

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 18 OCTOBER 2012
AT 7.30 PM

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

APOLOGIES

None

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 20 SEPTEMBER 2012

The Minutes of the meeting of 20 September 2012 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Deposit Account	£2,188
Current Account	£3,022

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

Mrs J Parkington	(Parish Lengthsmen)	£230.62
Gisburn Cub Scouts	(Donation)	£50.00

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

Re-development of Strawberry Fields diner site

It was reported that the application regarding Strawberry Fields had been considered by RVBC Planning & Development Committee at its meeting on 11 October 2012 and had been approved.

Dudlands Croft Boutique Hotel

It was reported that nothing further had been heard following the adjournment of the Hearing in July 2012.

Temporary Advertising Hoarding, Strawberry Fields diner site

The above retrospective application for an advertising hoarding was considered. It was agreed that the hoarding was intrusive, out of proportion and did not advertise a genuine local business but a national concern with a franchisee in the village. The proposed duration of the hoarding – 12 months – was also considered excessive. It was agreed that a formal objection be lodged with RVBC.

RECREATION GROUND LEASES

It was reported that a new lease of the area of the Recreation Ground nearest Burnley Road had been signed and submitted to the landlord. The new lease was for a period of 3 years. A signed copy of the lease was now awaited from the landlord's agent. The landlord had verbally explained the reasons for the Parish Council having to pay the landlord's legal fees and it was noted that these charges were unlikely to be repeated.

It had been verbally agreed with the landlord that repair work would begin on the wall fronting Burnley Road during the October half-term when the school was closed. The contractors would be asked to work during school holidays to cause minimum disruption and the necessary works would therefore be carried out on a piecemeal basis. It had been agreed that only certain parts of the wall actually required repair and the area around the trough, which was in the Conservation Area, therefore did not require any work.

It was reported that a resident had expressed concern over the state of certain trees on the Recreation Ground and it was agreed that contact be made with Dave Hewitt, Countryside Officer at RVBC, to request his expert opinion.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

The Parish Lengthsmen had submitted their worksheet for October 2012 which totalled £230.68p which mostly related to work around the Festival Hall and copse area. It was noted that the lengthsmen had been unable to strim the car park as they had wished due to the slippery conditions on the slopes and the car park drains were to be tackled on their next visit. It was confirmed that the lengthsmen would be attending the village week commencing 04 November 2012 to clean and tidy the Cenotaph area.

It was reported that Clitheroe Wolves would be using the football pitch on the Recreation Ground as a reserve ground during the current season but could potentially be using it on a regular basis from next year onwards. The lengthsmen would therefore be required to strim the goal areas on the pitch. It was confirmed that RVBC were responsible for mowing the Recreation Ground. It was agreed that if the Recreation Ground were to be used on a regular basis there would need to be some improvements made to the hut so it could be used.

It was noted that the area of land between the Telephone Exchange and the School wall was in a poor state and that the public footpath was often impassable. It was agreed that enquiries be made as to ownership of the land in question and that the condition of the footpath be reported to Lancs CC.

It was reported that Frank Wrathall had agreed to remove the wood and cuttings from the copse area on the A59 for use in the Cubs' forthcoming bonfire in November. A donation of £50 was agreed for Gisburn Cub Scouts as a gesture of appreciation.

LOCALISM ACT 2011 AND REGISTER OF INTERESTS

The Clerk advised that as a result of the above it was necessary for the Parish Council to adopt and publicise a Code of Conduct. It was acceptable to adopt the Code of RVBC and this was produced for consideration. It was agreed that the RVBC's Code of Conduct be adopted and

the Clerk would advise RVBC accordingly, as required. The Clerk confirmed that new Register of Interests forms had to be completed by all Parish Councillors and returned to RVBC.

HALF YEAR FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Clerk produced a spreadsheet for consideration showing expenditure year to date and projected expenditure for the remainder of the financial year. It was noted that there were several items of expenditure in the current year which would not be repeated in future years, namely those relating to the Diamond Jubilee and renewal of the Recreation Ground lease. It was agreed that it was difficult to predict the total cost of the wall repair but that, as the repairs would occur piecemeal, it should be financially easier to manage.

CORRESPONDENCE

An anonymous letter had been sent to the Parish Council complaining about the illegal parking occurring near the Deli on a daily basis and expressing concern over the potential for a serious accident. It was agreed that the illegal parking was a persistent problem and the matter should again be raised with both Lancs CC and the Police. It was also noted that illegal parking continued to occur on market days opposite the Auction Mart and this matter should also be raised with Lancs CC and the Police.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed that RVBC be contacted to ascertain the situation regarding the future of the closed public toilets next to the Auction Mart.

It was reported that an honesty box was to be introduced for the Festival Hall Car Park.

The Chair advised that the Clerk's wages had not been revised for at least two years and therefore required review, especially in light of the additional work recently undertaken by the Clerk. It was agreed that the Clerk's wages be increased to £75 pcm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 22 November 2012 at 7.30 pm

