

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 16 JULY 2020
AT 7.30 PM

Present: Keith Kirby (Chair), Colin Corlett, Katrina Hartley, Darren Jackson, Jo Smith,
Clerk and 11 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Borough Cllr Richard Sherras

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 13 FEBRUARY 2020

The Minutes of the meeting of 13 February 2020 were accepted as a true record of proceedings and duly signed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents from the village and Ribblesdale Park voiced their concerns regarding the proposal to extend the alcohol and music licences to 3.00 am. Concerns principally related to potential safety issues and increased noise levels in the early hours. Residents advised they supported the Park's initiatives regarding the pop-up festival, the cinema screenings and the weddings business but considered the extension of the licensing hours proposed a step too far. Ms Robyn Isherwood, Events Organiser at Ribblesdale Park, explained the background to the extension application and advised the extension was purely for use in connection with weddings from 2021 onwards; there was no intention to have another pop-up festival next year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Current Accounts	£8,499
Deposit Account	£1,218

It was explained that the deposit account with Santander needed to be closed and the monies transferred to a Lloyds Account. Difficulties had been encountered with discovering who the signatories on the deposit account were so Lloyds Bank, Clitheroe, had suggested a possible way of finding out this information.

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

Mrs C A Holmes	Salary	£360.00
HMRC	PAYE	£90.00
Jo Smith	Reimbursement for course	£63.00

YEAR END MATTERS 2019/20

The meeting considered the Annual Governance Statement and agreed that the following summarised matters could all be answered in the affirmative for the year under review, namely

1. the statement of accounts was prepared in accordance with appropriate regulations
2. an adequate system of internal control was maintained
3. there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance which could have a significant effect on the ability of the council to conduct its affairs
4. there was proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights under appropriate regulations
5. a risk assessment has been undertaken
6. an adequate system of internal audit of the council's records was maintained
7. appropriate action has been taken on matters raised in internal and external audit reports
8. the council has considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments could have a financial impact on the council

The Annual Governance Statement was accordingly approved by the meeting and Keith Kirby and Cathy Holmes proceeded to sign the Statement as Chair and Clerk respectively.

The Clerk advised that it was necessary for the meeting to approve the accounts for the period ended 31 March 2020. The accounts were duly approved and signed by Keith Kirby and Cathy Holmes as Chairman and Clerk respectively. The Clerk confirmed that the accounts and supporting paperwork had been subject to an internal audit and that the internal auditor had not found any issues to report.

The Clerk explained that Parish Councils where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure was £25,000 or less and met qualifying criteria could certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review. It was explained that Gisburn PC could qualify for such an exemption and it was accordingly agreed that the appropriate exemption certificate be signed and returned to the external auditors.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

3/2020/XXXX Taora, Bentlea Road, Gisburn

It was explained that this application had been refused by Ribble Valley BC.

3/2020/XXXX

It was explained that this application had been withdrawn by the applicant.

Licensing

The majority of councillors agreed that an objection should be lodged with RVBC regarding the proposal to extend the alcohol and music licences to 3.00 am.

PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITY FOR TREES

The Clerk advised that parish councils with responsibility for trees, particularly those adjacent to areas with public access, should commission regular inspections of the trees by a suitably qualified individual. It was agreed that an approach be made to a Gisburn resident, whom it was known was suitably qualified, with the request that he undertake an inspection on a paid basis of the trees on the Recreation Ground. It was noted that the person now responsible for cutting the Recreation Ground was also a trained tree surgeon, should any remedial work be required.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

It was suggested that the lengthsman be asked to clean an area adjacent to the wall at the top of Park Road which had become very untidy. It was also agreed that the windows and door of the hut on the Recreation Ground should be blocked and Darren Jackson offered to liaise with appropriate people who could do this.

The Clerk advised that the parish council had received a small grant from Ribble Valley BC towards the purchase of planters for the Church wall. Due to the closure of the factory during the pandemic the planters had not been ordered. It was agreed to purchase two planters and to ask local nurseries if they would provide plants at a discount if they could promote their businesses via the planters. The Clerk advised that the RVBC grant could be applied for annually so other planters could be purchased in future years.

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

The Clerk advised that parts of the road from Gisburn to Bolton-by-Bowland were still in a shocking state but that the road was not on the Lancashire Highways list of work for summer 2020.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Ribble Valley BC regarding the cutting of the Recreation Ground in 2020 had been received. It was agreed that the alternative contractor was doing an excellent job so Ribble Valley BC should be informed that different arrangements had been made.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk was asked to contact Network Rail to enquire how long the works on the railway bridge would take as the traffic management measures were causing parking difficulties on auction mart days.

It was reported that dog fouling around the village remained a problem and that a resident had produced some signs to attempt to. The difficulties regarding the disposal of dog poo bags in bins were discussed.

It was noted that speeding on the road to Gisburne Park Hospital was a problem but it was agreed that, as a private road, it was up to the landowner to take appropriate action.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 17 September 2020 at 7.30 pm

