

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14 MAY 2014
AT 7.00 PM

Present: John Falshaw (Chair), Colin Corlett, Darren Jackson, Mary Kirby, Peter Ryde, Borough Cllr Richard Sherras, Clerk and 9 members of the public

APOLOGIES

None

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 17 APRIL 2014

The Minutes of the meeting of 17 April 2014 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

John Falshaw declared an interest in Item 8a and announced he would relinquish the Chair for discussion of that item.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public present expressed their views on the planning application to build 28 houses on Mill Lane.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Deposit Account	£1,190
Current Account	£3,400

YEAR END MATTERS

The Clerk advised that it was necessary for the meeting to approve the accounts for the period ended 31 March 2014. The Clerk briefly outlined the entries on Section 1 of the accounts and the accounts were duly approved and signed by Mr Falshaw and Mrs Holmes as Chairman and Clerk respectively. The Clerk explained that the accounts and supporting paperwork would be subject to an internal audit.

The meeting proceeded to consider 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 Mr Falshaw and Mrs Holmes proceeded to sign the Statement as Chair and Clerk respectively.

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

None

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

28 houses, Mill Lane

(John Falshaw declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion. Peter Ryde chaired the meeting for consideration of this item)

An objection would be lodged with RVBC regarding this application principally based on serious highway concerns, excessive development in the village and the lack of primary school places.

(John Falshaw took the Chair)

LPG tank, The White Bull

This application was in circulation around the Parish Councillors for comment.

RVBC Core Strategy

The meeting was advised that RVBC's Planning & Development Committee had approved a document on Post Hearing Modifications to the Core Strategy. It was noted that the document primarily dealt with the proposed allocation of housing across 32 settlements in the Borough outside Clitheroe, Whalley and Longridge. Pursuant to an analysis of the 32 settlements in terms of facilities and services, constraints and capacity for growth they had been divided into nine Tier 1 and 23 Tier 2 settlements. The nine Tier 1 settlements had been deemed "more sustainable" in terms of development and accordingly had been allocated 125 houses between them in specified amounts. Gisburn had been classed as a Tier 1 settlement. The 23 Tier 2 settlements were deemed "less sustainable" in terms of development and any development permitted in these settlements would need to meet proven local needs or deliver regeneration benefits. A public consultation period on the document would be open until 30 June 2014. Borough Cllr Sherras provided further information on the Core Strategy noting that the calculations regarding housing supply were not straightforward.

GISBURN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION ("GEF")

It was reported that investigations continued into the above Trust following receipt of the Trust Deeds from the Charities Commission. It was hoped to now be able to progress matters in the near future.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

It was reported that Creations had tendered their resignation due to the ongoing ill health of a family member. The Cenotaph Gardens had consequently been in need of urgent attention and the Chair advised that he and the Clerk had taken the decision to ask John Cornthwaite to look after this area too, in addition to the remainder of the village. It was noted that John Cornthwaite had recently spent a considerable amount of time on the Gardens and village but was yet to submit an invoice.

WORLD WAR I COMMEMORATIVE TREE

The Clerk advised that RVBC had launched a scheme to plant trees throughout the Borough in memory of the fallen of World War I. Each Parish was to be given an English Oak to be planted in their parish at a site of their choosing subject to certain conditions and the tree would be ceremonially planted by RVBC's Mayor. Confirmation of participation in the scheme and details of the site for tree planting had to be provided to RVBC by the end of May 2014. It was agreed that the most suitable location for the tree in Gisburn would be an appropriate place on the children's playground.

RURAL BROADBAND

Correspondence from a resident of Rimington advising of the tardiness of BT in upgrading the Gisburn exchange to Superfast Broadband had been tabled. It was noted that the resident concerned had already engaged in considerable correspondence on the matter with BT, Lancs County Council and Rimington Parish Council. It was agreed that representatives of the Parish Council would be willing to attend a meeting with BT along with representatives of Rimington PC to discuss the matter further.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised that RVBC had undertaken a review of polling stations and the findings had been published. No comments had been made on current polling arrangements for Gisburn.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk advised that a request had been made by the organisers of the Scarecrow Festival to use the Recreation Ground on the weekend of 28/29 June 2014 but not for parking. It was agreed that permission be granted.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 19 June 2014 at 7.30pm

