

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2016
AT 7.30 PM

Present: John Falshaw (Chair), Colin Corlett, Darren Jackson, Mary Kirby, Dave Waters, Clerk and two members of the public (Dr Keith Kirby and Mr John Pratt)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Borough Cllr Richard Sherras

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 27 OCTOBER 2016

The Minutes of the meeting of 27 October 2016 were accepted as a true record of proceedings and duly signed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

John Pratt, a representative of Gisburne Park, advised he had heard a complaint had been lodged with RVBC regarding the recent bonfire and fireworks event held at Ribblesdale Park and a copy of the letter concerned was provided to Mr Pratt for his consideration. The letter, written by Dave Waters, made reference to a complaint having been received from a resident of Gisburn regarding the bonfire event and had been signed by Dave Waters as a Parish Councillor.

Mr Pratt informed the meeting that officers from Barnoldswick Fire Station had attended Ribblesdale Park on 04 and 05 November 2016 to inspect the bonfire and had approved both its size and construction. Mr Pratt conceded there had been issues regarding parking and traffic management on the evening of the event itself but that Ribblesdale Park management had subsequently had a meeting with the police to ensure appropriate measures were taken to avoid a repetition of the problem in future years. Mr Pratt noted that the complaint included reference to amplified music being heard over a considerable distance and queried why a recent private function at a property outside Gisburn, where music could allegedly be heard in the centre of the village in the early hours, had not also attracted complaints from residents. Mr Pratt proceeded to suggest that the complaints regarding the bonfire had arisen as certain individuals in the village sought any opportunity to criticise and complain about events and activities undertaken by Ribblesdale Park and the Park's owner. This suggestion was refuted by Dave Waters who advised that the event appeared to have breached licensing laws regarding the amplified music and sale of alcohol from a marquee and accordingly needed reporting to the relevant authorities.

Colin Corlett advised that he objected to the letter having been signed by Dave Waters as a Parish Councillor as this could lead some residents to believe the letter had been sent on behalf of the Parish Council when this was not the case and other Councillors agreed. The Chair cautioned that the usual protocol when a complaint had been received by a Parish Councillor was to bring the complaint to the attention of the full Council at the next meeting whereupon a discussion could take place and appropriate action could then be taken, including the sending of any letters to appropriate authorities on behalf of the full Parish Council. Dave Waters advised that, as a Parish Councillor, he had the right to sign letters as such and to take action on behalf of residents who raised complaints, alleging that the other Parish Councillors did not do enough, a suggestion which met with disapproval from other Councillors and Mr Pratt.

The Chair concluded that the matters contained in the letter of complaint had been discussed sufficiently and the matter was now in the hands of RVBC from whom a response was duly awaited.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Current Account	£3,802
Deposit Account	£1,202

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council Grant monies of £2,645 had been received from RVBC on 17 November 2016 so the total amount in the current account was £6,447 meaning the appropriate cheque could now be raised for the SpID.

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

John Cornthwaite	Lengthsman	£1,128
Unipart Dorman	SpID	£3,412.80 (inc VAT)

PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2017/18

The Clerk had previously circulated copies of the proposed budget for 2017/18 and further copies were provided at the meeting. The Clerk explained the figures in the budget and advised they were intended as a starting point for discussion if necessary. It was noted that planned expenditure included a sum for wall repairs but that repairs were unlikely to take place until the situation regarding the trees and their roots had been resolved. Projected income included a grant from RVBC in respect of the lengthsman, although receipt of this money could not be guaranteed. It was noted that the projected VAT refund figure needed increasing to take into account the VAT reclaimable from the SpID purchase and the Clerk agreed to revise this accordingly. After consideration it was agreed that the precept for 2017/18 should remain at £4,000.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

3/2016/0988 Land adjacent to Manor Barn, Rimington

It was agreed that an objection to this application should be lodged with RVBC as it was felt that the proposed design of the dwelling would be visually intrusive and out-of-keeping with neighbouring properties and the surrounding area.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

Details of the work undertaken by the Parish Lengthsman were outlined. It was noted that the invoice totalled £1,128 but represented two months' work and therefore included grass cutting and leaf picking. The lengthsman has also undertaken extensive work around the Cenotaph area and had replaced a pipe in the field adjacent to the school to improve drainage and alleviate flooding issues.

VILLAGE SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SpID)

The Clerk had previously circulated the quotation and specification of the SpID to Parish Councillors and it was agreed to proceed with purchase. Dave Waters confirmed that Lancs Highways had not raised any issues regarding the specification of the device. It was confirmed that the Parish Council would be paying the £199 for commission and erection of the device but the remaining cost of £2,645 would be paid for by the Parish Council grant from RVBC. The VAT element of the cost would be reclaimed in due course. It was noted that the lead-in time for the device meant that it would most likely be the New Year before it was installed and operational.

RVBC PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON COMMITTEE – OCTOBER 2016

As this Committee meeting had clashed with the previous Parish Council meeting no-one had been able to attend but Dave Waters provided a summary of the business transacted and advised the next PCLC meeting would be in January 2017.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

As Richard Sherras was absent on holiday this item was not considered.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised that RVBC had asked if the Parish Council required a copy of the Register of Electors and it was agreed no copy was needed. The Clerk also advised that changes brought about by the Insurance Act 2015 meant that more information could be required sooner when it came to renewing the insurance policies.

The Clerk had also received confirmation from the charity Against Breast Cancer regarding the dimensions of their clothing recycling bank. The bank would be 4ft x 4ft x 6ft, be pink in colour and would be emptied once a week. After discussion it was agreed that Gisburn School already engaged in textile recycling via the Bags for Life collections and that further textile recycling in the village could affect the success of the school's collections so, regretfully, the offer of a bank should be declined. However, it was noted that residents who were not connected with the school in any way may not be aware of the dates of their collections and this matter should be raised with the school.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Colin Corlett advised that Andrew Robinson had agreed to provide a Christmas tree free of charge and it was agreed that the tree should be put in place for the first weekend in December.

It was agreed that a formal letter of thanks should be sent to Mr Robinson and it was also suggested that the Parish Council make a donation towards the re-planting of young fir trees for future years. Discussions would be held at a future meeting regarding this suggestion as it was pointed out that Mr Robinson also provided Rimington with a Christmas tree and Rimington Parish Council might also wish to make a donation.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 22 Decembrr 2016 at 7.30 pm (Provisional – meeting to be held only if necessary)

Thursday 19 January 2017 at 7.30 pm