

# GAZELEY PARISH COUNCIL

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## **Minutes of the meeting of Gazeley Parish Council Held in Gazeley Village Hall on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

**Present:** Cllrs Judy Moatt (Chair), Kevin Grimwood, Tom Morgan, Charlene Vandenbroucke, Vini Mallen and Hilary Appleton

**Also Present:** Parish Clerk, Lynne Francis and 4 members of the public.

**16/1.1 Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Cllr John Chambers who is away.

**16/1.2 Declarations of interest in matters on the agenda:**

None declared.

**16/1.3 Reports from external bodies**

**i. County Council Report:**

Cllr Noble had sent a monthly report which had been forwarded to all councillors prior to the meeting.

Cllr Hilary Appleton drew the council's attention to several issues highlighted in the report. Consultations are currently taking place about the future of the Fire and Rescue service and the provision of high-speed broadband across the county. There is also a Dementia-Friendly Communities Fund which gives grants of up to £2,000 to support Dementia-related schemes and projects. Cllr Appleton felt that the Parish Council should inform the public of these issues and encourage participation in the consultation process on matters which affect all of us.

**ii. District Council Report:**

Councillor Rona Burt had sent her apologies. She is still unable to drive due to an arm injury.

She had sent her monthly report which was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

Cllr Appleton asked whether a charge had been set for the collection of brown bin waste.

The Clerk had no further information on this or on whether householders could opt out of this part of refuse collection altogether and return their bin to the council. She will make further enquiries.

**16/1.4 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015.**

The minutes were confirmed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**16/1.5 Clerk's Report and any other matters arising from the minutes**

**i. Clerk's Report**

- The Clerk had again been in contact with the County Council about the failure to repair lamp No. 5 at the end of Stubbins Lane. The reason that this lamp has not been repaired is that the lamp itself is too close to power equipment installed by UKPN and has therefore been declared unsafe for engineers to work on until certain adjustments are made by UKPN.
- The point was also made that lamps on telegraph poles are being replaced all over the country and it may be that if the situation cannot be resolved, the only solution would be to

create a new lighting column altogether. The cost of this would fall to the Parish Council. The Clerk will continue to pursue this issue and will report any further news on the matter.

- Potholes – The huge potholes on the edge of Higham Road, opposite Tithe Close, have been reported as needing urgent attention after a car was damaged over the Christmas period.

### 16/1.6 Finance

#### i. Authorisation of outstanding payments:

The following accounts were approved and signed by the Chairman and Cllr. Vandenbroucke.

Mrs L Francis, Clerk's Expenses	£ 21.00
FHDC Playground Audit 2015-2016	£ 58.80
Suffolk County Council. Streetlighting	£ 1541.45
Newprint Ltd, Newsletter	£ 64.00

**At 12.1.16, the total balance of both Parish Council accounts stood at £21934.66**

ii. The Clerk gave a statement of the projected year-end account figures. The Parish Council accounts show a healthy balance and it is estimated that around £14,000 will be available for village projects next year. The Parish Council had received a donation of £10,000 from Strutt & Parker on behalf of the Dalham Estate which will be used for essential works to maintain and improve various areas of the village including the Village Green, the children's play area and the playing field, which is now leased to the Parish Council.

iii. Applications for financial assistance had been received from All Saints' Church for churchyard maintenance and from the Events Committee for The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations.

#### The following grants were approved:

<b>All Saints' Church</b>	<b>£800.00</b>
<b>Events Committee</b>	<b>£1,000</b>
<b>Grow &amp; Show</b>	<b>£100</b>

Quotes will be obtained for the installation of oak posts around the village green and for essential repairs to equipment at the recreation ground.

**iv. It was resolved that the precept should be set at the same level as last year, £10,168.**

### 16/1.7 Councillors' Reports

The Clerk was instructed to make enquiries about the removal of the textile recycling bin from the village green. It is currently sealed and out of use.

Potholes in Highwood Road are still awaiting repair.

Dog fouling on the green at Highwood Crescent is increasing and is unacceptable.

There is evidence of fly-tipping on Ashley Road, Kentford Road and Needham Street.

Residents have reported seeing rats near the chicken run at Mill Meadow PRU.

The Clerk will contact the school, the refuse department and Highways about all these issues.

**16/1.8 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February in the Village Hall.**

The meeting closed at 9.15

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....