

Gaddesby Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall
on Monday, 11th January 2016, commencing at 6.45 pm.

Councillors Present

Mr Gordon Bigam - Chair
 Mrs Jenny Hurst
 Mr Gary Fox

Mrs Pat Walton - Vice-Chair
 Mr Howard Bakewell

Mrs Trudy Toon – Clerk to the Council
 Borough Councillor Mrs Janet Simpson.

Action

Apologies – Apologies were received from Councillor Mr Edward Kitson and County Councillor Mr J T Orson.

Parishioner/Public Time

None.

Minutes – Minutes of the previous meeting no's 2015/2016 52-56, having been circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed.

Matters Arising

1. **New Bus Shelter, Barsby** – Nothing to report.
2. **Dog Fouling : Gaddesby** – Councillor Bigam had put together a letter regarding offenders of dog fouling – this had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillor Bigam, explained the contents of the letter to Councillors and went on to explain that he had looked into what action other Parish Councils had taken in relation to dog fouling and the enforcement process. Councillors Hurst and Walton found the letter to be too formal and possibly unsuitable for a Parish Council as small as GPC. With this in mind Councillor Hurst had put together a less formal letter with a more gentle approach. Borough Councillor Simpson commented that this problem was ongoing in many villages and that a gentle approach would be the best way forward. Following much discussion, Councillors resolved to send the informal letter to first time offenders and if they were to be caught a second time failing to clean up after their dog, then the stronger, more formal letter would be sent. Councillor Hurst agreed to adapt and amend both the letters as necessary, these could then be discussed and approved at the March meeting. It was suggested, that once the letters had been approved, they could be included alongside the minutes on the Gaddesby Village Website. Councillors again discussed the possibility of installing CCTV cameras, but were of the opinion that MBC may not recognise this as a lawful process of catching the offenders not cleaning up after their dog. The Clerk was asked to contact MBC to ask the legal position if GPC were to purchase a CCTV camera for installation at different locations within Gaddesby village, ie, if an offender was caught on camera, would MBC be able to follow up with a fine.

Councillor
Hurst &
Clerk

Matters Arising cont.

- 3. Gaddesby Lane with Rearsby Bypass junction (A607)** – An email had been received from Mr Lee Measures, Senior Technician of Traffic Management at LCC, to advise that he had looked at the site of the junction and concluded that, whilst there is signage in the central refuge for traffic travelling from Leicester, the signage from Melton Mowbray isn't so visible. Therefore, he would arrange for the sign to be relocated, so that it is mounted on the back of the existing sign in the central refuge, which should make it more prominent.

Mr Measures advised that the request made for additional lighting had been passed to the LCC Street Lighting Department.

The Clerk was asked to remind LCC, Highways Department that the white centre lines from the Rearsby Business Park to the junction had worn away and required reinstating.

Clerk

- 4. GPC current website arrangements** – The Clerk had yet to ask Mr Tucker, the Editor for the Church newsletter, to include the GPC email address in the Church newsletter, but would endeavour to do so in the next few weeks. Councillor Kitson had forwarded an email to all Councillors regarding the Gaddesby Village website services and had asked if GPC would be willing to contribute towards the services. The total cost of which, being £33.38 – the domain name Gaddesby.org.uk being £8.39 and the hosting service being £24.99.

All Councillors agreed that GPC would be happy to pay the current rate of £33.38, but would not be prepared to contribute if the rate were to increase on an annual basis. The Clerk would advise Councillor Kitson of this decision.

Councillor
Kitson &
Clerk

Smaller Authorities Transparency Code – The Clerk circulated to all Councillors a letter and response in the Clerks and Councils Direct magazine, which responded to a letter from a confused Clerk from Hampshire. The response stated that 'there is no requirement for a Council to accept a grant towards implementing the Transparency Code; it is for the Council to decide'. As previously agreed GPC would continue with the current arrangements until such information supersedes this.

- 5. Rearsby Parish Council : Neighbourhood Plan** – The Clerk had emailed Rearsby Parish Council to request that GPC are kept up-to-date with the progress of their Neighbourhood Plan.
- 6. 'Slow' wording on Highway requires reinstating, Gaddesby** – The Clerk had emailed LCC, Highways Department to report that the 'SLOW' road marking, just before Gaddesby brook bridge, had become worn and had been covered with a patch of new tarmac and required reinstating. As a response had not been received the Clerk had forwarded the email again.
- 7. Muddy footpath gateway, Barsby/Ashby Folville** – The Clerk had emailed Mr Richard Bye, the Rights of Way Inspector for the Melton area for LCC, to ask if it would be possible for the maintenance contractors to spread some stone in the muddy gateway on the public footpath from Barsby to Ashby Folville. Mr Bye had responded to the Clerks request and had advised that as he remembers the original request from February 2015, when no action was taken by LCC, he would endeavour to ask the maintenance contractors to spread some stone in the area – although the LCC budget is limited.

Matters Arising cont.

8. **GPC ‘Flyer’** – Councillor Kitson had forwarded to Councillors the updated version of the GPC ‘flyer’. Councillors asked the Clerk to pass on their thanks to Councillor Kitson for amending the ‘flyer’ as necessary. Following consideration, Councillors felt that it would be preferable if the budget/precept figures for 2016/2017 were shown in a percentage rather than pounds; the Clerk would ask Councillor Kitson to amend the figures. Councillor Kitson had also asked if a brief sentence should be included to explain the role of the Clerk - Councillors agreed that this would be a good idea and asked the Clerk to inform Councillor Kitson of this. Once the ‘flyer’ had been amended and approved it was resolved to circulate it to all Parishioners with the Church newsletter.

Councillor
Kitson &
Clerk**Correspondence**

1. **Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils (LRALC)** – An invitation and letter had been received from the Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils (LRALC) asking if GPC would be interested in becoming a member for the year, at a cost of £199.63. Councillor Fox would have a read through the information received to see if membership would be worthwhile and beneficial to GPC.

Councillor
Fox

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

Planning Matters**‘For Information Only’**

- a. **Grooms Cottage, 4 Folville Street, Ashby Folville** – Application submitted by Mr Gordon Bigam, for consent to work on trees, for the proposed crown reduction of a Cherry tree from 12m height and diameter to 9m height and diameter. The crown reduction and shaping of a further Cherry tree from 8m height and diameter to 6-7m height and diameter. The crown reduction of a purple leaf plum tree from 10m height to 8m height and diameter.

‘For Information Only’

- b. **The Grange, Rotherby Lane, Gaddesby** – Application submitted by J E and J Mansell and Son, for the proposed erection of a new agricultural grain store.

‘For Information Only’

- c. **Plum Cottage, 5 Cross Street, Gaddesby** – Confirmation had been received from MBC that on the 9th December 2015, a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) had been made on the Cedrus Libani Tree (Cedar) situated in the rear garden of Plum Cottage, 5 Cross Street, Gaddesby.

Planning Decisions

- a. **Land Between 15 and 21 Folville Street, Ashby Folville** – Application submitted by Ashby Folville Land Trust for the proposed demolition of the derelict mushroom shed and the erection of four cottage dwellings, gardens and parking has been granted planning permission by MBC.

It was understood that the application was considered by the MBC Planning Committee on Thursday, 7th January 2016.

Planning Decisions cont.**a. Land Between 15 and 21 Folville Street, Ashby Folville, cont. -**

Councillors had concerns that, once the dwellings have been constructed, on refuse collection days there could potentially be eight waste refuse bins situated on the public footpath, thus making it difficult for pedestrians to use the footpath safely without moving onto the Highway. The Clerk was asked to write to MBC to enquire if it would be possible for them to ask the applicant to consider the provision of the waste refuse bins within the site boundary.

Clerk

Representative Reports

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

2. Barsby Village Hall Green – Councillor Hurst reported that a Barsby Village Hall Green committee meeting was being held, tonight, Monday, 11th January 2016 to discuss the forthcoming ‘Race Night and Supper’, which would take place on Saturday, 23rd January 2016 at Ashby and Barsby Parish Hall. Tickets £10.00.

3. Gaddesby Village Hall – Councillor Bakewell reported that the Village Hall lettings continued to be good and that the Hall door had been refurbished and painted. Councillor Bakewell advised that the committee were waiting for a third quotation to be received in relation to the replacement of the existing kitchen. A committee meeting would be held on Friday, 29th January 2016.

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

E.ON UK Plc – Street light maintenance, ¼ ending 31.12.2015, £182.65 plus 20% VAT £36.53, total £219.18.

N.G.Pick – Playground maintenance, 01.05.2015 to 31.10.2015, total £425.00.

Accounts for payment:

E.ON UK Plc – Street light energy, from 01.10.2015 to 31.12.2015, £321.44 plus 5% VAT £16.07, total £337.51.

South Croxton Benefice – 4th ¼ payment towards the church newsletter, total £62.50.

Trudy.M.Toon – Clerks salary and expenses from 01.10.2015 to 31.12.2015, salary £1,281.28 expenses £102.40, total £1,383.68.

Payments Received:

None.

Estimated Balances:

Barclays Bank Business Reserve Account £15,999.34.

Barclays Bank Community Account £890.10.

The latest bank statements were made available for Councillors.

Transfer of Funds:

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

Clerk

Other Business

1. Notification of Planning Applications – The Clerk explained to those present that MBC neither, no longer send out paper copies of current planning applications, nor do they email the details with all the relevant documents as an attachment. MBC email the application number and comment that the documents can be viewed on the MBC website. The Clerk felt this to be an unsatisfactory practice as it meant that Councillors would have to look at the MBC website individually and could not easily view the documents as an email. Borough Councillor Simpson was unaware of any changes to the system and suggested that the Clerk contact Mr Jim Worley, Head of Regulatory Services, to ask why the change had been made without consulting with Parish Councils.

Clerk

2. Gaddesby Childrens Play Area – Councillors had noted that moss and algae had started to form on the surface of the MUGA, thus potentially making the surface slippery. It was thought that the surface required a professional clean. The Clerk was asked to contact several Play Area specialists with a view to obtaining quotations for the cleaning of the surface. It had also been noted that some of the wooden slats on the playhouse bridge were missing; Councillor Bakewell agreed to go and have a look at the playhouse and would report back to the Clerk.

Councillor
Bakewell &
Clerk**Arrangements for the next meeting :**

Monday, 8th February 2016, at Gaddesby Village Hall, commencing at 6.45 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Chair.