

# GAZELEY PARISH COUNCIL

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## **Minutes of the Meeting of Gazeley Parish Council held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in Gazeley Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr Kevin Grimwood (KG) (Chair), Cllr Paul Beard (PB) Cllr Ray Francis (RF), Cllr Wesley Heaton (WH), Cllr Pat Spillane (PS), Cllr Robert Connelly (RC), and Cllr Judy Moatt (JM).

**In attendance** Lynne Francis, Parish Clerk, District Councillor Roger Dicker and 11 members of the public.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Cllr Kevin Grimwood. who welcomed everyone to the meeting and indicated the exit routes from the building in case of an emergency.

<b>22.4.1</b>	<b>Public Forum</b> A member of the public noted that in the minutes of the last meeting the clerk had recorded that Cllr Spillane had mentioned how well the Chequers was doing and he asked if other self-employed people could advertise themselves in the same way. The clerk replied that the Chequers was a public facility in the village and, as such, it was appropriate to include any news from there in the Councillors' Reports section of the meeting.
<b>22.4.2</b>	<b>Reports from External Bodies</b> i) West Suffolk District Council – Cllr Roger Dicker reported that virtual meetings were being held at the council but some had to be held in public. It had been agreed to extend social distancing until the end of May. All the councils are working together with regard to Ukrainian refugees and West Suffolk Council has issued the largest amount of visas so far. A Local Plan update is due next week. The old swimming pool in Mildenhall is due to be demolished shortly. A consultation is being held on the future of the site. Grass cutting schedules have been sent to all councils. A consultation is being held with regard to the St Felix school site. There is a proposal to build a development of 50 homes there. It has been decided that there will be no Bury Christmas Market this year. Several events will be held in the town instead.  ii) Suffolk County Council – Cllr Colin Noble had sent apologies. He had to attend an alternative meeting but had sent a monthly report which was forwarded to councillors.
<b>22.4.3</b>	<b>To receive apologies for absence.</b> Apologies were received from Cllr Welsey Heaton.
<b>22.4.4</b>	<b>To receive declarations of interest, pecuniary and non-pecuniary, in matters on the agenda.</b> None declared.
<b>22.4.5</b>	<b>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b>  The minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the chairman.

<b>22.4.6</b>	<p><b>Clerk's Report on outstanding issues and any correspondence to be brought to the attention of the parish council.</b></p> <p>The clerk reported that the new posts for the solar powered SID should be installed by 10<sup>th</sup> May. The Highways Team had fourteen weeks to carry out the work from the date of the order which had been 1<sup>st</sup> February. The parish council had submitted their request for the posts last December.</p>
<b>22.4.7</b>	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>i. Authorisation of outstanding payments. The payments were approved and the corresponding cheques were signed by PS and JM.</p> <p>ii. Monthly Finance Report. The clerk gave the monthly report which is attached to the minutes.</p>
<b>22.4.8</b>	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p>To consider application <b>DC/22/0460/HH</b> – a. Porch to front elevation, b. velux windows to front elevation, c. one window to front elevation following removal of garage door. The Orchards, Stubbins Lane, Gazeley.</p> <p>The parish council raised no objections to the application.</p> <p>Application <b>DC/22/0455/HH</b> – Detached car port, 5 All Saints' Close Gazeley The parish council had received notice of the application for consideration on 31<sup>st</sup> March. However, on trying to access the documents included in the application on the planning portal, councillors found that it had been withdrawn. As a result, it wasn't listed for consideration this month.</p>
<b>22.4.9</b>	<p><b>Blacksmiths Forge</b></p> <p>The new owner of the forge, Mr Paul Wiseman, had been invited to the meeting to inform councillors and residents of his plan for the site. A note of his comments is attached to these minutes. Appendix 1.</p>
<b>22.4.10</b>	<p><b>Councillors' Reports</b></p> <p>JM noted that a meeting of the Village Hall Committee had been held recently and they would be appealing for more committee members at the Annual Meeting.</p> <p>PS apologised for inadvertently leaving the door of the noticeboard open recently.</p> <p>KG reported that the old cricket hut had been broken into. There were some cricket nets inside and it was suggested that they be removed. It was noted that the roof is in need of repair.</p>
<b>22.3.11</b>	<p><b>To confirm the date of the next meeting of the parish council.</b></p> <p>The date of the next meeting, which will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, will be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm in the village hall.</p> <p>The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the village hall on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8.30pm.</p>

**PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS****APRIL****2022**

<b>Payments</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Balance</b>
	£			
S.P. Landscapes	120.00	1243		
	£			
L. Francis, Clerk's salary April (DD not paid)	284.91	1244		
<b>Receipts</b>				
Interest			£	0.15
	<b>£404.91</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>0.15</b>

**Transfer £80.43 From Treasurer's  
Account 2 to Treasurer's Account 1**

**Balance of Accounts**

	£
Treasurer's Account 1	247.70
Treasurer's Account 2	Closed
Instant Access Account	£19,032.41
<b>Total Balance of Accounts at 31,3,22</b>	<b>£19,280.11</b>

12.4.22

## Appendix 1

### NOTE OF PAUL WISEMAN'S COMMENTS TO GAZELEY PC 12/4/2022 RE: THE FORGE

PW began with a small apology regarding the fact that he had not sought the PC's permission to erect the scaffolding which now secures the gables at both ends of The Forge as it extends onto land which forms part of the village green. He added that the gables are now secured both inside and out.

Since purchasing the property 28 days ago he believed he had made reasonable efforts to tidy up the site which carried the endorsement of WSC's enforcement officer.

There was one more load of rubbish to be taken off site and he has a pest control contractor visiting next week to assess the building and set traps if required.

He had engaged the services of both an architect and structural engineer and will be submitting a planning application to WSC as it's his intention to have the building restored.

He has retained a flintwork expert who has said that the walls can be rebuilt.

He acknowledged the existence of the demolition notice and the need to remove this if he is to complete the restoration.

The building was part of the village's heritage and is probably 200 years old.

He is currently working from a 2017 image of the building as taken from Google maps in terms of what the restored building should be adding that he intends to restore what he has (sic) inherited.

He did not exclude a change of use, subject to the advice of his architects, and was pragmatic in terms of conceding that he could only do to the building what WSC will allow.

It was his intention to (sic) retain and restore within the limits set by planning/building and he would be speaking to WSC regarding possible changes of use.

He acknowledged that the demolition notice applied to the building and that it remained in effect despite the recent change of ownership.

He said that members of his family had lived in the village and he had acted altruistically in allowing the previous owner to remain on site whilst he waited for his new accommodation to become available.

He acknowledged the PC's concerns regarding encroachment of the village green but did not seem to be fully aware of its boundaries and in particular that the security fencing around The Forge were not boundary markers but rather were put there by WSC in the interests of safety.

His timescale for the restoration, subject to planning, is 10 months and he claimed on questioning that the project is not profit motivated and that in particular he did not need the building to generate an income.

He has been assisted by two village residents who have allowed him to store some building materials off site.

In summary he intends to restore the barn subject to the guidance of his architects as to what is achievable and did not exclude a possible change of use.

