

GREAT COATES VILLAGE COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Great Coates Village Council Annual Parish Meeting held at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Cooks Lane, Great Coates on 22nd June 2017

Present:

Councillors S Thomas (chair) , Cllr Redgrift, , Cllr G Mumby, Cllr K Green, Cllr Masterton, Cllr Bradwell, J Waite (Clerk), Cllr Barber, 4 members of the public.

1 To Receive apologies and reasons for absence, Ref 17/74

Cllr Cutting, Cllr Sutton.

2 To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011 – being any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in agenda items not previously recorded on Members' Register of Interests. Ref 17/75

Cllr Thomas declared a personal interest in the item about the mower, as the owner.

3 To approve the draft minutes of the Meeting held on 25th May 2017. Ref 17/76

Resolved to approve as a true record of the Meeting held on 25th May 2017.

Proposed Cllr Redgrift, seconded Cllr Masterton. All in favour.

4 Public Questions. Ref 17/77

An application has been submitted by a resident for the war memorial to be given listed status, and a letter of support was asked for from the Village Council - Clerk to send the letter to the relevant offices dealing with this matter.

A resident raised concern about the cost of the external audit - this was due to the objections raised by one resident after inspecting the accounts last year. All the points raised by that challenge were unfounded.

A resident requested that printed agenda be available at the meetings - the Clerk had been doing this in response to an earlier request but had stopped as the people who had asked were no longer attending the meetings.

Concern was raised about the overgrown state of Allington Drive.

Great Coates Community Group asked the council to provide a raffle prize for their summer fair on July 16th.

5 Parish matters – To receive any report or consider any appropriate action. Ref 17/78

a) Council magazine - Date for submissions for next issue is August 31st. 2017.

b) War Memorial - A letter to support the listing application is to be sent.

Proposed Cllr Mumby. Seconded Cllr Green. All in favour.

c) Casual Vacancy - The date has now passed for election, so Council can now Co-opted a new member.

d) Contract for the work on new suspended ceiling - a site meeting and start date are to be arranged.

6 Committee Reports. Ref 17/79

Cllr Barber informed council that the residents on Newbury Avenue have been contacted about the state of the garage area, and that the fly tipping of rubbish is to be collected.

No police report has been received.

Council appointed the following representatives to external bodies.

Town and Parish Liaison Group - Cllr Thomas
Liaison Panel - Cllr Redgrift
Governor at Nursery School - Cllr Redgrift
Governor at Primary School - Cllr Redgrift
Freshney Forward - Cllr Thomas and Cllr Masterton.

7 Clerks Report. Ref 17/80.

An email about Allington Drive has been received, it is not a suitable area for the Handyman to do but the Clerk will ask if it is possible to clear a path way with the current strimmer.
Cllr Barber was asked if NELincs would be able to maintain this area.

It was resolved to look for quotes for a new strimmer and lawnmower.

Proposed Cllr Mumby. Seconded Cllr Bradwell. All in favour.

Cllr Mumby will liaise with the Handyman about the problems with the mower, and inform the Clerk if it will need to be sent for repairs.

A policy for Councillors claiming a mileage allowance for external meetings is to be drawn up.

Cllr Green has received a complaint about the accuracy of the figures given in the magazine in connection with the original vote taken in relation to the building of the hall. It was felt that this should be left as published.

Clerk reminded all residents that Councillors can only be contacted on the details given on the website and in the magazine - any correspondence sent to personal email addresses will be ignored.

Review of Policies.

Standing Orders - will be reviewed at next meeting.

Financial Orders - reviewed and signed off at this meeting

Communications Policy - reviewed and altered to reflect current guide lines of a response rate of 20 working days.

Proposed Cllr Masterton. Seconded Cllr Green. All in favour.

An email has been received about the noise level at the hall during a recent function. Caretakers and Clerk to remind all hirers that there should be no noise after 11pm.

Cllr Thomas signed declaration of Acceptant of Office as Chair.

8 Finance. Ref 17/81

Schedule of payments was circulated and approved for payment. All payments were approved .

Proposed Cllr Redgrift. Seconded Cllr Masterton. All in favour.

Internal Audit Report. Ref 17/82

Copies of the report were circulated to all councillors. The action points given by the auditor were discussed, and although some minor changes will be made it was felt that the issues highlighted have been dealt with and more robust procedures already put in place.

Proposed to accept report
Cllr Redgrift. Seconded Cllr Mumby. All in favour.

Discussion of 2017/18 pay scales moved to closed session.

8 Planning Application Received. Ref 17/83

No comments made.

Chair closed the meeting and moved to closed session.

Meeting ended 8.25pm

Present:

Councillors S Thomas (chair) , Cllr Redgrift , Cllr K Green, Cllr Bradwell, Cllr Masterton, Cllr Mumby, J Waite (Clerk).

1 To Receive apologies and reasons for absence, Ref 17/84

Cllr Cutting.

2 To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011 – being any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in agenda items not previously recorded on Members' Register of Interests. Ref 17/85

None received.

3 To Resolve Council response to complaint from GCCG. Ref 17/86

The letter has been acknowledged by the Personnel Committee, and a request for more information sent. This has now been received. The Personnel Committee will reply on behalf of the Full Council.

4 To Resolve to award the pay increases as stated in the pay award for 2017/18. Ref 17/87

Proposed Cllr Bradwell. Seconded Cllr Mumby.
All in favour.

5 To seek further advice about the legal position surrounding the removal of the War Memorial. Ref 17/88.

It was resolved to arrange a briefing meeting with Councillors and a solicitor to review all the evidence and correspondence surrounding the removal of the war memorial, in March 2013, with a view to releasing a public statement

Proposed Cllr Masterton. Seconded Cllr Green. All in favour.

Meeting closed 8.45pm.

Date of next meeting to be held at Great Coates Village Hall, Cooks Lane, Great Coates, Thursday 27th July at 7.00pm.