

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 21 JULY 2011
AT 7.30 PM

Present: Colin Corlett (Chair), Mary Kirby, Peter Ryde, Barrie Tyrer
Clerk and Borough Cllr Richard Sherras

APOLOGIES

John Falshaw

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 09 JUNE 2011

The Minutes of the meeting of 09 June 2011 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Deposit Account	£2,184
Current Account	£6,849

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

Gisburn Festival Hall		£108.00
Mrs C A Holmes	(Clerk)	£100.00
Mrs J Parkington	(Parish Lengthsman)	£270.00
Mr J Pratt	(Gate on Recreation area)	£288.00
Dr K Kirby	(SpID batteries)	£51.60

YEAR END MATTERS 2010/11

The Clerk advised that the auditors had reverted to her with some further queries to which she had responded. Two boxes on the Annual Return had not been completed as N/A by the Clerk and internal auditor - these had now been duly completed but a small additional fee would be payable.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk advised that there had been no objections to the plans to build a conservatory to the rear of a property in Ribblesdale Court.

It was noted that the application to build a wind turbine at Westby Hall farm, in Rimington parish, had gone to appeal on the grounds of non-determination so was now out of Ribble Valley BC's hands.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Clerk advised that, as part of Ribble Valley's revision of the local plan, a number of areas around the Borough currently classified as "essential open space" could potentially lose this classification with the result that planning permission on such sites could be granted in the future. It was noted that one of the areas proposed for declassification was the land behind the White Bull in Gisburn.

GISBURN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

An e-mail from Mr Giles Bridge explaining the work of the Foundation had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was explained that additional trustees for the Foundation were required and that it had been suggested that a representative of the Parish Council be appointed as a Trustee. It was agreed that Mr Falshaw would be the most appropriate Parish Council representative as he had grandchildren at school in the village but, in his absence, it was agreed no formal decision on the matter could be made.

REPLACEMENT OF RECREATION AREA FENCE

It was noted that Mr John Pratt had been asked to provide a quotation for a replacement fence by the Parish Council and, coincidentally, by Mr Guy Hindley, the landlord.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIAMOND JUBILEE

It was suggested that, for the Diamond Jubilee in June 2012, some cherry trees be planted on the Recreation Area but it was noted that a decision regarding the future of the existing trees adjacent to the Burnley Road, needed to be made.

PARISH LENGTHSMEN

It was noted that the latest timesheet submitted by the parish lengthsman totalled £270.00, the most expensive to date. It was noted that much of the time was being spent on strimming. It was explained that certain areas of the village were in need of attention and it was suggested that a further walk around the village with the lengthsman was needed. It was noted that the lengthsman had yet to start on major work on the Cenotaph Gardens but it was suggested they may be leaving this work until after the summer.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised she had received correspondence from Lancs CC on revised charges for community transport and regarding travellers' encampments. It was noted that the charges for community transport were not applicable to the Little Green Bus and Borough Cllr Sherras advised he would make sure this information was forwarded to the Clerk. Correspondence from Ribble Vally BC had been received on a meeting regarding rural police services and on polling stations in the Borough.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was suggested that the Parish Council support moves to re-open the railway station in Gisburn. It was noted that the franchise for the line which passed through Gisburn was soon up

for renewal and it was believed that if support for a station could be raised the matter would be included in the tendering process for the franchise.

ALLOTMENTS

Prior to the Parish Council a separate meeting regarding allotments in the village had been held at which 12 members of the public were present

Mr David Ingham of Ribble Valley BC explained the background to Ribble Valley BC's allotment strategy. Mr Ingham explained that a possible site for allotments within Gisburn had been identified, namely, the area behind Strawberry Fields where potentially 12 allotments could be situated. It was explained that there could be flexibility as to the size of the plots allocated. The cost of an allotment would be £60 pa. Mr Ingham confirmed that the allotments in this location could only be held on short leases of 4 or 5 years as this was all the landlord was currently prepared to offer. The Parish Council expressed concern over the short term basis of the potential site and agreed that a long term solution and site had to be investigated. Some of those present indicated they would be happy with an allotment for 4 to 5 years in the first instance as they were keen to have an allotment on whatever basis. Mr Ingham stressed that, in order for the allotments to project a positive image in the community, it would be advisable to not allow allotment holders to keep animals or birds at the site and it was agreed that this was sensible. Mr Ingham also advised that Ribble Valley BC were working in conjunction with Gisburn Primary School about the school having its own allotment and that this project could continue regardless of whether community allotments went ahead or not.

It was agreed that it would be sensible to form an association of those who wished to have an allotment and Mrs Chris Fish undertook to write to all those who had expressed an interest in an allotment about the association. It was agreed that the Parish Council representative on the association, if formed, would be Barrie Tyrer.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council Meeting Thursday 18 August 2011 at 7.30 pm