

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 18 APRIL 2013
AT 7.30 PM

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

Dave Hewitt (RVBC Countryside Officer) for Item 6 only

APOLOGIES

None

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 21 MARCH 2013

The Minutes of the meeting of 21 March 2013 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Deposit Account | £1,188 |
| Current Account | £5,210 |

It was noted that the precept and LCTS grant totalling £4,000 had been received from RVBC. It was agreed that some monies should be moved into the deposit account until required and the Clerk undertook to compose the appropriate letter to Sandander.

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

| | | |
|------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Tozers LLP | (Recreation Ground lease) | £600.00 |
| RVBC | (Grass cutting) | £753.54. |
| Aon UK Ltd | (Annual Insurances) | £327.30 |

It was noted that a discount of 5% could be obtained each year if a Long Term Agreement was signed with Aon UK Ltd committing the Parish Council to renewing insurances with Aon until 2016. It was agreed that the Agreement should be signed in order to obtain the applicable discount.

YEAR END MATTERS

The Clerk advised that she was in the process of completing the year end accounts and hoped to bring the Annual Return to the May 2013 meeting for signature. It was noted that the previous internal auditor, Mrs Maureen Bowe, had moved away from the area so a new auditor would be required. Various names were suggested as possible replacements.

RECREATION GROUND

The Chair reported that the original signed lease had been lost between the landlord and the landlord's solicitors so a duplicate lease had been produced for signature. The Chair confirmed that he had signed the lease and sworn the statutory declaration so documentation was now awaited from the landlord's solicitors.

Mr Dave Hewitt, RVBC's Countryside Officer, advised that he could commission a tree survey/risk assessment and management plan for the Recreation Ground trees. The costs of the survey could be covered by a grant from RVBC. The Parish Council would receive a copy of the assessment/plan and Mr Hewitt agreed he would return to a future Parish Council meeting to discuss the findings further. It was noted that if the trees adjacent to Burnley Road were to be removed it may be necessary to plant replacements before felling took place as removing the trees might upset residents who lived opposite as it would affect their view.

Darren Jackson advised that Young Farmers had recently played rounders on the Recreation Ground and had reported that there was a considerable amount of dog dirt on the field. It was noted that several people allowed their children to walk their dogs on the field but did not seem to equip the children with items to pick up dog dirt. It was agreed that the most effective way to encourage people to pick up after their dogs would be for a resident to be caught and fined by the dog wardens for not removing dog dirt. It was suggested that contact be made with RVBC to see if the dog wardens could attend the village at some point.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

Castill Laithe Abattoir

The above application to extend certain parts of the abattoir was considered and there were no objections.

Dudland Croft Boutique Hotel – Appeal Hearing

It was reported that the Hearing had lasted 2.5 days and that a decision could be expected in the next seven weeks. It was noted that the applicants had engaged a barrister, as had Dunbia, owners of the adjacent abattoir, but that RVBC were represented by appropriate Council officers.

Polytunnel, Capstick's Field

The Clerk confirmed that retrospective planning permission had been granted by RVBC to a polytunnel on Capstick's Field and that the matter had been dealt with by RVBC under delegated powers. It was explained that one of the Governors at the Primary School was unhappy with the situation and had been engaging in e-mail correspondence with the Chair and Borough Cllr Sherras on the matter. It was noted that the Parish Council had not objected to the application and that any further correspondence or comments on the matter needed to be directed to RVBC.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

It was noted that the lengthsman had not been able to commence strimming as the recent cold weather had significantly delayed the growth of the grass. The lengthsman had reported that, once again, there appeared to be an intermittent fault with the SpID. It was agreed that Dr Keith Kirby be requested to investigate the problem. It was noted that the lengthsman had commenced clearing the car park drain but had not yet completed the job which had been outstanding for several weeks.

A quote from another firm for the lengthsman's work was tabled and discussed. It was confirmed that the other firm had gardening expertise so would be able to deal with the

Cenotaph Gardens. It was agreed that the current lengthsman be invited to submit a quote on the same basis as that already received to enable a comparison to be made and the matter would be discussed further at the next meeting.

COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID

It was explained that the Localism Act 2011 had created a new Community Right to Bid. The right allowed defined community groups, including the Parish Council, to ask a Borough Council to list certain assets as being of community value. Where an asset was added to the list of assets of community value, the owner of the property was required to delay any attempts to dispose of the property because a moratorium process comes into effect, the purpose of which is to assist community groups to acquire the property.

After discussion it was agreed that applications be made to RVBC to list the Recreation Ground, the children's playground and the White Bull.

CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted that nothing had been heard from RVBC about allowing an extension of time to find a suitable location for allotments and the Clerk agreed to chase the matter further.

It was reported that there was to be a Gisburn Gala Day on Saturday 15 June 2013 and the Parish Council were asked if they would make a donation towards brochure printing costs, as last year. It was agreed that, assuming costs were to be reasonable, a donation be made similar in quantum to last year's figure.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk advised that a representative of RVBC's Environmental Health department had visited the Strawberry Fields diner site and consequently asked the owner to remove some of the debris that had been dumped at the site.

It was reported that there was once again a plethora of A-Boards and signs around the village and that RVBC's Legal Department and the County Council be contacted about the matter. It was agreed that it was necessary for local businesses to advertise but that planning permission usually needed to be obtained for such signs.

It was reported that four cars had been parked bumper to bumper on the pavement outside the Deli one morning earlier in the week and that the problem of illegal parking at that location persisted on a daily basis. Borough Cllr Sherras also advised he had nearly knocked down an individual who was in the road getting into his vehicle which had been parked on the pavement and that a serious accident would occur sooner or later. It was noted that the police and a representative of Lancs CC had attended the village in October 2012 to investigate the problem but nothing further had been heard. It was agreed to chase Lancs CC on the matter.

It was agreed that the flashing speed sign at the eastern end of the village was very effective and that a similar sign should be requested from Lancs CC for the western end of the village.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Meeting

Thursday 09 May 2013 at 7.00 pm

Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 09 May 2013 at 7.30 pm