

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 20 JULY 2017
AT 7.30 PM

Present: Colin Corlett (Chair), Darren Jackson, Mary Kirby, Dave Waters, Clerk,
Borough Cllr Richard Sherras

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

John Falshaw

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 15 JUNE 2017

The Minutes of the meeting of 15 June 2017 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Current Account	£1,469
Deposit Account	£1,202

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

None

YEAR END MATTERS

The Clerk advised that the auditors had requested that some of the fixed asset values which had been updated be returned to the original values stated. A £30.00 additional audit fee had been incurred due to the changes requested.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

3/2017/0537 The White Bull, Gisburn

There were no objections to this application.

3/2017/0547

There were no objections to this application.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

The Parish Lengthsman had not submitted an invoice this month and Darren Jackson advised that the lengthman was now on holiday for two weeks. The Clerk advised that she had a new sign for fixing at the entrance to the Recreation Ground which she would pass to the lengthsman upon his return from holiday.

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY ISSUES

Dave Waters advised that a resident had made a complaint about the dangers of crossing the roads in Gisburn, particularly the A59. It was acknowledged that increasing numbers of residents had mentioned the worsening traffic through the village and the difficulties experienced in crossing the roads, particularly for the elderly and those with young children. It was noted that the possibility of a crossing or traffic lights had been raised with Lancashire Highways several years ago but nothing had resulted from the request. It was suggested that Lancashire Highways be formally asked to conduct an appropriate assessment of the traffic and crossing situation in the village and the situation be publicised as widely as possible. After further discussion, it was unanimously agreed that, due to the increase in the volume of traffic on the A59 through the village, and the number of vulnerable persons who have difficulty crossing the road, a pedestrian crossing is needed urgently. The Parish Council agreed that Lancashire Highways be asked to carry out the required assessment as soon as is practicable. Borough Cllr Sherras confirmed his support for this proposal and it was also agreed that County Cllr Atkinson be approached for his support.

The Clerk advised that the potholes on Main Street were showing as having been “actioned” on the Lancashire Highways website but no repairs appeared to have been carried out so it was presumed that “actioned” must mean investigated.

CHILDREN’S PLAYGROUND, BURNLEY ROAD

Darren Jackson provided an update on the situation regarding the children’s playground noting that several items of equipment were damaged or not safe. A formal inspection by an external company was due to be carried out on 24 July 2017. Darren Jackson further advised that the ropes on the middle section of the playground were to be removed on 21 July 2017 as they had frayed. There was the possibility that the play park would need to close and, if this were to be the case, appropriate notices would be placed by the GPFA at the entrance and a flyer distributed via the school. Various fundraisers had been held for the playground and more were planned for the future but it was explained that playground repairs could run into thousands. Principal annual running costs related to grass cutting, insurance and inspections. Darren Jackson explained that the children of the original GPFA Committee members were all now teenagers and attempts had been made to encourage other parents to join but with no success. It was noted that the Parish Council had previously made donations towards grass cutting but it was suggested that the results of the playground inspection be awaited before any donation was made this financial year. It was also explained that a sum of money should be due to the village for the playground as a result of the Strawberry Fields development but that the process of receiving this money could be protracted.

It was further explained that there had been complaints about overflowing dustbins on the playground and it was agreed that if another burgundy wheelie bin could be provided, closer to the park entrance, this would be emptied, if moved to a collection point, on a weekly basis by RVBC.

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS (“PSPOs”)

Documentation relating to the above had been previously circulated. It was noted that the previous Dog Exclusion Orders automatically excluded dogs from certain enclosed recreational areas and other areas had been specifically included in a ban such as the children’s playground on Burnley Road. A decision had previously been made by the Parish Council not to ban dogs from the Recreation Ground but to publicise as far as possible the need for owners to pick up after their dogs. It was reported that there had been a problem in a certain area of Gisburn with dog owners depositing bagged dog faeces in other people’s wheelie bins.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

Richard Sherras provided an update on the latest situation regarding the Clitheroe Market re-development. The meeting was also advised that a new Economic Development Committee had been created by RVBC and that the Council had a new Leader following the resignation of the previous Leader.

CORRESPONDENCE

Items of correspondence had been dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 07 September 2017