

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 16 APRIL 2015
AT 7.30 PM

Present: John Falshaw (Chair), Colin Corlett, Darren Jackson, Mary Kirby, Peter Ryde,
Clerk

APOLOGIES

Borough Cllr Richard Sherras

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19 MARCH 2015

The Minutes of the meeting of 19 March 2015 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Deposit Account	£1,191
Current Account	£5,785
Skipton BS (Parish Council)	£4,151
Skipton BS (Festival Hall)	£4,990

The Clerk reported the receipt of the precept of £4,000 for 2015/16 from RVBC.

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

RVBC (grass cutting)	£789.76
GPFA (donation)	£600.00

£1,389.76

YEAR END MATTERS

The Clerk advised that it was necessary for the meeting to approve the accounts for the period ended 31 March 2015. The Clerk outlined the entries on Section 1 of the Annual Return, explaining differences with the previous year's figures 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 before the Return could be submitted to the external auditors.

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.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

i) Window at 4 Park Mews, Gisburn

It was agreed that no objection to this application should be lodged. It was believed the application had been re-submitted as the property concerned was a listed building.

It was reported that the proposed wind turbine at Englands Head Farm Paythorne, had been rejected on appeal and a costs application refused.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

The Clerk advised that she had been contacted by Lancs CC with regard to participation in the Local Delivery Scheme whereby the County Council would pay parishes £200 for joining the Scheme and then pay for various works to be carried out by the parish lengthsman at a set rate as and when required. The Schedule of possible works and the rates specified were discussed. It was noted that parishes had the right to refuse work offered. It was agreed that, as undertaking the work offered was not obligatory, the Parish Council should join the Scheme for 2015/16.

RECREATION GROUND TREES

The Clerk advised that Dave Hewitt of RVBC had suggested the number and type of trees which could suitably be planted on the Recreation Ground to replace the existing trees. The suggestion was discussed and Darren Jackson agreed to obtain a quote for the trees from one

of his contacts. The Clerk advised that she had contacted the landlord but had yet to receive a reply which was unusual.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS MAY 2015

The Clerk advised that there had been seven nominations for five Parish Council seats so there would be an election for Gisburn Parish Council. It was noted that there would also be an election for the Gisburn & Rimington Borough Council seat. The Clerk advised that it had been indicated that counting of the votes for Parish Councils would take place after the count for the Parliamentary and Borough Council elections so it could be week commencing 11 May 2015 before the Parish Council election results were known.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised that a formal letter of thanks had been received from Little Green Bus following the Parish Council's donation of £150.

The Clerk also advised that Borough Cllr Sherras had forwarded a new Code of Transparency for Smaller Public Bodies which the Parish Council would be obliged to follow. Further information was given regarding the new obligations on the publication of financial information and Minutes. The Clerk advised that she would report further at the May 2015 meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported that a sign advertising an event at Thornton Hall Farm had been erected at the mini-roundabout and the Clerk was asked to contact the Farm requesting that it be removed and no further signs erected.

Darren Jackson advised that the Gisburn Playing Fields Association (GPFA) had only three members, despite efforts at recruitment via Gisburn Primary School, and was running short of funds. The funding situation was so serious that if additional funds were not secured the playground may have to be closed. It was noted that the main costs to be covered were for insurance and grass cutting. It was further noted that proceeds from the honesty box in the car park went to the Festival Hall, not the GPFA, although it was known that users of the playground did put donations in the honesty box.

In view of the impending Parish Council elections it was agreed that it would not be appropriate for the current Parish Council to make any long-term decisions regarding the playground but an offer of £600 towards insurance costs was made. A subsequent discussion regarding the involvement or otherwise of the Parish Council in the running of the playground became heated and Darren Jackson left the meeting.

It was suggested that, following the Parish Council elections, a meeting should be held involving members of the GPFA, Parish Council and Festival Hall Committee to try and establish a mutually acceptable way for the playground to remain open and financially viable.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Annual Meeting:	Thursday 21 May 2015 at 7.00 pm
Parish Council Meeting	Thursday 21 May 2015 at 7.30 pm

