

# Minutes

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at Greatford Village Hall on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.30 pm

807/18 Present : Nigel Ashby (Chairman),  
Parish Councillors: George Aylett, Ibis Channell, Jon Workman  
Parish Clerk : Mrs. Lois Webb  
Public: Mr R. French, Mr. C. Granville-White, Mr J. Halsey,  
Mr K. Foreman, Mrs. C. Foreman  
LCClr Rosemary Trollope-Bellew, and DCllr Kelham Cooke (*at ref 823/18*)  
Two Community Police Officers : Jay Nielander and Natalie Elliott. (*at ref 823/18*) and Mr R McDermott (*near end of meeting* )

808/18 Opening of Meeting : The Chairman welcomed everyone to our meeting.

809/18 **GDPR.** The General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Bill (GDPR). Because of the new EU legislation due to take effect on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 the Chairman pointed out that the Clerk holds a distribution list of emails to contact the villagers for sending Parish Council minutes, village news etc. and she is duty bound to ask everyone's permission to retain their email address for such purposes, because the minutes are also put on the Parish Web Site. This does not apply to Parish Councillors, District and Local Councillors, and Clerk. If, entering into discussions at a meeting, a person from the floor wishes their name **not** to be mentioned then they will be anonymised. He asked the public present if they had any objection to their names being put in the minutes as attendees. No-one present objected. Had there been a refusal, then the Clerk would register the number of an attendee not the name. The Parish Council is obliged to publicise a Privacy Notice which makes clear how the PC keeps data, who keeps it and how it would not be used by third parties

810/18 Apologies for absence: Cllr David Anderson, Mr Malcolm Wells, Mrs Dani Wheeler

811/18 Declarations of interest: None

812/18 Approval of Minutes of PC meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018.

The minutes previously circulated were proposed for approval by the Chairman. There was only one small amendment re the defibrillator, ref 800/18 should read : *"To adjust the light on the defibrillator as it does not shine on the release code buttons on the container*

813/18 **PLANNING ISSUES:** The following previous applications have all been granted:

- 814/18 **S18/0335** 9 Greatford Gardens, dangerous fir tree felled
- 815/18 **S18/0025** Horley House, King Street, Baston. Erection of a two storey front extension.
- 816/18 **S18/0312** 8 Greatford Gardens, 8 willow trees felled.
- 817/18 **S18/0157** 8 Greatford Gardens, leylandi Cypress felled
- 818/18 **S18/0198** 14 Greatford Gardens, reduce 2 ash trees.
- 819/18 **S18/0278** Greatford Mill, amendments to materials of S17/2080 roofing natural slate to Bradstone conservation slates.
- 820/18 **S17/1718** 8 Greatford Gardens, replacement dwelling. Application withdrawn, property will be sold.

821/18 **S18/0378** Ash Tree along Carlby Road. Had the original application been agreed, this tree would have by now been felled as it was considered to be in danger of falling. The Clerk had established with Craig Dickenson of SKDC planning that the tree is on LCC Highways land, and therefore under their ownership. They (LCC) are deciding what to do, as it is their responsibility.

822/18 **S17/1996** Cllr Channel asked Mrs C Foreman from Becket House if the two holly trees had yet been felled. The answer was “not yet”, still deciding what to replace them with.

### 823/18 **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

At this point, the two CPO's arrived, the Chairman welcomed them to the meeting, (followed by Cllr R.T-B and Cllr K.C) the public and Councillors were invited to ask questions.

They (the Police Officers) commented on all aspects of speed reduction schemes as smaller villages were all cursed by speeding cars. Our 30mph signs throughout the village were useful, but some villages also had hand held community speed guns, calibrated, with battery, also effective in the dark, but they don't take photos, and you have to have volunteers to use them. This Community Speed Watchers (CSW) kit costs £250. with a training package included. This would entail CSWs taking the registration of speeding cars. However, there would be not enough proof to secure any prosecution to go to court.

The speeding car mentioned to the Police (W11 GFN) seems to have changed his route as we haven't heard him since reporting it! A villager had also dialled 101 to report him.

If a Police speed trap was agreed to, it would have to be in place in the village between 0730 and 0900, and/ or 3pm to 4pm week days, on the school run times.

At a previous meeting it was suggested we look into the GATES at the boundaries of the village, but these would be in the region of £400 average costs, so they were not viable.

The 30mph red /yellow circled signs on the GREATFORD signs at the entrances, were considered, as were 30mph small repeater signs on lamp-posts through the village. The Clerk to get costs for these and speed guns (cheap ones and expensive ones)

The Clerk to ask Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership (LRSP) all about this. They will probably recommend us putting forward a business case, over a trial period of a few months, and report back at the next meeting.

Other common issues in the small villages are: hare coursing (27 recorded incidents in Lincolnshire in the last six months), fly-tipping, burglaries, herds of deer, but the biggest of them all being traffic offences.

The Chairman thanked the Police for coming and enlightening us on many aspects of their work, and answering our questions. They left at 20.15

### 824/18 **POTHOLES**

The usual subject of potholes being the bane of drivers, cyclists and joggers alike is always brought up at every meeting it seems, because they are always there, and getting worse after the last snow and icy spell. Cllr. R.Trollope-Bellew suggested we encourage people to report damage to tyres and wheels on the LCC website, and fill out the form of compensation.

## 825/18 South Lincolnshire Fen Partnership (SLFP)

The Chairman, Clerk, and Cllr G Aylett went to the SLFP meeting at Waterside on March 9th in relation to the Mineral Restoration, new Mineral Plan 2031, specifically to hear about the triangular area at the corner of Baston Road Greatford, with King Street. Manor Farm, (owned by Ashton Estates) is earmarked for development one day, although nothing has yet been applied for. We should consider writing to Cemex and asking them to plant a shelter belt of trees years in advance of any application to extract gravel on this site. (as the Parish Council did along the Baston Road into the village many years ago, and is a good screen if any working should be done behind it) Gravel extraction in this area is inevitable for years to come, so our interest would be on what we would want the land to look like after extraction.

Buying it, was one option, but that would leave us with maintaining it in the long run. Perhaps we could ask Mr Charles Lane of Ashton Estates if he would give it to the village as a legacy in memory of his grandfather, who was a member of the Wildlife Trust. Or turn it into wetlands. However, the SLFP advised that particular pocket is in the Wittering Safeguarding aeroplane corridor, so would not be an option, because of the high probability of bird strikes (flying geese etc.) being right in their flightpath.

### **FINANCES**                      Report on receipts and payments since last meeting :

826/18 **Expenditure:** Cheques signed:

Clerk lmw March 2018	Inv. 001818	£130. 00
Fen Tiger re moles pest control		£200. 00
Village Hall hire 1/4/17 to 31/3/18		£180. 00

827/18 **Income:** First half of grant for litter picking from SKDC            £195. 00

828/18 **PJH landscapes quotation** stays at £47. 50 per cut + vat. The Clerk to point out about the new play equipment with matting around.

### 829/18 **BEST KEPT VILLAGE**

Quite a few villagers and ex villagers turned up on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January, when the brass plaque was presented to Greatford PC Chairman Mr Nigel Ashby, by the CPRE officer Mr Gerald Taylor. Following the presentation everyone walked down to the Hare and Hounds, where the Landlord Steve Rigby had put on a generous spread. The Clerk has written to thank him. Because of CPRE reduced funding the brass plaque was not made of suitable material for outdoors as previous ones. A new plaque is being made by Richard Barron-Clark exactly the same as previous ones. The Clerk is sending a letter of thanks to him for this kind offer.

### 830/18 **PLAY EQUIPMENT**

The rota bounce and horse springer were installed on 12<sup>th</sup> / 13<sup>th</sup> February at which time the goal post was re-erected. It snowed heavily a few days after!

Dani Wheeler said she would do the write up and photo for the Stamford Mercury

The Clerk will now claim the 25% balance of the grant funding. It was noted that we have to have Inspection of Equipment arrangements in place. DW was organising this. The Inspector came today (Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March) and found that attention will eventually be needed to the wooden structures and the chains, (to be monitored at the moment) and the swing seat needed to be replaced immediately. They also said that the safety matting around the new equipment had not been laid correctly and needed adjustment. AMG have been asked to return to adjust the matting in the ground for safe grass cutting purposes. The Inspection cost £125 + vat. A Working party can be organised to monitor the wooden equipment.

Clerk to cc email from the Inspector (Alan) re inspection to JH & JW & RF – those who volunteered to be in the working party.

A publicity photo and write up of the presentation of the funding for this equipment from SKDC is to be arranged when the full grant has been signed off.

Other matters from previous meeting 23 January 2018:

831/18 Defibrillator light Top Cat (Mr Trevor Cuthbert) said he will be attending to it soon

832318 Litter pick Took place on 10<sup>th</sup> March, with the usual huge number of bags, plus tyres, wooden wall shelving, and miscellaneous bits being collected, and placed in two huge heaps for collection by the SKDC. Our thanks to Bob French for acquiring a Community Cleaner Grant of £390 per year (£195 x 2) which he is passing on to the Parish Council in order to purchase our own equipment (litter pickers, HiViz jackets etc. He will liaise with the Clerk.

833/18 Bat & Owl boxes Cllr J Workman said he had some bat boxes left over from work, which need assembling. This would save us £17.99 each if purchased. These can be put up in the playing field and Churchyard when ready  
Because OWLs come in various types and sizes it is not practical to make or buy boxes as we have no idea which type we would be providing for. So, No action to be taken.

834/18 No Parking Notice It was considered that, having looked into making another notice, or altering the one in situ, it would be left as it is. People who ignore notices, whether parking or speed signs, will continue to park or speed whatever colour or size it is. Perhaps, when the Village Hall is Hired out, something should be mentioned about parking at that time to the hiree. The Clerk to ask the Village Hall Committee if this could be done.

835/18 **FLOOD WARDEN'S REPORT:**

Chris G-White gave a short overview of current issues and developments with flood risk-reduction activities.

Recent Snow and Rain

Heavy snow in late Feb led to a thaw during the following mild weekend. In turn, heavy rain fell a few days later onto the already wet fields. This sequence resulted in the river rising rapidly on 10 Mar and 13 Mar. But the Greatford Sluice operated efficiently to send away excess water through the Greatford Cut so that the height of water at the Shillingthorpe gauge station never exceeded 0.72m – well below the Flood Alert level of 1.18m and Flood Warning level of 1.32m.

In the local area surface water drained off the fields around Greatford into the small drainage water courses and thence into the West Glen downstream of Greatford. The clearance work carried out by volunteers during a few Saturday morning sessions last Autumn ensured that this excess surface water drained away safely - so a big thank-you to everyone who took part in this. However, some loose straw in the drainage ditch alongside Carlby Road collected against the concrete pipe under a driveway and caused a blockage first thing on 5 Mar, resulting in water overflowing into the field next to Brook Lodge. This was spotted early and quickly cleared away with the help of neighbours.

Following the increased flow in the river, the Environment Agency (EA) Ops Team from Spalding removed some large branches from the river at the bridge in Church lane. These had jammed against the bridge and could have collected debris to cause a blockage. EA contractors will clear away a small tree which had blown down into the West Glen by the Steadings field upstream of Greatford.

EA Flood Risk Reduction Study Work - Capita Initial Assessment

The long-overdue Initial Assessment study for Greatford by the Capita sub-contractors finally reported to the Environment Agency (EA) during December. The report is generally well presented with excellent diagrams to explain the various options being considered, with much useful information included in the 79 pages. The report examines 13 options, namely:

Do Nothing

Do Minimum (ie. Continue the current routine maintenance, with no improvements)

Do Something Options 1-11.

Of these 13 options, 6 were short-listed and the EA is examining in more detail one of these as a potential improvement.

The Chairman thanked Chris G-w for his detailed report.

836/18 Report from DISTRICT CLLR Kelham Cooke

SKDC has set its council tax increasing the average band D property by £5 a year, they have received special dispensation to increase at this level due to being one of the lowest charging councils in the Country.

They will soon be releasing details of the proposed new leisure centre in Market Deeping. They will also be looking at replacing the Bourne Leisure Centre as this is now in poor condition and if the pool was drained all the tiles would fall out, it is only the water pressure holding them in place. This centre is over 30 years old so a refreshed centre would be more useful with a better quality gym.

When we had the recent snowfall it was unsafe for their refuse trucks to enter many residential streets, so the refuse collectors then helped with clearing streets from the snow in Stamford and around retirement homes and schools.

They have again renewed the Community Fund to allow charities etc to match fund bid up to £10,000. They have also introduced this year a Ward Member Budget of £1k, so every member has £1k to spend within their wards on local bids (contact either Rosemary T-B or Kelham for funding for small projects).

Their new Head of Tourism, Andrew Norman has been busy, they will be launching their new Tourism website later this year and are already working with numerous visitor attractions to bring more tourism into the area.

837/18 REPORT from Cllr Rosemary Trollope-Bellew:

Cllr Rosemary T-B congratulated Greatford Parish Council on the new play equipment. She confirmed what the Clerk had earlier reported that the Greatford finger post sign at the end of Baston Road on King Street will not be repaired as there is no money  
Potholes: She encouraged everyone to use the LCC website and download a Claim Form, pointing out where and when the damage to tyres was done.  
Surface workings will be taking place shortly on the Carby Road to the A6121, and Greatford to Barholm.

838/18 **PARISH PLAN.**

Richard McDermott had sent the Clerk the online survey to send to her email contacts, asking them to fill out and SUBMIT on line. Some hard copies for those not on internet facilities were available. So far only 17 have been received. So the Clerk was asked to send out reminders – pointing out the low % of responses, as 14<sup>th</sup> April deadline approaching. Richard said that by the next meeting in May we will have a statistical basis on which to form a Parish Plan, but more work is needed for various charts, and verbatim responses to be collated.

The Chairman thanked him and his team for all their work so far.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

839/18 The Clerk confirmed to Cllr Channell that the BT phone KIOSK is listed.

840/18 Grit bins – after the heavy snow in March the grit bins need replenishing. Cllr Channell and the Clerk were to check the bins to make sure a shovel is there after the bins have been re-filled.

841/18 Cllr Aylett mentioned burst pipes in the village hall causing a problem to a hirer, but as this was a village hall matter and had been resolved, no further action was necessary by the PC.

842/18 Cllr George Aylett announced that he would be standing down at the end of this meeting after serving 15 years on the Council, c 13 of which as Chairman. He was thanked for his many years of service. It was confirmed that we can still operate as a Parish Council with 4 members until elections are next due, but the Electoral Roll Office Julie Edwards of SKDC will have to be informed. The Clerk to contact her.

843/18 When the question was asked “will there be a summer fete this year Richard McDermott, Chairman of the Village Hall said “watch this space!”

There being no other matters, the Meeting closed at 9.15 pm  
The AGM will be held on Tuesday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm.

Signed (Chairman) Nigel Ashby .....

Signed (Clerk) Lois Webb .....

Date :