

# 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 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 19:30 in Chapel Haddlesey Community Church Hall

**17294. Attendance/Welcome: Present:** Cllrs Diane Osborne (Chair), Caroline Shaw, Richard Longbottom, Lynn Sherratt; Tony Parkin, Gordon McGlone; Jeremy Sherlock – Parish Clerk; Andrew Collier, Andrew Hazon

**17295. Apologies** – none

**17296. Council Vacancies** – an Expression of Interest had been received from Andrew Collier. Andrew has lived in the village for a few years and has engaged in activities, but wishes to take a more positive role.

**Resolved that Andrew Collier be co-opted as a Councillor for Gateforth Parish Council**

**17297. Declarations and Dispensations** – none

**17298. Mushroom Farm site** – Andrew Hazon a Gateforth resident gave a presentation on the development on the Mushroom Farm site. He works as a consultant for the developer York House Leisure and will act as sales manager. The first phase which is the area nearest to Gateforth New Road start being available in Spring 2020. There will be 2 further phases. A 4 year development programme is anticipated. Further information is available on [www.gateforthpark.co.uk](http://www.gateforthpark.co.uk).

**17299. Minutes**

a. **RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

b. **Chair signed** minutes as accepted.

The Clerk advised that he had spoken to former Councillor Jim Cawthorne about the former footpath along Church Lane. He advised that it was around 45 years since there was a path, and since that time the road has been widened by agricultural vehicles into part of the former path area. In the light of this it was agreed that it was not realistic to take this any further.

**17300. Public comments** – none.

**17301. Reports** – none

**17302. Planning** - None

**17303. Finance**

a. Finance Report from the Clerk

### Balances

The Council's financial balance at is as follows:

Account Balance	£39,591.53
Capital	£33,991.15
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>£5,600.38</b>

It was reported that there will be a need to transfer £1,000 from the savings account to the Current Account to cover commitments to year end.

It has previously been agreed to transfer the savings to a higher interest account at Skipton Building Society. This will require the existing Account to be closed and a new one opened.

**Resolved that:**

- 1. £1,000 be transferred from the Savings Account to the Current Account.**
- 2. The existing Savings Account be closed with the balance of funds transferred to a newly opened higher interest account at Skipton Building Society**

b. Payments

Charles Shaw	Grass Cutting	£456.00
Chapel Haddlesey PCC	Room Hire	£11.25
Bulb	Electricity	£9.00
Bulb	Electricity	£9.00
AWA Tree Consultants Ltd	Tree Survey	£420.00
J Sherlock	Salary	£129.70
Marcus Taperell	Tree works	£300.00
J Sherlock	Salary	£129.70
HMRC	Tax	£83.80
M J Backhouse	Moles	£37.01
Autela Payroll Services	Payroll	£47.08
npower	Electricity	£27.17

c. Receipts

Church Fenton PC	Refund	£40.00
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**17304. Budget and Precept 2020-21** – a report on the budget for 2019-20 was considered. The Capital Reserve figure is included in the budget now that a final figure has been agreed. The only current commitment against this budget will be the fees for the registrations of the “car park” area next to the Village Green. There was a revenue surplus of £221 in 2018-19, and a forecast deficit of £61 this year which demonstrates a nearly balanced budget. An inflation increase in the Clerk’s salary as been allowed for, though a pay award has not yet been agreed. The maintenance budget increase is inflation based. This is inevitably difficult to predict. The administration budget is unchanged as an underspend is forecast this year.

The balance of expenditure is covered by “Projects”. This could include an event should the Council wish to pursue one. I would recommend that a reasonable budget is retained in this category so that the Council can do things during the year.

**Resolved that the following budget be approved for 2020-21 with the Precept set at £5,800**

<b>BUDGET 2020-21</b>		<b>Budget Head</b>	
Carry forward	£4,418	Revenue Reserve	£1,500
Precept	£5,800	Staffing	£2,150
Wayleave	£44	Maintenance	£3,630
VAT recovery	£750	Administration	£1,110

Interest	£300	Projects	£2,922
<b>General Funds Total</b>	<b>£11,312</b>		<b>£11,312</b>
<b>Capital Reserve</b>	<b>£33,991</b>		
Capital Projects	£300		

**17305. Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures** –NALC have produced updated versions of these 2 policies to take account of a recent tribunal case.

**Resolved that the revised Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures be adopted**

**17306. CCTV** – Councillors felt there would be benefits in installing equipment which would allow monitoring of people passing through the village. An installation in West Haddlesey is considered to be effective. One issue would be monitoring locations. It was suggested that cameras typically cost around £4K each. It was felt that there was a need to develop a specification and consult the community (through the Newsletter) before progressing the scheme or inviting quotations.

**Resolved that a CCTV sub Group be established comprising Cllrs Sherratt, Shaw and Collier to develop a scheme and report back to the next meeting**

**17307. Home Office Consultation: Strengthening Police Powers to Tackle Unauthorised Encampments** – the Clerk had prepared a draft response to the consultation on the basis that the strengthening of powers would be welcome. It was agreed to submit the comments after 16<sup>th</sup> February to allow further consideration by Councillors.

**Resolved that the Clerk submit a response to the consultation subject to considering any amendments proposed by Councillors**

**17308. Tree Risk Survey** – at the last meeting some concerns were raised about the cost of tree inspections (£350+VAT this year). In the light of these I have sought advice from a Came and Company the Council’s Insurance Brokers and YLCA. Whilst there is no legal requirement both consider that inspections by a qualified arboriculturist are sensible as it prevents increases in insurance costs, and demonstrates that the Council is operating responsibly. Both have suggested that the time interval should be identified by the consultant. Additional interim inspections would also be useful. The Council’s arboriculturist has suggested a further inspection in 18 months time (April 2021). It was agreed that an interim inspection by a tree surgeon be carried out in late summer this year. This has been offered free of charge.

It was felt that the tree that is currently being used for the Christmas Lights is getting increasingly large and is presenting a Health and Safety Issue. It was agreed to plant a Christmas Tree for future use.

**Resolved:**

- 1. The next full tree inspection be undertaken in April 2021**
- 2. An interim inspection be carried out by a tree surgeon in late summer**
- 3. A c 12ft “Christmas” tree be planted on The Green**

**17309. Dogs** – dog fouling remains an issue. It has been reported that some dogs are let out unsupervised at night. Cllr Sherratt agreed to speak to the dog warden about actions that can be considered, and it was agreed to cover this issue in the newsletter.

There was a discussion about the impact of shooting on dog walkers (and others). This included an approach from a villager with a baby who was caught in the middle of a shoot. Shooting has been part of village life for a long time, with part of the area managed as a shoot, but it appears to have grown in size. As not all villagers

will understand how the shoot operates it was agreed that a request be made regarding notice of shoots, how they operate, and signage on footpaths. Information can also be included in the newsletter and website. Cllr Parkin and Longbottom will discuss this with the relevant landowner and report back.

**17310. Village Sign** – a villager has offered to produce a framed ceramic village sign which could be installed on the bus shelter.

**Resolved that the offer of the sign be welcomed, and it be installed on the bus shelter once complete**

**17311. Noticeboard** – the Perspex panel on the current noticeboard is becoming opaque. It is not possible to replace it due to the way it has been constructed. It was agreed to replace it with a larger (6xA4) noticeboard which would be installed in the bus shelter. It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate alternative designs for consideration.

**Resolved that a new noticeboard be installed at a cost of up to £250+VAT**

**17312. Schedule of Meetings 2020-21**

**Resolved that the schedule of meetings for 2020-21 be 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (Parish and Annual Meeting); 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020; 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020; 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021; 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (Parish and Annual Meeting)**

**17313. Clerk** – the Clerk advised that he was moving home shortly and was anticipating leaving the Council. Councillors asked him to reconsider as they were happy to pay mileage and assist with posting notices etc. The Clerk agreed to consider this and advise further.

**17314. Newsletter** – it was agreed to produce a newsletter to be completed in February to cover CCTV, dog fouling, shooting, new Councillors, and Picnic on the Green (potential summer event)

**17315. Correspondence Received** – circulated separately

**17316. Minor items** – Cllr McGlone advised that he would be happy to arrange for the phone box to be painted and repaired with the help of other volunteers from the village. It was agreed to include this in the newsletter.

**17317. Next Agenda** – CCTV, summer event, dog fouling

**17318. Next meeting** – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 7:30 pm at Chapel Haddlesey Community Hall

**Signed:** .....

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

**Date:**