



**Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting
Minutes
5th September 2023
held in Gillingham Village Hall**

Councillors Present: Cllrs: K. Aldis, C. Hoare (Chair), J. Johnson, S. Mallett, A. Rymer, J. Ward and B. Warman.

Also Present: Clerk. District Councillor Evans.

1. **Welcome.** Welcome to District Councillor Evans and our newest Councillor Cllr Johnson.
2. **Apologies for absence received, record number of members of the public present.** None apologies received; we have a full house. 15 members of the public.
3. **Declaration of Pecuniary and Other Interests.** None.
4. **To approve the minutes of 4th July 2023.** RESOLVED as an accurate record of the meeting. Unanimously.
5. **Parish Ten – Public Forum – Standing Orders will be suspended to allow public participation (Maximum of 10 minutes (3 minutes per person) for items to be discussed for information only.**
Suspend Standing Orders.
 - Gillingham to Beccles footpath is getting worse, high nettles. **Action Clerk** to log a problem with Highways.
 - A footpath sign near Geldeston has been removed and left there.
 - A footpath behind the village hall does not have a footpath sign by the road.
 - Unauthorised parking still happening in Church Lane. People urinating up by their car. At one point there were two parked police cars, but appeared to do nothing.
 - There is a large patch of nettles near where you get on at the brick bus stop. **Action** Ask out Maintenance person to clear this while sweeping the bus stop.Resume Standing Orders.
6. **To discuss the outstanding matters arising from last meeting:**
 - a) Clerk to log a highways fault for the barrier damage on Gillingham Dam. Ongoing.
 - b) To receive an update on the outstanding overgrown hedges along the paths. All the letters have been sent to the house owners as requested.
 - c) To receive an update on the 2022 Parish Partnership Kings Dam footpath, the site meeting, and agree any action. Ongoing, Clerk still chasing highways.
 - d) To receive an update on the broken bus timetable sign. Ask our maintenance person if he can help. It was noted that there has been a bicycle padlocked to the bus shelter for weeks.
 - e) Clerk to contact James King ask for meeting attendance. It has been reported that James King does not attend parish council meetings.
 - f) Clerk to report gate issues to Glen Sharman. Closed item last meeting.
 - g) Cllr Warman to source 'Children to be accompanied by an adult' sign. Sourced and paid. Cllr Warman will put these up.
 - h) Clerk to contact Beccles Town Council re- footpath sign. We need to contact NCC footpaths for these.

7. Planning:

- a) [2023/2193 | Installation of advertisement board promoting company name \(retrospective\) | Land South Of Norwich Road Gillingham Norfolk](#)
Why is this needed up until Dec 2024, as most of the properties have been completed sometime ago.
- b) To receive an update on the outstanding applications, Land North of The Street, Land South of The Street, the business expansion at McDonalds roundabout.
No update as yet, still able to add comments if parishioners would like.

8. Village Matters – to discuss and agree:

- a) To note the play inspection training on 22/8/23 and 5 attendees. Those councillors trained will be able to train the others. The mushroom near the bench is too close. Cllr Warman would like a working party to help move the bench to the fence by the Swan Motel.
- b) To discuss the interval checks. It was considered monthly would be enough. To be reviewed before the summer holidays 2024. Interval checks may need to be fortnightly over the summer holidays.
- c) To discuss the play inspection crib sheet to be used. Noted. The Clerk will undertake the first inspection to make sure the crib sheet is correct.
- d) To discuss the award for the Litter Pick again this year (March 2023) and agree what to spend the £220 on? Agreed to ring fence this for future costs regarding litter picks.
- e) To discuss the grant from Tesco Community of £500, and agree what to spend it on. It was considered a good idea for the money to be put towards a surface for the basketball station.
- f) To note the date for the Neighbourhood plan. Set for 10th October 2023, at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. We will be inviting Geldeston village.
- g) The Clerk added to the meeting, that she has got confirmation from the insurance company. They will accept polycarbonate, but will only refund for a claim for toughened glass. **Action Clerk** to source some quotes from the same company that did the other replacement glass, Norwich Glass Co Ltd.

9. Parish Council Matters:

- a) To receive an update on Additional names for Barclays accounts. This is causing such an issue. The Clerk still does not have her name and address on the bank statements.
- b) To consider moving the bank accounts to Unity Trust Bank (recommended for Parish and Town Councils). Cllr Rymer, is not confident with Unity Trust but suggested we transfer to co-operative bank. The Clerk has had some experience with this, and should not be an issue to set up.
- c) To note on the date for Councillor training and confirm attendees. Six out of the seven councillors will be attending the training on 26th September 2023 at 6pm

10. Correspondence: None.

11. Finance:

At this point Cllr Warman declared a pecuniary interest is 11a!

- a) To approve the payments for this month.

To be approved at		5th September 2023	
Wages + expenses	July and August	£960.28	
	Clerks expenses	£47.45	
	mileage	£40.50	
		£1,048.23	
David Bracey	half of training payable to Clerk	£60.00	
Total payment to Clerk		£1,108.23	101088
Cllr Warman	Play misc	£26.41	

Total Payments	<u><u>£2,242.87</u></u>	101089
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Statement of account

Bank Balance 31/8/23	£9,574.02
<i>consisting off</i>	

CiL balance	£2,325.10
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unpresented cheque -	
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CiL	£2,889.78
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General Reserves	£4,359.14
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	<u>£9,574.02</u>
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NS&I	£106.53
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	<u><u>£9,680.55</u></u>
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Payments totalling £2,242.87 were approved for payment. Proposed by Cllr Rymer and seconded by Cllr Mallett. All in agreement – 1 abstention.

b) To receive the bank balances and budget so far this year. Noted as above.

12. To agree the 2024 parish council meeting dates, as per attached schedule.

and to confirm whether we have a meeting in December 2023. All approved and the Parish Council agreed to have a meeting in December 2023, and 2024.

13. To agree the purchase of a Wreath for Remembrance Day 2023. Agreed to purchase a wreath at the same cost as last year.

14. Discuss any Councillors issues:

Issues with Mopeds, down the footpath in The Street to McDonalds. Empty bottles of beer left there. It was noted that this is private property. It was again suggested that the residents should call 101 police.

Date of next meeting, no meeting in August, next meeting 7th November 2023.

Future Meetings

5th December 2023

9th January 2024 (BH on 2nd January 2024)

6th February 2024

There being no more business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm

Signed by Chairman

Dated