



Gateforth Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: CLLR CAROLINE SHAW

Clerk/RFO: Graham Earnshaw, 14 High Farm Meadow, Badsworth, WF9 1PB
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MINUTES OF GATEFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting of Gateforth Parish Council was held on Monday 4th March 2024 at 7.30pm at Chapel Haddlesey Community Hall

17656. Attendance/Welcome: Present: Cllrs Caroline Shaw (Chair), Andrew Collier (Vice Chair), Diane Osborne and Tony Parkin. Graham Earnshaw – Parish Clerk - was in attendance along with Glenda Brown. Three members of the public were present.

The Attendance Book was not available to sign.

17657. Apologies: Apologies had been received from Cllrs Diane Hey, Richard Longbottom and Gordon McGlone. The Council agreed to accept the reasons for absence.

17658. Declarations and Dispensations: There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations made. Cllr Collier mentioned that Gigaclear had written to him about digging up some of his land next to his house.

17659. Minutes:

a. RESOLVED: to accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4th December 2023.

b. The Chair signed the minutes as accepted.

17660. Public Comments: There were no comments from the public present at the meeting.

17661. Gigaclear Project: This item would be discussed under the Correspondence agenda item.

17662. Planning:

a) Applications for consideration



The following applications were discussed:

ZG2023/1173/COU – Change of use of land for storage container to be used as a pet crematorium (retrospective) at Hightrees, Church Lane, Gateforth.

The Council noted this was a retrospective application and had no comments to make on the application.

b) Decision Notices to be noted

ZG2023/1173/COU - – Erection of single storey extension to widen existing garage at rear of property and erection of a wall with associated railings, fencing and electric gate along the front boundary at The Meadows, Hillam Road, Gateforth.

Application granted.

17663. Finance

a. Finance Report from the Clerk:

The Council's financial balance at 1st March 2024 is as follows:

General Fund	£1,173.83
Capital Fund	£36,140.82

Payments

Payee	Description	Amount
HMRC	Tax bill for tax months 7,8 and 9	£86.80
Clerk	Salary for December + expenses (home working allowance)	£141.60
Autella	Payroll services for October, November and December	£54.58
Clerk	Salary for January/February + expenses (home working allowance) + back pay	£238.60
YLCA	Clerk advert	£15.00

17664. Discuss ongoing issues and agree action:

a) Updated Planning Policy – The updated policy would be circulated and if no comments were made the Council agreed to approve the updated policy.

Action: Cllr Collier to circulate the updated Planning Policy for comment.

b) Queen's Canopy Plaque – The Chair's supplier didn't want to supply the plaque so it was agreed that Cllr Collier would check if a firm near Selby could make the plaque. The agreed budget for the plaque was £120.

Action: Clerk to send Cllr Collier the agreed wording for the plaque.

c) Newsletter – This item was ongoing. A councillor said the Council needed to decide if a paper copy of the newsletter should be produced.

Councillors were receiving a lot of spam emails.

Action: Clerk to contact YLCA to see if councillor's email addresses could be removed from the website.

RESOLVED: The Council unanimously agreed to remove councillor's email addresses from the website if YLCA approved this action.

d) Pruning of trees – No response had been received from the tree surgeon.

Action: Cllr Osborne would follow this matter up with the tree surgeon.

e) Appointment of new clerk – The Parish Council agreed to appoint Glenda Brown as the new Parish Clerk.

Action: Graham to arrange a handover meeting with the new clerk.

Action: Cllr Collier to produce a folder for the new clerk including copies of the latest policies.

Action: Clerk to check the dates for approving the accounts and signing the certificate of exemption for 2023/24 before confirming the date for the next Parish Council meeting.

17665. Easement for work on the Village Green:

It was confirmed that any work affecting the village green requires an easement to be produced. The easement costs need to be met by the person undertaking the work.

Action: Clerk to chase up the easement issue with the solicitor.

17666. Litter Pick:

The Council agreed to arrange a litter pick in the village on Sunday 9th June 2024 at 10.30am. Residents would be asked to meet on the village green.

It was also agreed that a note would be put in the next newsletter about the placement of recycling bins when it is windy as some bins are getting blown over and litter is being scattered in the village.

17667. Future Christmas Lights:

The Christmas lights are being examined as there was issues with the lights last Christmas. There may be an issue with the transformer.

Action: Cllr Osborne to look at the cost of new lights compared to the cost of a new transformer.

A councillor mentioned that the number of power cuts in the village was increasing.

17668. Facebook:

The Parish Council confirmed that it cannot engage with the Village Facebook but it could put a link on Facebook to the details of future Parish Council meetings. Twitter (X) is not been used at the moment.

The Council may not be able to put comment on Facebook but needed to consider how it should communicate with the village.

17669. Telephone box on the Village Green:

The telephone box is getting broke constantly. The door of the telephone box has been fixed again by Cllr Longbottom and a sign has been out in the box about closing the door. The Parish Council agreed to monitor the situation.

17670: Correspondence Received:

- Parking and driving on village green: The council confirmed that people were not allowed to park on the Village Green. There were no other parking restrictions in the village. There was some concern that travellers would come into the village if parking is signposted so the Parish Council agreed that it wouldn't be appropriate to put up signs about parking. Parking signs had been removed previously on the advice of the police.

- Health & Wellbeing Strategy: The Council agreed to promote this by putting an item on its website.

- Parish Council Domains:

Action: Cllr Collier will review the document to see if any action needs to be taken by the parish Council.

- High Speed broadband, engagement with parishioners, parishioner survey and GPC budget: The Chair read out the email from a resident about these issues.

High Speed broadband – there were two items that the Parish Council needed to look at a) Infrastructure in the village i.e. parking, broadband etc. b) Engagement, there had been a reduction in engagement, for example about the Christmas events.

The Parish Council said that Christmas lights are a village activity not an activity organised by the Council.

GPC Budget – The Council advised that the capital budget had been accumulated through easements in the village etc. this was not from the Council Tax or the Precept. The Parish Council needed to consider what its plans were regarding the use of this money.

It was pointed out that the Parish Council had not published anything about the discussion in the sub-committee regarding CCTV in the village.

Survey – The Parish Council said it would be happy to carry out another survey of residents. Some information would be included in the next newsletter.

Engagement – The Parish Council needs to decide what to do about engagement with the village.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council agreed to put key information on Facebook and also put links to the meeting agendas on Facebook as well.

Broadband – The Council had met Gigaclear at a meeting and had invited a representative from the company to attend a Parish Council meeting. Gigaclear had indicated they were not keen to do work to implement high speed broadband in the village because of the easement issue and the cost involved.

Gigaclear had not attended a Parish Council meeting and there had been no discussions with the Council about its plans for the village. The Parish Council had not requested any money from Gigaclear and is not blocking the implementation of high speed broadband. In fact, the Parish Council would welcome the installation of broadband in the village. The Parish Council would like Gigaclear to engage with them so they can vote on their plans for the village as part of the normal process.

Action: Clerk to contact North Yorkshire Council about the contact details for the village as the information held by NYC needs updating.

A resident thanked the Parish Council for discussing the issues raised in his email.

17671: Minor items:

There were no items to discuss.

17672. Items for the next agenda:

None.

17673. Date of next meeting: Proposed date Monday 3rd June 2024 at 7:30pm.

Cllr Collier raised an issue with the proposed date in relation to our Standing Orders which state that the Annual Council meeting must take place in May (SO item 5b). Therefore date of next meeting TBC.

Action: Clerk to contact Chapel Haddlesey bookings officer to identify possible dates in May to hold the Annual and Ordinary Council meetings.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

DRAFT