

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Gretton Parish Council held on Monday 11 November 2024 at 7.30pm at Gretton Village Hall, 61

Kirby Road, Gretton NN17 3DB

Present: Cllrs Lilley, Fox, Husk, Wright, Newby, Thompson, Blamire, Turner,

In Attendance: Councillor K Watt, C Watts Clerk

- 24/191** **To receive and approve apologies for absence.**
Apologies received Cllr Nicholls, Out of the country. Trevor Smith (PLR & NHW), Work commitments
RESOLVED: Approved
- 24/192** **To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda.**
Cllr Thompson declared an interest on an item to be discussed under Open Forum in relation to an issue in Winchilsea Drive
RESOLVED: Approved
- 24/193** **To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meetings held on 9, 30 September and 14 October 2024**
All minutes were signed with no amendments.
RESOLVED: Approved. Votes – all in favour.
Cllr Lilley shared that the meeting was being recorded and asked if there were any objections. No objections were raised.
- 24/194** **Open Forum**
A resident from Winchilsea Drive attended the meeting to raise his concerns regarding a planning application where they felt that the plans that have been submitted are not being adhered to. The resident has asked if there was anything the Parish Council could do and who could he contact to ask for it to be looked into. The Parish Council have advised the resident to contact the Planning Officer who is involved with the original Planning Application to ask for it to be investigated.
A resident attended the meeting to discuss the ongoing issues with Gretton Brook Road and a planned closure for works to be carried out by Anglian Water. Cllr Newby shared that there is to be a repair of a collapsed sewer. Dunlop Close issues were raised in relation to fly tipping, disposing of rubbish in Gretton Brook and tenant's behaviour. Cllr Newby shared that he has visited the site and there are ongoing discussions. Cllr Watt shared that NNC are in constant contact with the residents and monitor the situation.
Cllr Lilley shared that herself and Cllr Newby have been in many meetings to try and get companies to accept responsibility for the issues on the Gretton Brook Road. It has also been raised with the new MP. Cllr Newby asked the resident to continue to work with the Parish Council to keep this campaign going.

RESOLVED: Approved

24/195

To receive a report from Corby Rural Division, North Northamptonshire Council

At the meeting Cllr Watt shared that a housing neighbour issue within the village has been escalated and is being investigated.

Cllr Lilley and Cllr Watt to investigate if a complaint should be submitted to the Council Ombudsman

A Cycleway from Gretton to Priors Hall was discussed as an option and whether it would be used.

Action: *Cllr Newby to work with A Merrick on a feasibility study which could be grant funded.*

RESOLVED: Approved

24/196

To receive a report from the Police.

No Report Received

RESOLVED: Noted

24/197

To receive a report from the Police Liaison Representative and Gretton

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

No Report Received

RESOLVED: Noted

24/198

To receive a report from the following Working Groups:

24/198a Neighbourhood Plan and Local Plan matters – Cllr Lilley

Before the meeting Cllr Lilley submitted her report (full report available on the PC Website)

At the meeting Cllr Lilley asked for suggestions for the siting of the storage unit for tools that have been purchased for the volunteers to use around the village. Various areas around the village were discussed.

Action: *Cllr Lilley to feed back to the Parish Council after discussions with the volunteer group*

RESOLVED: Approved

24/198b Highways Working Group – Cllr.Thompson

Before the meeting Cllr Thompson submitted his report (full report available on the PC Website)

It was raised that now there is data from the TVAS available to view it should be compared to previous years

Action: *Cllr Thompson to ask the traffic group to provide an analysis report from the data in a website friendly format so that it can be published on the website.*

RESOLVED: Approved

24/198c Community –buses, doctors' surgery, school liaison – Cllr.Husk

Before the meeting Cllr Husk submitted her report (full report available on the PC Website)

RESOLVED: Approved

24/198d Environment –trees, Pocket Park, litter collecting groups-Cllr.Newby

Before the meeting Cllr Newby submitted his report (full report available on the PC Website)

RESOLVED: Approved

24/198e Recreation ground – Cllr.Fox

Before the meeting Cllr Fox submitted his report (full report available on the PC Website)

At the meeting Cllr Turner shared he would contact the supplier of the Line marker machine to ask for the invoice to be raised to the Parish Council. He will also ask where the previous machine is at this current time.

Action: *The Clerk to contact the Football Club to share the procedure when items are purchased on behalf of the Parish Council*

RESOLVED: Approved

24/198f Sports and Social Club – Cllr.Nicholls

Before the meeting Cllr Nicholls submitted his report (full report available on the PC Website)

RESOLVED: Approved

24/198g Youth Council and Social Media – Cllr.Blamire

Before the meeting Cllr Blamire submitted her report (full report available on the PC Website)

Action: *Cllr Blamire to conduct further investigation on the use of Gov.Uk domain and bring to the next meeting for discussion as to the next steps*

RESOLVED: Approved

24/199

Planning Applications received.

NC/24/00271/DPA

Single detached dwelling with associated access & detached garage (revised 14.10.2024)

36 Arnhill Road Gretton North Northamptonshire NN17 3DN

Action: *The Clerk to email the Planning Officer assigned to this application stating that the previous comments that the Parish Council submitted still stand and that they neither support or object to this application.*

NC/24/00327/CLE

Internal alterations to create larger open plan kitchen & utility/w.c. area within attached outbuildings. Externally, the removal & sealing up of a single door & two windows to the side elevation at ground floor level. The formation of an external door opening, corresponding to a kitchen window position to the rear elevation of the existing kitchen. The insertion of a Velux rooflight window to the existing lean-to roof plane above the enlarged kitchen.

36 Fulwell Avenue Gretton North Northamptonshire NN17 3DG

Action: *The Clerk to comment on the NNC Portal that there is insufficient information available on the website for them to approve or object.*

RESOLVED: Approved

24/200

To Receive Update from Efficiencies and Improvement Group.

At the meeting Cllr Turner shared that he has started to update policies and is looking at templates. He shared a report showing the statutory reports and best practice reports that are on the NCALC website.

Action: *The Clerk to pass over the current Policy folder to Cllr Turner.*

Action: *Cllr Turner to continue working on this with other Cllr's within this group*

RESOLVED: Approved

Comfort break taken from 9.00pm till 9.03pm

Cllr Watt left the meeting

24/201

To receive update on Sewage Project

At the meeting Cllr Thompson shared that he had received another quote from a contractor. This is to be shared with the Clerk.

Action: *Cllr Thompson to follow up on final quotes for the remainder of the works needed to complete the work for presentation to the Parish Council for discussion*

Action: *The Clerk to update GSSC on the above.*

RESOLVED: Approved

24/202

To Discuss first draft of 2025/26 Budget

Before the meeting Cllr Wright submitted a paper showing the Draft Budget process that the Finance Committee have followed (full report available on the PC Website) Cllr Wright prepared a first draft of 2025/26 and the Clerk shared with all the Cllr's prior to the meeting for review.

Cllr Wright shared that the hardest part is to get a starting point for a new budget while the current financial year is not yet complete.

Cllr Wright shared that some of the budget recommendation numbers come from NCALC.

Cllr Wright shared that this budget has been prepared based on information that the Finance Committee currently have.

Cllr Lilley has asked for the costs/quotes that are still to be confirmed for the remainder of this financial year and next year be cemented in as soon as possible so that there is a better starting point for the next Council.

Cllr Training courses to be suspended until after the Election.

An item in Cllr Nicholls report raised the question of fencing round the play area be considered in the Budget.

Action: *Cllr Lilley shared there would be another Finance Committee meeting on 12 November 2024 to discuss any additional items from this meeting in relation to the Draft Budget and will provide feedback to the Cllr's*

RESOLVED: Approved

24/203

To Discuss the Shelton Road Incinerator

Cllr shared that Lee Baron MP is committed to a campaign to be set up to question the Incinerator being approved in a residential area. Weldon, Priors Hall and Gretton Parish Council supports this campaign.

Action: *Cllr Lilley will update the Parish Council on this campaign.*

RESOLVED: Approved

- 24/204** To Discuss The 2025 Mowing Contract Specification
Cllr Wright shared that he had met with two of the volunteers and a walk round the village was conducted to ascertain what is required to maintain the Village to a high standard.
Cllr's were asked to consider whether the PC should continue to accept from NCC the devolved responsibility for Urban Mowing. Cllrs were asked to consider the legal responsibilities and costs this entails balanced against retaining control of the mowing frequency and aesthetic look of the verges within the village.
Cllr's to consider options as to how the Tender is prepared and as to whether different contractors for different areas or tasks are used or one contractor for all.
RESOLVED: Approved
- 24/205** To Discuss 3 bins and Bench for Recreation Ground
Cllr Fox asked for approval for three Bins and a Bench to be purchased from the Aegean Grant Funds
Cllr Thompson shared that the bin at the bus stop by the village hall is damaged.
Action: Cllr Blamire to take photos and report the damaged bin.
RESOLVED: All Approved
- 24/206** To receive Finance Statements for Approval
June July August and September 2024 all reviewed and signed without amendment
RESOLVED: Approved without further amendment
- 24/207** To Discuss Action List Report which has been created to view status of items from previous meetings
Cllr Lilley proposed that the review of the Action List be carried over to next month due to time constraints
RESOLVED: Approved
- 24/ 208** To receive a report on any correspondence received since the previous meeting.
RESOLVED: Approved
1 A request has been received about the possibility of a brick building replacing the portacabin on behalf of Gretton Silver Band.
Action: The Clerk to reply asking that the Silver Band engage with the Recreation Ground Group and to keep the Parish Council fully informed of any steps
2 Gretton Silver Band have asked if there are any plans for VE day next year at this current time
Action: The Clerk to reply sharing no plans at this time.
3 Thanks have been received from Gretton Sports and Social Club in that they are in agreement that a resolution has been reached and there is no issue for Gretton Sports and Social Club to resolve.
4 Stone Pit Paddock to be cleared.
Action: The Clerk to contact the previous tenant asking for the paddock to be cleared as per the terms of the tenant agreement.
5 The Verge that has been fenced and grassed on Clay Lane.
Cllr Lilley shared she had been informed that it is Highways land and was awaiting confirmation that a letter has been sent to the resident. Also awaiting confirmation that it would be passed over to the Enforcement officer.
6 Prior to the meeting Quotes were reviewed by the Cllr's for the Pocket Park wall repairs.
Cllr Newby confirmed all contractors had been given the same work spec
Action: The Clerk to contact two of the contractors asking for their Public Liability Insurance and any evidence of previous work.

7 Correspondence was received from a resident of Gretton in relation to the setting of the Budget and Precept for 2025/26.

This was discussed and a statement of fact will be posted on the Parish Council Website and Facebook Page.

Action: A Statement of Fact will be posted by admin on Facebook and Gretton Parish Website

8 Correspondence was received from a resident in relation to parking issues in and around the village.

Cllr Lilley has shared that she is aware of the issues and will respond when she has fulfilled other pressing commitments.

RESOLVED: Approved

24/209

Councillor Questions

It was raised that there has been a significant increase in parking around the school at pick up and drop off time due to increase in children coming from outside of the village. It was asked if they could use the Village Hall for parking.

The Village Hall would need to be asked directly.

A request was raised for a Christmas Tree to be purchased by the Parish Council to be placed on the Village Green.

RESOLVED: Voted All Approved

24/210

To exclude members of the public and press on the grounds that the next item of business involves the likely disclosure of exempt information.

RESOLVED: Voted All Approved

24/211

To Discuss New Lease for GSSC

Final points of the terms of the proposed lease were discussed at the meeting and a proposal was made and approved by all Cllr's which will be presented to Gretton Sports and Social Club before being published

RESOLVED: Approved

24/212

Date of Next Meeting

9 December 2024

RESOLVED: Approved

24/213

Close

10.30pm

RESOLVED: Approved

Councillors' reports are available on the PC Website at <https://www.grettonparishcouncil.co.uk/>