

GREAT COATES VILLAGE COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Great Coates Village Council Meeting held at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Cooks Lane, Great Coates on 23rd November 2017

Present:

Councillors Cllr G Mumby,(Chair), Cllr K Green, Cllr Masterton, Cllr Cutting, Cllr Redgriff
Cllr Lawrance, J Waite (Clerk), Cllr Sutton, 2 members of the public.

1 To Receive apologies and reasons for absence, Ref 17/141

Cllr Thomas

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 17/142

none given.

3 To approve the draft minutes of the Meeting held on 26th October 2017. Ref 17/143

Resolved to approve as a true record of the Meeting held on 26th October 2017.

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

4 Public Questions. Ref 17/144

Question asked about the total cost of the hall to be built, the cost of the new ceiling, and the running costs for the hall - the total cost of the loan to build the hall was £302,000.00. The cost of the new ceiling was taken from the reserve account, and the hall is currently covering the running costs.

5 Parish matters – To receive any report or consider any appropriate action. Ref 17/145

a) Council magazine - Planned distribution date is by 8th december. The prize for the december issue competition is to be increased to a value of £55, and a hamper of this value will be purchased.
Proposed Cllr Green. Seconded Cllr Cutting. All in favour.

b) War Memorial - No report given.

c) Casual Vacancy - There are currently two vacancies to fill.

d) Christmas Carols - December 9th - preparations have been made for the tree to be delivered on december 1st, and a flyer for the event has been printed and distributed, at a cost of £40. The budget for the event has been set at £800 in total. A santa suit will be purchased, up to a value of £30.

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

A planning meeting is to be held on Tuesday 28th November at 7pm in the hall.

e) Grounds maintenance - The contractor has been contacted and council is waiting for notification of the date the work is to be done. The problem with the thermostats/heating has been reported.

Council to review Financial Orders to allow Handyman to spend up to £250 in an emergency.

f) Quotes have been asked for from 3 companies for the new council website but so far only one reply has been received.

6 Committee Reports. Ref 17/146

A police report was circulated via email.

Councillor Sutton would like to thank Mike Stewart and Cllr Lawrance for planting the bulbs around the village.

Concern was raised about documents now missing because of poor hand overs by previous Clerks.

Newcut Drain has flooded in the past, and Anglian Water are now to do some work in this area to prevent this in future.

Problems have been reported by The Grange property, as people are accessing their land without permission.

Councillors raised the issue of over grown pathways, such as areas of Station Road, and road signs that are obscured by vegetation and have requested that these areas be cut back.

The problems with the state of disrepair of the garages on Newbury Avenue was discussed but as these are privately owned the village council cannot take any action.

Cllr Lawrance has attended a funding workshop, and several streams of funding are to be looked at in respect of the improvement work needed to the drainage and surface of the hall car park.

Members of public left meeting at 7.45pm.

7 Clerks Report. Ref 17/147

The data protection policy was adopted.
Proposed Cllr Redgrift. Seconded Cllr Masterton. All in favour.

It was proposed to register with the Information Commissioners Office, at a cost of £35.
Proposed Cllr Masterton. Seconded Cllr Green. All in favour.

A letter requesting a donation has been received from Great Coates Nursery School, towards the cost of the carol concert and refreshments for pensioners in the village. It was proposed to give a donation of £30.
Proposed Cllr Green. Seconded Cllr Mumby. All in favour.

A further email has been received from the same resident, regarding the issues discussed at the last meeting about the external audit, regarding information which the resident claims has still not been provided. The 5 councillors who were present at the inspection have confirmed that all information asked for was presented, with the exception of the copies of the signed mins book. All mins were available to be viewed on the day electronically, and the resident has attended a lot of council meetings and will be aware that the mins are signed off as on the agenda for each meeting. The book containing the signed copies has been brought to all meetings since the inspection in July, but the resident has not been in attendance to view it. This matter is now closed, as per the council's policies and no further correspondence will be entered into.

An email has been received from GCCG highlighting an issue of the Clerk not responding to their communications. Copies of the Clerks responses and the dates sent were viewed by Council.

8 Finance. Ref 17/148

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

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

The precept will be decided at the December meeting, as discussion of staff salaries will take place in closed session.

9 Planning Application Received. Ref 17/149

None received.

Chair closed the meeting and moved to closed session.

Meeting ended 9.15pm

Present:

Councillors Cllr K Green, Cllr Masterton, Cllr Mumby, (Chair), Cllr Cutting, Cllr Lawrance Cllr Redgrift. J Waite (Clerk).

1 To Receive apologies and reasons for absence, Ref 17/150

Cllr Thomas

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 17/151

None received.

3 Resolve to formulate ready for release a statement relating to the facts and costs of the removal and re-sighting of the war memorial. Ref 17/152

The statement will be released with the December issue of the Council Magazine.
Proposed Cllr Green. Seconded Cllr Masterton. All in favour.

The Clerk left at 9.25pm.

4 To resolve the budget for the Clerks salary in the 2018 / 19 budget.

It was resolved to move this issue to the next Personnel Committee meeting, and a date will be circulated.

Meeting Closed 9.45pm

Date of next meeting to be held at Great Coates Village Hall, Cooks Lane, Great Coates, Thursday 21st December 2017 at 7.00pm.