

**MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2014
AT 7.30 PM**

Present: John Falshaw (Chair), Mary Kirby, Peter Ryde, Borough Cllr Richard Sherras,
Clerk and two members of the public

APOLOGIES

Colin Corlett, Darren Jackson

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 16 OCTOBER 2014

The Minutes of the meeting of 16 October 2014 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Borough Cllr Sherras provided an update on the latest situation regarding Superfast Broadband and the Gisburn Exchange.

The communication from Lancashire County Council regarding the change from a mandatory to an advisory 20 mph speed limit outside Gisburn School was discussed. It was noted that a map had been sent showing the intended location of advisory signs. A member of the public commented that one of the signs was to be outside his house which could cause him some issues. It was agreed that a request be sent to the County from the Parish Council asking that the location of that sign be re-considered. The member of the public, and any of his neighbours also affected, were asked to also write to County with their concerns.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Deposit Account	£1,191
Current Account	£3,503

The Clerk reported the receipt in November 2014 of a VAT refund of £990.46 from HMRC.

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

John Cornthwaite (Lengthsman)	£360.00
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PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

It was noted that RVBC Planning & Development Committee had refused an application for a window at ground floor level at 4 Park Mews, Gisburn on the grounds it would be the domestication of a traditional rural building detracting from the character and appearance.

It was confirmed that the application for a wind turbine at Westby Hall Farm would be sent to Rimington PC for comment as the location was in Rimington Parish but that Gisburn PC would be able to submit comments to RVBC.

The possibility of erecting low level fencing around the grass at the Cenotaph was discussed and it was agreed the opinion of RVBC Planning Department should be sought as the Cenotaph was in the Conservation Area.

It was noted that the horse chestnut tree which had caused problems to residents of Ribblesdale Court had been removed by the landowner.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

It was noted that the lengthsman's invoice covered the period to 21 October 2014. The invoice included grass cutting of the usual areas, strimming of the car park and opposite the Auction Mart and weed killing around the village. The invoice also included work undertaken on the Cenotaph area in preparation for the Remembrance Day Service. It was agreed that the lengthsman continued to do an excellent job.

PUBLIC TOILETS

The Clerk advised that, after contacting the Auction Mart, she had been advised by the owners that they had no immediate intention to open the toilets to the public but would consider this course of action if the Parish Council took on responsibility for the maintenance of the toilets. Earlier enquiries of RVBC by the Parish Council had revealed that the annual cost of maintenance of the toilets was high and, if this responsibility was assumed by the Parish Council, it would inevitably mean the precept would need to be increased. It was noted that the main beneficiaries of the toilets being re-opened would be those passing through the village or visitors so it was not thought appropriate to pass on the costs to local residents. It was agreed that no further action would be taken by the Parish Council regarding the re-opening of the toilets but if an approach was made by the Auction Mart at a future date the matter could be reconsidered.

RECREATION GROUND TREES

It was explained that a sum for further repairs of the Recreation Ground wall had been included in the budget for 2015/16 but that the situation regarding the trees causing the damage had to be resolved prior to incurring further expenditure. An e-mail from Dave Hewitt, Countryside Officer at RVBC, regarding the trees had been circulated prior to the meeting and the contents were discussed. It was noted that Mr Hewitt had suggested contacting the residents living opposite the trees to explain the issues surrounding the wall and the trees and the options to deal with the situation. It was also noted that Mr Hewitt had suggested there could be selective felling of the trees causing the wall damage followed by replanting. It was agreed the matter would be discussed again at the January 2015 meeting.

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS (Lancashire Lost Ways Project)

Borough Cllr Sherras advised that further investigation of the above project had shown that the County wished to be advised of public footpaths for inclusion on the definitive map which were used but were in areas where access could be impeded or prevented by development. The matter was therefore probably more applicable to urban areas.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that several properties in the village were leaving their wheelie bins in front of their properties permanently, rather than removing them following emptying so the street scene was unsightly. It was agreed the regulations regarding removing wheelie bins should be queried with RVBC.

It was agreed that the adverts placed by Thornton Hall Farm, which was not a business local to Gisburn, were virtually becoming a permanent fixture and that a letter of complaint should be sent to the owners.

The Clerk advised that a student resident in the village had asked Colin Corlett if he could do some litter picking around the village as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award. The student would litter pick once a week for 3 months and Colin Corlett was prepared to certify the work undertaken for Award purposes. It was agreed that the student could do litter picking provided he wore a high-visibility jacket and did not work immediately adjacent to the A59 or A682. The Clerk was asked to make the lengthsman aware of this arrangement.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 15 January 2015 at 7.30 pm
There would be no Parish Council meeting in December 2014.

