

GILBERDYKE PARISH COUNCIL

Summary Notes of the January 2021 (Ordinary) Meeting of the Parish Council
Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 7.00pm

As a point of procedure, it is noted that the January meeting of Gilberdyke Parish Council was held as a remote meeting managed by Zoom, due to ongoing restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

In Attendance Cllr N Norris (Chair): Cllr P Byran (Dep. Chair):Cllr C Newsome: Cllr E Morrison: Cllr D Mansell: Cllr P Buckle: Cllr K Woollass; Cllr J Arnold: Cllr C Stevens
Clerk: Andrew Crabbe

1 Any Apologies received and Chair to confirm quorate.

Clerk noted that he had not received an apology from Cllr Bates and therefore she was listed as unadvised absence. Clerk also noted that Cllr Cooper was also not in attendance however he had been trying access the meeting but had been unable to do so. Clerk recommended that he should be listed as an apology and not unadvised absence. Cllrs unanimously agreed and this was duly noted.

Chair confirmed quorum for the meeting.

2 Approval of Previous Month's Minutes and Signing by Chair

Chair asked Cllrs to confirm they had received, read, and agreed with the previous month's minutes, Cllrs confirmed this was the case and the Chair duly signed the minutes as official.

3 Any declarations of interests relevant to the meeting's Agenda

Chair asked Cllrs to advise if they had any interests to declare regarding the meeting's agenda – Cllrs confirmed they had not.

4 Financial Report and Accounts

Clerk confirmed that he had now had contact with NATWEST and they had recently provided the requested statements and confirmed that future statements would be sent to him – the October statement was still outstanding [file note: subsequently received by the Clerk] which accounted for the large number of uncashed cheques appearing in Box 2 of the report – Clerk confirmed he had no concerns with this.

The financial report for December can be found as **Appendix 1** and the cheques presented at the January meeting were duly approved by Cllrs. The Clerk confirmed no issues, and the accounts of the Parish Council remained solvent and in a good state.

5 Public participation (15 mins max, or 3 mins per person/topic)

Chair noted no members of the public in attendance – Clerk advised that he had received several issues from residents which he asked Cllrs permission to raise under Correspondence (as below)

6 Any correspondence requiring discussing.

Clerk referred Cllrs to several correspondence which can be found as **Appendix 2**, along with Cllrs decisions in the respective items.

7 Planning Applications to be considered.

Clerk advised no planning applications had been received since the last meeting.

8 Matters arising – to consider new and on-going issues and decide further action if necessary:

Ongoing Items

8.1 Update on projects / budgetary issues regarding precept and budget for 2021/22 to include review of financial support for War Memorial Hall (All)

Draft Budget

Clerk referred Cllrs to the draft budget he had compiled and asked them to review over the next few months with a view to signing off for the new financial year at the April meeting. Clerk noted at this point the draft budget was circa £51k, and although this may change as Cllrs reviewed the budget items, there was a forecast surplus of £60k based on forecast spending v forecast credit in the new financial year, therefore it was reasonable to suggest any changes could be easily factored into this surplus without the necessity to increase the precept.

Resolved: Cllrs would review the budget over the next three months with a view to agreeing a final version in April.

Precept – 2021/22

Clerk referred Cllrs to the precept report he had sent to them earlier.

In summary Clerk confirmed his recommendation that as the forecast spending v credit in the new financial year had left the Parish Council with a considerable forecast surplus, he felt that any project spending could be met with current finances in the new financial year without increasing the precept.

Cllrs also noted the high financial reserves held by the Parish – it was discussed that although highly unlikely, Cllrs could allocate some of these to major projects going forward and not entirely rely on the current account, further lessening the need to increase the precept for the coming financial year.

The question of the approximately £70k held in one of the bank reserves for the purposes of assisting the Memorial Hall Committee with the building of a new village hall was moved to a later meeting. Clerk confirmed there was nothing in the financial records to specify this was 'earmarked', and the internal auditor had advised that he was unaware of this amount and purpose.

Following a proposal by the Chair not to increase the precept for 2021/22, this was agreed unanimously by Cllrs.

Resolved: Clerk was instructed to advise ERYC of the Parish Council's precept demand for 2021/22

Financial Contribution to the War Memorial Hall

Cllrs discussed the current arrangement whereby the PC made an annual contribution of £10,000 to the War Memorial Hall for the purposes of a replacement village hall. In summary Cllrs felt that this purpose was unlikely to ever happen due to the high cost of replacement and therefore there was little value to continuing with the financial contribution, especially considering the numerous projects facing the PC at the moment. Cllrs agreed that it might be more appropriate for the PC to financially support maintenance issues at the memorial Hall, perhaps match funded by the Memorial Hall Committee.

Clerk asked Cllrs to consider the projects that had been tabled and if they wished to allocate funds to these projects over the next financial year, which would be listed and recorded on the budget. Clerk would prepare a project table for the next meeting to enable Cllrs to focus on what was needed.

Resolved: Proposed by Cllr Bryan and Cllrs voted unanimously to end the financial contribution - Clerk to write to the Memorial Hall Committee and advise of the decision.

8.2 Update and discussion on current Project Plan (Clerk)

Clerk referred Cllrs to the Project Plan which had sent to them earlier – the purpose of this document and the archive folder was explained to the new Cllrs.

8.3 Update on new cemetery land and lease situation with associated road (All)

Continuing from previous meeting and advice from the Newport PC Burial Clerk that GPC had withdrawn from the joint lease of an access road adjoining the current cemetery - Cllrs Bryan and Norris advised the meeting that they could not recall this happening. Clerk updated Cllrs that he had spoken to ERYC on the matter who had confirmed GPC was still party to the access road lease. Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should contact Newport PC to this intent.

Clerk continued that as the lease was still in the name of the dissolved Joint Burial Committee, he recommended that the PC should contact ERYC and ask for a new lease agreement identifying GPC and Newport PC as separate entities to the lease. Cllrs agreed to this proposal.

Resolved: Clerk to write to ERYC and suggest a new lease

8.4 Update from project team re: road safety B1230 (section between Gilberdyke and Newport) (Cllrs Newsome, Woollass, Stevens, Buckle)

Cllr Newsome advised he had spoken to Humberside Police's Safer Roads Team and a site meeting with Officers and Cllrs would be rearranged for end of February.

Clerk confirmed he had submitted a Freedom of Information request to ERYC Highways requesting details of accidents / incidents.

Cllrs agreed that the matter would remain open / live until receipt of the FOI and the meeting with the Safer Roads Team.

8.5 Update re: issues of concern with Jubilee Gardens Development (All)

Cllrs discussed ongoing issues of concerns related to flooding in the Flaxmill area which residents believed was aggravated by the Orion housing development (caused by water running off the development due to it being raised). Cllr Bryan advised Cllrs that he had been speaking to Ward Cllr Aitken regarding this matter and noted that surely it was not a coincidence that flooding had worsened since they had raised the ground by more than 3 feet. Cllr Morrison advised he agreed that there was always flooding in the area, however there was no place for the water to go now.

Clerk confirmed that following refusal of Orion to meet with Parish Cllrs, the matter had been referred onto ERYC Planning and a Planning Officer had been assigned to investigate. At the time of the meeting the Planning Officer was asking for evidence to substantiate the claims that the flooding had been aggravated by the development.

Chair suggested that it might be time for the PC to get the press involved. Cllrs discussed a proposal that a small petition should be created asking residents impacted to sign to state that flooding has worsened since the development – Cllrs unanimously agreed to this and the Clerk was asked to draft and action.

Finally, Cllrs discussed the status of the 'tenfold' / road at the rear of the development, which was now flooding badly – it was understood that ERYC had not adopted the road, however two streetlights had been put in and the pavements had been curbed therefore Cllrs asked was ERYC not responsible for the [drainage] of the road – Chair summarized that a number of new questions had arisen and it was agreed these should be put to ERYC by the Clerk and reported back to Cllrs in time for the next meeting.

New Items

8.6 Cllrs to discuss possible transfer of bank accounts following concerns with NATWEST(All)

Clerk confirmed he considered the matter with NATWEST resolved and bearing in mind the workload of the Parish Council at this time, he recommended that no further action was taken, whilst still noting the poor customer service received by the Parish Council from NATWEST.

Resolved: No further action required

8.7 Cllrs to discuss playground inspection report and related actions needed (All)

Cllrs discussed the playground inspection report recently received regarding the Clemonthorpe Road Playgrounds. Clerk advised although there were no high risks noted by the inspector, several medium risks had been identified and needed addressing in the short term (within three months).

Resolved: Cllrs agreed that Clerk should be allocated a budget of £500 for the immediate refurbishment of the playground and that the Clerk should contact the manufacturers, Sutcliffe's to carry out the work – costs above this amount would need referring back to Cllrs.

A much larger project would be the replacement of the matting which Cllrs Morrison and Buckle reported was being worn away – Cllrs agreed to consider options which would include taking up the matting and replacing with bark which some Parish Councils had done as this was considerably cheaper than replacing with matting. Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should obtain quotes for both matting and surface bark and report back to the February meeting.

8.8 Cllrs to confirm format of February 2021 Parish Meeting (COVID-19 Emergency) (All)

Clerk confirmed guidance / advice remained in place to avoid face to face meetings and continue to use remote working to hold Parish Meetings.

Resolved: Cllrs agreed to hold the February meeting by Zoom.

9. Reports:

9.1 GDLA

Cllrs noted the absence of Cllr Cooper and therefore there was no update on the GDLA – Clerk noted that the lease variation final version had now been signed and returned to the solicitor.

9.2 War Memorial Hall

Cllr Bryan advised there had been no meetings of the Memorial Hall Committee and therefore there was nothing to report.

AOB

Cllr Buckle raised concerns with the state of the pond due to the number of wildfowl at the pond at the moment. Cllrs noted that several birds had been brought onto the pond without permission. Cllrs agreed to move this issue to the February meeting to allow for full discussion.

There being no more business, the Chair closed the meeting at 2055.

The next meeting will be held 8th February 2021.

Signed as a true record*Nick Norris* DateFebruary 2021.....

Cllr Nick Norris

Appendix 2: Issues Raised by Residents

<p>I have just posted a complaint on the Gilberdyke hub because of the diarrhea I trod in whilst feeding the ducks in this cold weather. Children visit the ducks as well as babies in pushchairs. Please can the council ask for dog owners to be banned from the Gilberdyke ponds as there were several piles of poo in the grass and they should not be allowed somewhere of natural beauty if they cannot appreciate it. Also I have been told some dog owners allow dogs to attack the ducks.</p>	<p>Several Cllr commented that they walk the pond area daily and although there were concerns about the number of wildfowl and resultant mess caused by these, Cllrs had not seen any dog mess.</p>	<p>Resolved: Cllrs agreed that any such cases of dog fouling would be dealt with by CCTV as and when this was introduced.</p>
<p>In Pollington there is an initiative between the counsellors and police to give households a free SMARTWATER security kit. Is there any chance you can find funding for Gilberdyke households to have this please?</p>		<p>Resolved: Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should investigate the scheme and provide information at the next meeting</p>
<p>Autela payroll have advised three of our employees (AC, AD, TW) are entitled to enroll on a pension scheme and receive employer contributions. All three have been consulted on and are considering – decisions will be advised to Cllrs in due course as this will need budgeting for in the new financial year</p>		<p>Resolved: Clerk to check with employees concerned if they wished to join the pension scheme and advise accordingly – Clerk to advise Cllrs at next meeting</p>
<p>I mentioned to Donna about adding a topic to the next parish meeting and was asked you email you. Please can it be mentioned about the ice around the village and how dangerous it is. Not sure if anything can be done about it?</p>	<p>Cllrs discussed concerns from residents on social media regarding the iced pavements at the moment – unfortunately, Cllrs had been advised that due to liability issues not to spread the grit, however volunteers could be sought to carry this out.</p>	<p>Resolved: Clerk to source gritting for the grit boxes and then ask for volunteers to spread the grit.</p>