



GESTINGTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk / RFO: Kevin B. Money
7 Roach Vale, Colchester, Essex. CO4 3YN
Tel: 07810781509 – Email: gestingthorpepc@gmail.com

NEW PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE ADDRESS IS [https://www. gestingthorpepc.co.uk](https://www.gestingthorpepc.co.uk)

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 16th. January 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: T. Flower (Vice-Chairman), S. Bolter, P Collett, A. Cooper, C. Craig, BDC Cllr W. Scattergood and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). Also present was 1 members of the public

001/2020 Chairman Welcome. The Vice-Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

002/2020 Apologies for Absence were received from ECC Cllr D. Finch, Cllrs J. Nott & D Smith

003/2020 Declaration of Interest

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the Agenda

Cllr A. Cooper declared a NPI in the Cricket Club and road repairs at Barracks corner

004/2020 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Gestingthorpe Parish Council

To receive and agree the minutes of the last PC meeting held on 21st. November 2019.

With an error of Councillors name in item 070/2019 Cllr S. Bolter proposed and Cllr P. Collet seconded that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting. **All Agreed**

005/2020 Public Participation Session

The Chairman will invite questions and observations from members of the public present.

No questions from the public

006/2020 Clerks Report

a) Letter from Leslie Crumpton-Taylor – Internal Auditor

Councillor noted the half yearly report from Leslie Crumpton-Taylor (Internal Auditor)

b) New Parish Council website address is [https://www. gestingthorpepc.co.uk](https://www.gestingthorpepc.co.uk)

Councillors noted the new Parish Council website address as from 31.03.20

007/2020 Essex County Councillors report – Cllr David Finch

The report can be found on the Gestingthorpe PC website ([gestingthorpepc.co.uk](https://www.gestingthorpepc.co.uk))

008/2020 District Councillors report – Cllr W. Scattergood

- Local plan enquiry has been opened and will be closed end January 2020. It is also being streamed live on Essex Radio
- PIP – Planning Permission in Principle consent.
- BDC Councillor funding still has money left in the funds for 2019/20

009/2020 Representative reports

Highways maintenance – Cllr D. Smith & Cllr P. Collett

The saga with works to Sudbury Road (section adjoining the brook) continues and I attach an "updating" email from Shaun Morgan, the Highways Engineer dealing with the matter. If David Finch is at the meeting, could we ask for his assistance in getting works underway and completed without further delay. Ashley will be giving Highways, via his agent, until 1st. February to respond

The Clerk was asked to email David Finch to contact Cllr A. Cooper who his with his agent getting very frustrated.

Overhanging Hedges :-

The main sections where cutting back is required are to North End Road and the first section of Nether Hill from the crossroads. I think the landowner on the southern side of North End Road is Mark Prior, whilst to the north it is Roger Spencer. However, it would appear that the first length of overgrown hedging on the northern side of North End Road is in the Highway verge which is ECC Highways responsibility to cut back

Cllr A. Cooper proposed accepting the SID in Green with a smiley face. Cllr C. Craig seconded. All Agreed

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- Playing Field – Cllr A. Cooper

On 8th. December last, James and Cllr D. Smith met with John Butcher & Mark Prior from Gestingthorpe Cricket Club and we were also joined by a representative from Sudbury Cricket Club. The "subletting" to Sudbury Cricket Club would appear to have been ongoing for a number of years and is on a very informal basis. Cllr D. Smith is not quite certain whether Gestingthorpe CC receives a payment, or works to the cricket square in lieu, although a figure equating to about £65 per game was mentioned.

We raised the question of insurance and whilst it appears that Sudbury may have cover, Mark Prior advised that Gestingthorpe CC only have cover during the cricket season and this does not cover their equipment. The cricket nets, side screen and sheds, which I assume are the property of Gestingthorpe CC do not appear to be insured and there are potential Public Liability issues that need to be addressed. I suggest we need to refer this back to our Insurers for their guidance.

It was also clearly apparent from the comments made that the Gestingthorpe CC is struggling financially and with membership and needs all the help and support it can get. Both James and I confirmed the Parish Councils support for the club, although we both advised that Parish Councils approval is needed for any "sublet" arrangements they make with Sudbury CC or any other Cricket Club. It is clearly apparent that the current situation has evolved over a number of years and, bearing in mind the litigious world we live in, needs to be regularised.

John Butcher also raised the question of a seat in memory of the late Arthur Nears. I am mindful that the existing seats around the Pavilion and the seat that Gestingthorpe CC erected in memory of the late Phil Scillitoe, are not being maintained and there are also insurance issues that we need to consider.

The seat in memory of the late Phil Scillitoe, which replaced the recycled seat the Parish Council installed some years ago, is currently standing to the side of the Pavilion and is not in use. I suggest the recycled seat should be repositioned to the children's play area to replace the bench which has seen better days.

- Broadband update– Cllr S. Bolter & Cllr P. Collett

There was a power cut and when it came back a power surge knocked out the County Broadband 01376 562002 for information on 24hour status by pressing option 1

Following last month motion meeting Cllr S. Bolter contacted CBB and they are possibly looking at a second design

I am disappointed, although not surprised, that there does not appear to have been any further developments with County Broadband since our meeting. My thoughts are still as per my email of the 19th December 2019

The Clerk was asked to email CBB asking for their latest plans and designs before next Full Council meeting

- Footpath – Leslie Crumpton-Taylor

A finger gate post has been broken due to a lorry hitting it. ECC have temporarily repaired the sign.

- Tree Warden – Cllr T. Flower

The Clerk to ask local Clerks about Tree surveys

- Village Hall – Cllr T. Flower

Meeting on Thursday. The front door was jammed and needing repairing. Sound proofing and acoustics are being installed.

010/2020 Planning Applications. No planning applications had been received affecting Gestingthorpe



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011/2020 Decision/s made by BDC on planning applications

19/01972/HH - Clickett Lodge Church Street Gestingthorpe Essex CO9 3AX

Erection of a single storey porch. **Application GRANTED**

Councillors noted the decision made by BDC

012/2020 Finance

1) Bank balances as at 31st. December 2019 and 2019/20 budget account (previously circulated to Councillors)

Councillors noted the Bank reconciliation and budget account for 2019/20

2) Councillors to agree payment of January 2020 finances (previously circulated to Councillors)

Cllr T. Flower proposed and Cllr C. Craig seconded to authorise the January 2020 payments. **All**

Agreed

3) Councillors to finalise and sign the Budget/Precept for 2020/21

Councillors finalised the Budget / Precept for 2020/21. A Precept of £8613 was being requested from BDC which equates to a Band "D" property of £47.98p. Cllr T. Flower proposed and Cllr C. Craig seconded this 2020/21 Precept. **All Agreed**

013/2020 Items for Next Agenda

Footpath / Highways condition. A make a response

Overhanging Hedges

Trees on the playing field inspection – J. Nott

CBB response

Cllr S. Bolter response from Stansted Airport meeting

Cricket benches response

Oates Cottages update

Date of next meetings: 19.03.20: **NEW 2020 MEETING DATES** 09.04.20 Annual Village meeting:
14.05.20 PC AGM: 09.07.20: 10.09.20: 12.11.20 Budget / Precept meeting

There being no further business the Vice-Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

James Nott

19th. March 2020

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