

# GAZELEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Gazeley Parish Council held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 in Gazeley Village Hall at 7.30pm

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

**In attendance** Lynne Francis, Parish Clerk, District Councillor Roger Dicker and 8 members of the public.

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

<b>21.07.1</b>	<p><b>Public Forum</b></p> <p>Following many complaints of speeding received, resident Alison Mejia has formed a Speedwatch group in the village with 18 volunteers who have all been approved by the police and hope to start operating towards the end of August. There will be no cost to the village as the equipment is being supplied by the police and the group will be operating with three volunteers at a time. Alison explained that in the six years that she has lived in the village the speed of traffic has increased greatly in front of her own house. It is now highly dangerous for anyone out for a walk with their dog. She decided to contact the police after seeing many supportive messages on the village Facebook site and thought it might be possible to get enough volunteers to make it viable. The regular data reports from the existing speed indication device reveal that sometimes as many as 50% of motorists are exceeding the speed limit, some by a long way.</p> <p>The subject of speeding has been discussed regularly in recent months. Councillor Colin Noble had agreed to contribute some funding for gates and another SID but it seems that the cost of the gates has now risen to such an extent that it will not be possible to cover it from his Highways budget.</p> <p>Various means of traffic control have been suggested but we have been informed that the installation of speed humps would not be approved. The view was expressed that a meeting should be held in the village hall and that Cllr Noble and an officer from Suffolk Highways should be invited to attend to discuss the options available to us, with associated costs, so that a decision can be reached on the way forward. The clerk will pursue this.</p> <p>Another resident noted that a fence at a property in Moulton Road was at least six feet high when the regulation height at the front of a property facing the road is 1m.</p> <p>Churchwarden Simon Gash had written to the parish council to ask if it would be willing to make a donation to help with the costs of repairing the wall of the churchyard and for the trees to be cut back to remove the dead wood. He noted that the PC had already made a grant of £800 to help with maintenance of the churchyard this year but any further grant would be considered as a one-off situation.</p> <p>The clerk advised that this request must be an item on the agenda of a forthcoming meeting before a decision could be made and this was agreed.</p>
<b>21.07.2</b>	<p><b>Reports from External Bodies</b></p> <p>i. <b>West Suffolk District Council.</b> Cllr Dicker noted that the Parish and Town Forum 'Teams' meeting was being held tomorrow evening.</p>

	<p>The Mildenhall Hub opened last month with all services now under one roof. All council meetings are now being held in person at various venues in the district. The updated business plan was passed. There is a varied programme of activities for children throughout the summer holidays including free school meals.</p> <p>ii. <b>Suffolk County Council.</b> Cllr Noble was unable to attend the meeting but asked to be informed of anything to be brought to his notice.</p>
<b>21.07.3</b>	<p><b>To receive apologies for absence.</b> Apologies had been received from Cllr Connelly.</p>
<b>21.07.4</b>	<p><b>To receive declarations of interest on matters on the agenda.</b> None declared.</p>
<b>21.07.5</b>	<p><b>To approve the minutes of the meeting of GPC held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021</b> The minutes were approved and adopted and signed by the chairman.</p>
<b>21.07.6</b>	<p><b>Clerk's Report on outstanding issues and any correspondence to be brought to the attention of the parish council.</b> The clerk had been informed that the entrance to the old farmyard site at Manor Farm would be completed within the coming weeks. There were no plans to develop the site any further at the moment.</p> <p>Updated plans had been received with reference to 1 Mill Road. Highways has approved the plan after certain adjustments were made to accommodate the storage of cycles and waste bins and the movement of vehicles within the site.</p> <p>Several complaints have been made about the condition of signage in the village and some residents have kindly cut back bushes and cleaned the signs. This is especially important in the case of the 30mph signs which are disappearing into the surrounding foliage.</p> <p>The condition of the footpath running along the edge of the cricket field on Ashley Road has been reported to Highways. The foliage is now growing over the path and forcing pedestrians to walk in the road on a dangerous bend.</p> <p>The clerk has been considering different styles of park bench to replace the broken bench on Tithe Close. Several options are constructed with the use of recycled materials now and the PC confirmed that they were not averse to purchasing one of those instead of the conventional wooden type which needs extra maintenance.</p> <p><b>Correspondence</b> The clerk has been included in correspondence between several residents and Cllr Noble with regard to the speeding problem in the village and the availability of funding to support speed control measures.</p>
<b>21.07.7</b>	<p><b>Finance</b> i. Authorisation of outstanding payments. The clerk presented the monthly finance report, which is attached to these minutes, and the cheques were signed by Cllr Beard and Cllr Judy Moatt.</p> <p>ii. To note conclusion of the Internal Audit. Mrs Prigg has completed the internal audit of the accounts for the year 2020-2021. No issues were raised. All documentation has been placed on the parish council's website.</p>
<b>21.07.8</b>	<p><b>Highway Matters</b> To note the concern of residents about the speed of traffic through the village and to consider the next course of action.</p>

	As this subject had been discussed at length in the public forum it was agreed that there was nothing further to add.
<b>21.07.9</b>	<p><b>Councillors' Reports</b></p> <p>Cllr Spillane noted that Charlene Vandenbroucke had advertised for someone to take over from her in producing the Events Newsletter. He had been talking to the vicar, Chris Childs, and they had agreed that, subject to approval from the Events Committee, they would join forces to carry on producing it because they felt that it was very important to keep the residents informed of the social side of village life.</p> <p>It was suggested that funds could be raised through advertising, some of which could be diverted to the church.</p> <p>Cllr Beard had circulated the latest data from the SID which will be uploaded to the PC website. During the most recent period, 25% of traffic had exceeded the speed limit with 16 vehicles travelling in excess of 40mph.</p> <p>Cllr Dicker suggested that the Newmarket Journal might be notified when the Speedwatch Group was up and running to publicise it.</p> <p>Cllr Heaton felt that the quality of grass cutting had been particularly bad recently. The maintenance is shared between the district and county councils and it was felt that there was too long a period between cuttings so that the grass had grown too long in the interim to cut neatly. However, it was agreed that the playing field and the recreation ground, which are maintained by a village resident, are cut to a very good standard.</p> <p>Cllr Grimwood commented on the condition of Higham Road where mud and stones had been deposited on the road after heavy rainfall recently. There were flint chippings everywhere which present a hazard to tyres.</p>
<b>21.07.10</b>	<p><b>To confirm the date of the next meeting of Gazeley Parish Council.</b></p> <p>The next public meeting of the parish council will be held in Gazeley Village Hall on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 8.30pm.</p>
	<p><b>Signed .....</b></p> <p>Chairman</p>
	<p><b>Date</b> 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021</p>

**PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS****JULY****2021**

Payments	Amount	Cheque No.	Receipts	Balance
	£			
S.P. Landscapes June	111.00	1213		
	£			
Mrs S Prigg	40.00	1214		
	£			
Gazeley PCC	400.00	1215		
	£			
L Francis, Stationery	32.20	1216		
	£			
Mr P Jaye	500.00	1217		

**Receipts**

	£
Interest	0.22

	£	£
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,083.20</b>	<b>0.22</b>

**Balance of Accounts**

	£
Treasurer's Account 1	8,611.05
	£
Treasurer's Account 2	80.43
	£
Instant Access Account	17,859.45

**Total Balance of Accounts**

	£
<b>at 23.6.21</b>	<b>26,550.93</b>

13.7.21