

GESTINGTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in the Village Hall

On Thursday, 19th July 2018, at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Parish Cllrs J Nott (Chair), A Cooper, S Bolter, T Flower, P Collett, J Halls
Mr Crumpton-Taylor - Footpath representative
Russell Meekings – Gestingthorpe Football Club
Parish Clerk

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the July meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr David Smith
District Cllr Wendy Scattergood (BDC meeting)
John Butcher – Cricket Club

2. **Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Cooper declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 3, being a Vice-President of Gestingthorpe Cricket Club.

Cllr Nott declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 10, being a client of the applicant of Nether Hall Farm.

3. **Report from Gestingthorpe Football Club**

Mr Butcher (cricket club) had advised of a problem with the water being turned off in the winter and footballers needing to use the facilities, also that the pavilion should be left in a clean state after use. He was concerned about repair work needed and will continue to source funding. He would like the PC to pay for a planning application to improve the facilities. Cllr Cooper proposed that the PC pay for a planning application fee up to a total of £150, seconded by Cllr Nott and unanimously agreed.

Mr Meekings (football club) was keen to work more closely with the cricket club and had had a meeting with the football club to discuss issues. The water is needed to be turned on for the footballers but he was aware this may cause a danger of frozen pipes. Cllrs Cooper and Nott will inspect the pavilion pipework. Mr Meekings will look into grant funding from the Essex County FA. He asked for permission to erect temporary floodlights one night a week with the light directed away from houses. Cllrs were in agreement that this would be acceptable. He also asked permission to reseed the goal areas which are badly worn; this was agreed. He will ensure that the goal posts are secured to the ground after use. Mr Meekings was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

4. **Public Speaking**

None.

5. **Minutes**

The minutes of the May AGM and May extraordinary meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. **Clerks Report**

The Clerks report was noted. Cllr Nott will pass on the dog fouling signs to Cllrs Flower and Bolter for them to put in position.

7. **Reports from Representatives**

Footpaths

Leslie Crumpton-Taylor had received no complaints. He gave thanks to Chris Harman who

had been watering the trees in Delvyn's Lane.
The bridge opposite the Pheasant PH has been replaced.

Village Hall

Cllr Flower reported that the committee had a healthy bank balance and that works were on-going.

Tree Warden

Cllr Flower reported that oak trees along Delvyn's Lane had been replaced.

Passenger Transport

Cllr Bolter reported that despite promises from DaRT on the provision of an amended timetable, this had not happened.

8. Highways

Pot holes/barriers

Cllr Smith had advised that despite correspondence with County Cllr Kevin Bentley about the maintenance work needed, nothing had happened. Cllr Cooper had spoken with people who were doing a survey near the railings. Cllr Smith will continue with his efforts to get the work done.

Signage at Moat Farm corner

The Local Highways Panel had cancelled their June meeting and will now meet in September.

9. Speeding traffic at Audley End

Cllr Collett reported that speeding was getting worse in the Audley End area. Suggestions to reduce speeding were considered – community speedwatch, moving the SID pole from its current position, an advert in the parish magazine and putting 30mph stickers on wheelie bins. The PC will apply to the Local Highways Panel for another SID socket in the area of Rectory Farm, the present SID will be moved and Cllr Collett will look into the cost and ordering of 30mph stickers.

10 Planning

All planning applications made and decisions received were itemised on Appendix B.

18/01123/FUL - Nether Hall Farm

Cllrs were unhappy with the way the application had been presented and that it was not a clearly detailed application. The following comments will be sent to BDC:

1. The PC has no objection in principle to the erection of a dwelling on this site.
2. The PC objects to this application because it does not have sufficient information upon which it can support the granting of full planning permission.

Planning Policy

Cllr Smith had suggested the PC have a policy for collating comments from the planning committee to send to BDC, particularly for more controversial applications. Cllr Bolter suggested a policy could be incorporated into our Standing Orders. Cllr Cooper further suggested that Cllrs Smith and Bolter meet to progress this.

Planning correspondence

Cllr Bolter will draft his response to BDC's letter on how they want replies to planning applications and will send round to all Cllrs next week.

11. Playing Field

Cllrs discussed points raised on the RoSPA report and the following actions were agreed:

- The football nets being secured to the ground – Mr Meekings has confirmed he will ensure these are secured.
- Cllr Nott to speak to Chris Moulton about repairs to the seesaw, slide, tractor and other equipment mentioned in the report.
- Cllr Flower to fill in the gaps between the tiles with sealant.

Cllr Nott will speak to Mr Layzell about strimming round the equipment and mowing on certain areas to improve tidiness.

The new cross trainer was reported as wobbling. No payment will be made until this is rectified. Cllr Cooper will put tape around the cross trainer. Clerk to contact supplier to rectify the fault.

12. Oates Cottages

Due to there being no chance of buying into a percentage of the property and other problems with Colne Housing, one of the residents had decided to move out. Cllrs discussed the various problems.

13. GDPR

Cllrs discussed the general privacy notice, the consent form, data retention policy and email disclaimer. The consent form will be altered so that people can 'opt out' if they wished.

14. Standing Orders 2018

Deferred to the next meeting. Cllr Bolter to look through and edit.

15. Annual Skip Hire arrangements

The skips will be organised for the August Bank Holiday weekend; there is a small increase in price for 2018. Skips will be placed at Audley End and on the playing field next to the bus shelter.

16. Parish Council Finance

Details of all receipts and payments (Appendix C) had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved.

An S137 donation of £25 to Neighbourhood Watch was unanimously agreed.

17. Correspondence and Matters to Report

Litter pick

Cllr Smith had reported on this successful event. Future picks to be carried out in the spring and autumn. Thanks were given to Cllr Smith for co-ordinating this work.

S137 donation

Rules around the PC's annual donation towards churchyard maintenance were discussed as NALC and EALC had advised that this was not allowed.

18. Items for the next agenda

Standing Orders 2018

Donation to the Church

19. Date of Next Meeting

Suggested date for the next PC meeting was October 18th – to be confirmed.

20. To exclude the press and public

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 'That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item 21. 2018/19, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business subject to the public bodies admission to meetings Act 1960 Section 1 Sub-section 2.

21. Clerks salary

Cllrs agreed the new payscale for the Clerk, including 10 hours for extra work, to be backdated to April 1st.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Date..... Chairman.....