairman
- 3. The note that the Clerk is the RFO and also has General Power of Competence.** A **Resolution** was approved under the Localism Act 2001 s.1 to formerly adopt the General Power of Competence. The Council were satisfied that the Clerk had successfully completed the CiLCA qualification (including the GPoC module) and that two-thirds of the Council were voted in at the last election.
- 4. Declaration of Interests other than those registered with South Norfolk Council:** No additional interests were declared
- 5. Parish Ten - parishioners slot:** Traffic lights at the bridge, on The Street, could we pursue this with Highways. Would like traffic to slow down. Norfolk and Suffolk Highways. Concerned about pedestrians and traffic. **AP Clerk** to request this with highways, probably both Suffolk and Norfolk. Trouble with The Street with very large tractors. However, it was noted that Gillingham is a village and there will be tractors on the road.  
Footpath, at the entrance to the footpath along McDonalds. GB has spoken to the resident who complained about the footpath at last months' meeting. They have agreed to cut the neighbouring hedge. The barrels are ugly. GB still looking into this. The rubbish bins on this footpath are being emptied, once a week, litter pick fortnightly and wider area monthly. McDonalds, produce a plan, increase the litter picking. All contributing a big amount of money paid to empty these bins.  
Light pollution – lay in bed at night, it is like daylight. Enquired about black out blinds, these are expensive. Planning application was passed. The residents living nearby are not happy with the level of lights. Effects the whole row of houses. Street lights have to be on. District Councillor Knight will be looking into this problem with the illuminated signs. Black out blinds would be acceptable. But would prefer to turn the lights off. It might be worth trying the isolate the lights that are an issue. Look at the existing tree screening.  
Maybe contact Starbucks/KFC.  
GB To keep on the agenda the River Wall.  
Lesley from the Village requested that the right hand hedge, needs cutting. This not possible as it is the nesting season  
DC James Knight, reported – There is a substantial fund pot for adding electric charging points in the village and maybe solar panels on the village hall. saving power. Long Stratton offices are moving to the other offices in Broadlands.  
Village hall are after to install the sounding panels for inside the hall and solar panels for the roof. This would be an excellent project for CAF  
GB in the time coming to these meetings and listening to various issues. His plan shown last month, was a suggestion.  
The school supports the moving of the school to a different location
- 6. Apologies:** Cllr Massingham and County Councillor Stone. 11 members of the public attended.
- 7. To approve the minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022:** The minutes were **resolved** as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 8. To discuss and agree the issues with Barclays and the move over to Lloyds Bank:** There is now a big issue as there is only one signature left to sign. Lloyds are becoming

extremely hard to get a hold off and lengthy. The Clerk feels that there may be the same issues with them. It was **resolved** that we need to do something and quick.

**9. Village Matters – to discuss and agree.**

**Platinum Jubilee Event:** There is going to be an event in the Village Hall, for the children, with children’s games and a BBQ in the evening. The Clerk has applied for the Jubilee event funding from South Norfolk Council.

**Playground Inspection – discuss and agree the issues with the Playground Report:** Cllr Warman and the Clerk met with the inspection person on his visit. The report has been received. And have circulated in the correspondence pack.

**Discuss setting up a Sub-Committee to maintain the allotments:** This is an idea, the Parish Council would like to be more involved with the running of the allotments and the renters.

**Discuss and agree issues with the Marsh Lane footpath:** Cllr Warman and the Clerk walked some of the footpath. There is need to replace 3 gates and some styles. A general hedge tidy up would be a good idea by the gates.

**Litter Pick** This is planned for 7<sup>th</sup> May 11am. The Clerk will pick up the litter picks, sacks and hi vis from Ketteringham Depot in time for 7<sup>th</sup> May.

**10. Discuss the starting of the Neighbourhood Plan and the benefits.** GB knows of a company that helps out with the running of the Neighbourhood Plan; they are part of the Princes Trust. District Cllr Knight, mentioned a Cllr in Poringland that would help us. He will provide the Clerk with his contact. A Neighbourhood plan performs part of the local plan, need for housing, what community services and infrastructure. It needs to be legal and once signed off the planning SNC needs to comply.

**11. Correspondence** – in the distribution pack.

**12. Planning Matters** – *None received at time of the published agenda*

**13. Finance:**

Payments for May meeting

Nalc	Subscription	201.49
Wages and expenses		321.62
David Bracey	Playground report	96.00
BHIB	Annual Insurance	541.40
Catherine Moore	Internal Auditor	85.00
ICO	Data protection	40.00
Rae Massingham	Loan repayment	500.00
		<u>1785.51</u>

The above payments were discussed. We have one cheque left that can be signed. It was suggested and agreed for £3,000 to be paid into the Clerks bank account and she pays the cheques. **Resolved**, the cheque will cover the above costs of £1785.51 and some additional costs in the following months.

**14. Any Other Business:** Problems with grass cutting the church. Dumping on the neighbouring land. This will be looked into.

**Close of business 20.30**

Date of next meeting 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 7.30pm

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