

Minutes of Gayton Parish Council

Thursday 5 October 2023 at 7:00pm at Gayton Jubilee Hall

Parish Councillors Present: Andrew Dewing (Chair), Robert King (vice-chair), Chris Mitchell, Peter Gidney, Susanne Jarratt, John Currey. Also Present: Sarah Watts (Clerk) County Councillor Moriarty and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillor De Whalley and Anota

2. Members' declarations of interest in items on the agenda

There was no declaration of interest on the agenda.

3. Reports from County Councillor (CC) and Borough Councillors (BC)

County Councillor Moriarty – Cllr Terry Parish leader of the Borough Council held a meeting with Parish Councils to find out their concerns and any issues the Borough Council need to address to help Parish Councils. There are two planning update sessions being held by the Borough Council in October.

Borough Councillor Micheal DeWhalley - Cllr DeWhalley could not attend the meeting but sent a short report regarding the old school. In order for the old school to be deemed an asset of community value it would need to be proven that there is evidence of existing community use. However other than it being used for a school it was not used for any other community use and would not be considered as an asset of community value.

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held Thursday 7 September 2023

All Councillors were in favour of the minutes held on Thursday 7 September 2023 be signed as a true record.

5. Open Forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public

Lynn Road will be repaired soon. The Grimston road trod has been laid but the old part needs the surface vegetation cutting back. There were also some hedge plants that were damaged when the trod was put down. There is hedge growth over the 30mph sign as you go into Gayton Thorpe. Clerk will report this to highways but it may be a private issue.

6. Clerks report

Bricks that are beside the Village Sign have been advertised on Facebook for free, The Grimston Road Trod has been completed and the CIL Department have been informed. The poppy wreath has been ordered and Cllr Dewing will lay it at the remembrance Service. The hedge by the old school has been cut back. Cllr King informs clerk that there is still part of the hedge that needs cutting back. The Clerk will contact the diocese to cut back the rest of the hedge. The plaque for the bottom of the Gayton sign has been purchased and need to be installed. The broadband in the Jubilee Hall still needs to be connected by BT. They are aware of the issue and will be coming back out to fix it. We still currently have connection with PlusNet. The dog bins are emptied on a Tuesday. There are still problems with the Parish Council Facebook page posting to the Gayton Village Facebook Page. The Borough Council are offering a small grants scheme which will run until the 30th November.

7. Agenda Items

7.1 To consider co-option of new Councillors

Mr James Shilling explains he has previously sat on the Parish Council around 3 years ago and would like to be considered to be co-opted on to the Parish Council. It is proposed by Cllr King and Seconded by Cllr Mitchell with all Councillors in favour that Mr Shilling be co-opted on to the Parish Council.

7.2 To consider the quote to repair the guttering on the Bus Shelter on Orchard Road

Unfortunately, only one quote has been received so this will be moved to next month's meeting.

7.3 To consider reports of traffic problems around the village

There have been reports from a number of residents regarding traffic issues in the Village including road traffic accidents. Cllr Dewing attended the Police Priority setting meeting and speeding is an issue with all villages. The police accident reports are not being passed on to highways. Cllr Gidney will contact the Police to find out how many accidents there have been in Gayton.

8. Finances

8.1 Balance of account on Thursday 28 September 2023

Unity Trust	
Current Account	£ 15,939.81
Instant Access	£ 95,939.38
	£111,879.19

The balance was noted

8.2 Adoption of the reserves policy

It was agreed to add a line in the policy that the Councils general reserves will be 6 months of the Councils precept and to put the earmarked reserves in a separate document. With these amendments it was agreed by all Councillors to adopt the reserves policy

8.3 The budget for 2024/25

It was agreed by all Councillors to set the budget for 2023/24 at £60,000.

The Parish Council will request the precept for 2023/24 at £60,000

8.4 Payments for October 2023

67	Mrs Sarah Watts	October Salary	£409.48
68	HMRC	October PAYE	£102.40
69	Mrs Sarah Watts	Expenses	£30.90
70	ID Mobile	Clerk Phone October 23 (Direct Debit)	£6.00
71	K.J.N Landscapes	Bus Shelter cleaning and litter picking Sept 23	£296.00
72	P J & B Jones	Grass Cutting September	£299.40
73	Norfolk PTS	Chairing a successful meeting	£48.00
74	London Hearts	2 x defibrillator	£2536.00
75	N Power	Elec usage Sept 23	£68.55
76	Bridge for Heroes	Donation	£25.00
77	PlusNet	Broadband Usage September	£32.28
78	Unity Trust	Quarterly Charge	£18.00

It was agreed by all Councillors to pay the above invoices

8.5 Monies received

20/09/23	Norfolk Communities foundation – Defib Grant	£1,000
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The monies received were noted.

8.6 To note quarterly financial projections

The quarterly financial projections were noted

9. Planning Consultations

a. New Planning Application Consultations received from Borough Council/NCC

23/01470/F – Construction of proposed detached garage at 47 Nicholas Close, Gayton, PE32 1QS
The Parish Council have no objection to this planning application but did comment on the lack of information included in the application.

b. Notices of Decision by Borough Council and County Council

There were no Planning decisions made

10. Reports from organisation representatives and Working Groups

10.1 Footpaths/tree warden representative.

The dog bin at St Nichols close need to be replaced.
The footpath by the old school still needs to be repaired by Highways

10.2 Jubilee Hall representative

Nothing to Report

10.3 Parish Magazine liaison officer

The Neighbourhood Plan referendum will take place on Thursday 9th November.

Signed _____

Dated _____

The Grimston Road trod has been completed with the help of the CIL Grant
Include the Parish Council Facebook Page.

10.4 CIL July 2023 Working Group
Nothing to report

11 Correspondence

Cllr Dewing report of SNAP and Borough Council leaders meeting

Cllr Dewing attended both the police priority settings meeting (SNAP) AND THE Borough Councils leaders meeting. Both reports are attached to the minutes.

12 Items for the next meeting agenda

13 Date of the next meeting Thursday 2nd November at 7pm at Gayton Jubilee Hall

14 Close of meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 9:10

Borough council Leader Meeting Report 03/10/23

Planning was a major item on the agenda and in summary of many interesting conversations and opinions that planners often didn't either understand the points or intent on what was being said trying to be made clear when making comments.

It was a concern to many chairs that the commercial pre-application advice service officers provided were also the planning officers in that cases that the advice was given. It was giving a feeling of pre-determination despite P/c comments. Affirmation was made by the leader that this wasn't the case and planning committees could be attended in person or via video conferencing or written letter and they took planning officers advice onboard.

The leader was asked if the situation of notices and to the planning portal had been improved since lack of personnel had created delays on adding to the portal which the answer was the response was it was down to roughly two days

Neighbourhood plans

It was explained that the neighbourhood plan was above in hierarchy and that of the Borough Councils local plan it was advised to update your neighbourhood Plan when a new local plan was produced.

A question was asked if it would try if would try to understand Parish Councils objections in relation to many issues in large applications including wastewater and sewage the answer was there was to be like the Town and Country planning act of 1990 Plus

I asked if an emerging neighbour plan were able to be considered if there were past if they were passed regulation 14 when making comments on applications and it was confirmed that this was the case.

It was requested that Borough was able to give better planning guidance in the local plan consultation for a 2024-25 publishing target

It was also advised that the Parish Councils checked planning applications to see if they conform to their neighbourhood plan policies.

I was asked if funding was available should you wish her update your existing neighboured plan it was advised contact the local planning officer.

Parish Council's Parishioners were vexing issues and costs in cared

One case was a playing field in West Walton which was in a fractious relationship with the local school on who was responsible for ownership and up keep.

Another chairman recounted a tale that a parishioner had harassed the PC even going as far as to weed killing their front garden.

There was intention by the borough to see if a form a super clerk could be provided should advice be required with an intention for possibly a tiered system of assistance from Bronze Silver Gold with increasing cost from the Borough Council for this service it's not confirmed within budget or personnel as an aspiration of the leader.

Recruitment of Parish Councillors and how this can be improved after few councils requiring Borough councillors to step in. many suggestions were also discussed with responses which included being more visual around the parish holding events and communications so parishioners could see the benefits of being a councillor

The leader had a vision to try and give more devolve powers to towns and larger parishes.

There was also an aim to produce a directory of services to assist in contacting correct officers

It finished on Any Other Business which was mainly Parish Councillors discussing of angling water and they increasing bills to cope with increasing demands.

Policy Setting Meeting 4/10/23

The agenda was split into Speeding and other issues.

The area covered by our team had issued 147 penalties with the Norfolk safety camera van and Speed watch Day on September the 14th had issued 147 letters to motorists advising them on there excessive speed.

One complaint from the floor was that Vas Data had been sent to the police but no visible action had been taken. This would be looked into and suggested that data was processed before being sent into them to assist on when speeding was occurring. Its was explained that resources were not abundant on an area the size they covered.

A suggestion from the floor that VAS signs that displayed registration plates were more effective than slow down signs.

It was suggested that for areas where Speed watch teams were unable to formed due to lack of numbers that maybe neighbouring areas could share volunteers to enable the team of six to be made.

The Antisocial behaviour team had been out around Brancaster during their tennis and sailing week to educate those who may require it due to the abundance of visitors and alcohol misuse.

It was reiterated that any Anti-social behaviour was reported. See it Report it!

The issue of Antisocial parking was raised by a neighbouring parish and the advice was to upload video or picture evidence if those felt comfortable to a scheme called "Operation Snap" this would enable police to contact those and explain where they were going wrong of provide prosecutions for offences. Cannabis misuse and other illegal drugs were going to be a target of focus for the year. Should any details be available like name or registration of vehicles committing these offences they could be give to the SNH team or Crimestoppers.

If anyone has anything to report they can contact the Safer Neighbourhood team of via Crimestoppers anomaly, should they feel more comfortable.

With Christmas approaching Norfolk Constabulary would be using their "Fatal 5" campaign against drink and drunk driving checks.

Upcoming Priorities

It was requested that there was a greater focus on Rural Road Safety and Drug related matters

Increase on Antisocial behaviour towards community groups like Speed watch and Neighbourhood Watch.

Next meeting was TBC for February.

Our Beat manager is a Mark Savage and he can be contacted on

SNTDersinghamandgayton@Norfolk.Police.uk

Alternatively, via the Facebook page and Messenger for Kings Lynn Police

Signed _____

Dated _____