**GATEFORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Chairman: Cllr Diane Osborne**

**Clerk/RFO: Jeremy Sherlock, 10 Old Farm Way, Brayton, Selby, YO8 9SZ 07981 371937**

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**MINUTES OF GATEFORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**The meeting of Gateforth Parish Council was held on Wednesday 9th January 2019 at 19:30 in Chapel Haddlesey Community Church Hall**

1. **Attendance/Welcome:**

**Present:** Cllrs Diane Osborne, Caroline Shaw, Richard Longbottom, Jim Cawthorne, Martin Hillary, Tony Parkin, Lynn Sherratt

Jeremy Sherlock – Parish Clerk; 4 members of the public; Jim Lawrie (SSE), Colin Turnbull (DWD), Malcolm Sangster (AECOM), Jade Fearon (SSE)

1. **Apologies –** None
2. **Declarations and Dispensations -** None
3. **Proposed Gas Power Station, Ferrybridge** - representatives from SSE who are looking to develop a gas fired Power Station at Ferrybridge attended the meeting. The main issue for the village is a proposal to erect compounds in Pale Lane to house equipment linking the high pressure main to a pipeline leading to the Power Station. There have been pre-application consultations regarding this proposal.

Ferrybridge been used as a generation site for many years, with a series is coal fired stations. Future generation will focus on renewables/ nuclear with other facilities (including gas) as a back up/ peak supply. To develop this Power Station there is a need to access the national gas main that is south of Gateforth. Knottingley Power have consent for a similar proposal.

SSE propose submitting an application in April 2019, on the basis of receiving a decision by July 2020. The application is submitted to the Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills, and is considered by the Planning Inspectorate. Selby DC are a consultee, but with a significant role in managing conditions within their area. Once the application is submitted there will be further consultation.

The proposal subject to the pre-application consultation show 2 options either side of Pale Lane comprising a SSE compound and a National Grid Compound. Within these compounds would be small buildings (around 3m in height) and plant allowing access to the pipeline. The compounds would have security fencing (2.4m), cctv and motion sensor lighting. There would be planting to screen the site. The pipeline would be buried so not visible once the scheme is completed. A more detailed proposal will be included as part of the planning application.

Construction of the compound would take a few months, but would require limited vehicle access. Once completed traffic would be limited to a few times per year. The operation of the site would be strongly regulated by the National Grid.

When the application is submitted it was suggested that a photomontage should be included so that the impact of the compounds can be fully appreciated. In addition, it was agreed to hold a further meeting (including a site visit). It was suggested that planting take place in advance of the scheme so that it has an impact, and that it should include some evergreens. The possibility of an earth bund was suggested and could be considered in the future.

The representatives were thanked for their attendance. It was agreed that they would continue to liaise through the Clerk.

1. **Minutes**
   1. **RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on 10th October 2018**
   2. **Chair** **signed** minutes as accepted.
2. **Public comments –** a number of comments were made raising concerns about the proposed SSE compounds and the impact on local amenity.
3. **Reports** - none
4. **Planning** 
   1. Planning Applications

The application at the Mushroom Farm (2018/0743/FULM) is on the January Planning Committee agenda at Selby DC with a recommendation to approve.

The retrospective application for biomass processing facility at Viner Station, Birkin (2018/0681/FULM) does not yet have a Committee Date, but concerns continue about the number of heavy lorries.

* 1. Planning Approvals

None

1. **Finance**
   1. Budget and Precept 2019-20 - a draft budget and report for 2019-20 prepared by the Clerk was circulated. It included 3 precept options to show the implications of different changes:
      * a stand still (there is a small precept increase due to a change to the tax base),
      * close to current inflation levels, and one that covers the
      * "basic" expenditure ( i.e. no use of reserves)

Excessive use of reserves would lead to a need for a large increase when they run out. The following budget was agreed using the inflation based approach which results in a Precept of £5,500 (£48.50 per year for a Band D Council Tax payer).

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **General Funds** |  | **Budget Head** |  |
| Carry forward | £11,900 | Revenue Reserve | £1,500 |
| Precept | £5,500 | Staffing | £2,142 |
| Wayleave | £44 | Maintenance | £2,650 |
| VAT recovery | £600 | Administration | £1,100 |
| Interest | £300 | Projects | £1,000 |
|  |  | Events | £2,000 |
|  | **£18,344** | Unallocated Reserve | £7,952 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | **£18,344** |

**Resolved that the above budget be approved with a Precept of £5,500 for 2019-20**

* 1. Finance Report from the Clerk – the Clerk reported a balance of £42,109.48, which comprises £15,234.77 General Funds and £29,453.93 Capital. The second tranche of the precept (£2,683) has been received. £3,000 has been transferred from the Savings Account to the Current Account to ensure that there is adequate cash to cover commitments for the remainder of this financial year. Outstanding costs include a bench, bin and the implementation of the grasscrete.
  2. Payments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| M J Backhouse | Moles | £35.93 |
| Npower | Electricity | £34.89 |
| J Sherlock | Salary | £126.96 |
| HMRC | Tax | £81.80 |
| Autela Group | Payroll | £46.80 |
| SLCC | Subscription | £34.62 |
| Charles Shaw | Grass Cutting | £216.00 |
| Viking | Stationery | £82.47 |

* 1. Receipts

None

1. **Standing Orders** – the Clerk circulated a revised version of Council Orders based on amendments recommended by NALC. The proposed changes are primarily due to requirements introduced by GDPR.

**Resolved that the revised Standing Orders be adopted**

1. **Precept Consultation by North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner** – it was felt that the options provided did not provide a link between changes to expenditure and changes to service. It was agreed to make no comment.
2. **Travellers** – the Clerk had received a response from Selby DC who referred to the section on the Selby DC website. Selby DC have acted to enforce powers available to Parish Councils as landowner, but charge for this service. A response from the Police is awaited.
3. **Village Green**
   1. Grass Guard/ Deed of Covenant – the Deed of Covenant has not yet ben signed. It was agreed that the Clerk should check the current situation with the adjacent property owners, and to implement the scheme if satisfactory progress is being made.
4. **Phone Box –** the Clerk has requested quotes but has not received any to date.
5. **Footpaths** – correspondence had been received regarding the footpath that runs east from Gateforth. This had been reported to North Yorkshire CC. It was noted that footpath issues can be reported directly to the County Council or through the Ramblers Association website.
6. **Speed Limit –** the Clerk had received a response from 95 Alive advising that the speed limit was reviewed in 2017 when it was decided that no action can be taken. This cannot be reviewed for 3 years. As this was still felt to be a problem it was agreed to put information on the website to seek views from villagers.
7. **Communication between meetings** – the Chair reminded Councillors that it would be helpful to respond to email correspondence between meetings, even if they have no comment. There had been a discussion about using Parish Council only gmail accounts. A number of Councillors preferred using their existing accounts. It was agreed to leave this to the discretion of individual Councillors.
8. **Newsletter Distribution** – there was some comments about the cost of posting out the Newsletter before Christmas. The Clerk commented that this was not a large sum, and ensured that it reached the more remote properties. Due to the comments the Chair had transferred £70 to cover these costs. It was agreed that this should be refunded. The Clerk said that for the future he would prepare address lists so that the village area can be hand delivered, with it being posted to other properties.

**Resolved that the £70 contribution made by the Chair be refunded**

1. **Clerk’s Salary** – The Clerks Pay is calculated using NJC (Local Government) pay rates. The Clerk has been appointed on Salary point 19 and is contracted to work for 12 hours per month. The Clerk is also paid in lieu of holiday, and receives a home office allowance of £18 per month (£216 pa). The national scale points have changed and point 19 has now become point 8. There are no salary implications, bur this should be noted in the Contract. NALC have advised of a national pay award for 2019-20 which has been agreed by Employers and Unions. This pay award represents an annual cost of £42.44 which has been allowed for in the 2019-20 Budget estimates.

**Resolved that**

**The Clerk’s pay be increased in line with the national pay award as follows - Salary - £1493.28; In lieu of holiday - £182.86; home office allowance £216.**

**The Clerk’s Contract be amended to note the change from point 19 to point 8.**

1. **Election 2nd May 2019** – due to the Election date it was agreed to move the date of the Annual Meeting

**Resolved that the date of the Annual Meeting be changed from 8th May to 15th May**

1. **Schedule of Meetings 2019-20**

**Resolved that the scheduled meeting dates for 2019-20 be 10th July 2019, 13th November 2019, 8th January 2020 and 13th May 2020 (Parish and Annual Meeting)**

1. **Correspondence Received** – all previously circulated
2. **Minor items** – a new transformer was needed for the Christmas Lights at a cost of c £20. This will be covered by the Administration budget
3. **Next meeting –** Wednesday 15th May 2019 at 7:30 pm at Chapel Haddlesey Community Hall (Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting).

**Signed: …………………………………………………**

**D Osborne, Chairman, Gateforth Parish Council.**

**Date:**