

GAZELEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Gazeley Parish Council Held in Gazeley Village Hall on Tuesday 8th March 2016

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

Also Present: Parish Clerk, Lynne Francis and 7 members of the public.

16/3.1 Apologies for absence: None. All councillors were present, Cllr Colin Noble and Cllr Rona Burt had both sent apologies however.

16/3.2 Declarations of interest in matters on the agenda:
None declared.

Public Forum

The suggestion that no-one in Gazeley appears to have received written notification from FHDC about changes to the brown bin collection was raised.

It was reported that the path through the stud was virtually unusable in places because it was very wet at the moment and therefore churned up by horses crossing the path.

16/3.3 Reports from external bodies

i. County Council Report:

A monthly report had been received from Cllr Noble and circulated to all councillors.

ii. District Council Report:

Councillor Rona Burt had sent her monthly report which had also been circulated to all councillors. There was nothing further to report about Hatchfield Farm, the future of the Mildenhall air base or devolved powers. Chairman of the Council David Bimson has passed away after a short illness. Cllr Robin Millar won the Suffolk County Council by election.

16/3.4 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th February 2016.

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

Cllr Grimwood asked that it be recorded that a member of the public, who had asked about the closure of The Chequers at the last meeting, had also suggested that the Parish Council might consider applying for it to be registered as an Asset of Community Value.

16/3.5 Clerk's Report and any other matters arising from the minutes

i. Clerk's Report

- The Clerk had contacted FHDC when it became apparent that very few, if any, residents had been officially notified about the change and charge applied for collecting brown bin waste. The council is now making renewed efforts to inform all residents of the change and they are able to opt in to the scheme at any time but they must do so by 21st March to ensure an uninterrupted service.

- Vic Parsons has been notified that his quote for installing a series of oak posts around the village green has been accepted.
- An email has been received from SP Landscapes asking whether the Parish Council wishes to renew the grass cutting contract for another year at the same price as last year.
- **Resolved.** That the Clerk informs SPL that their quote has been accepted.
- The Clerk has sought a quotation for creating three ownership signs to be placed at the three entrance points to the playing field. It was agreed that A3 would be the best size for the signs.
- Speed Indication Sign. The Clerk has informed Moulton Parish Council that Gazeley Parish Council has agreed to share in the purchase of one of these signs.
- The landlord of the Chequers has confirmed that he is still going ahead with plans to re-open a bar and restaurant called Munson’s providing lunchtime only service initially.

Cllr Vandenbroucke had created a sample flier about changes to the brown bin service to be delivered to every house and she suggested that the Parish Council should have it printed and circulated. The Clerk advised that it really wasn’t the responsibility of the Parish Council to do this and that we shouldn’t use our own funds as it was a West Suffolk responsibility.

Cllr Morgan suggested that we proceed with the plan and send the bill to West Suffolk.

The Clerk replied that this would not be in order.

Cllr Hillary Appleton felt that this wasn’t really an urgent matter requiring action by the Parish Council because residents could still opt in to the scheme at any time.

The Clerk has put a notice on the community Facebook page and a poster will be displayed on the notice-board giving contact details for residents who wish to opt in to the scheme.

Further matters arising: The old changing rooms at the playing field have now been demolished and it was suggested that the rubble be removed with the use of a grab lorry. It was estimated that this would cost something in the region of £250 but it couldn’t be done until the ground had dried out sufficiently to get a lorry on to the site.

16/3.6 Finance

i. Authorisation of outstanding payments:

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

Mrs L Francis, Newsletter printing	£ 64.00
Mrs L Francis, Clerk’s Expenses	£ 21.00
SALC, Payroll service	£ 50.40

At 8.3.16, the total balance of both Parish Council accounts stood at £18,977.84

16/3.7 Playing Field

It was Resolved that S.P. Landscapes be asked to quote for cutting the grass on the field every three weeks initially.

For the future management of the field, it was agreed that it was necessary to appoint a Playing Field Management Committee. Cllr Mallen agreed to take responsibility for this and to draw up a management plan to be presented to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

Ultimate responsibility for the playing field will rest with the Parish Council.

16/3.8 To agree on a name for the new development at the former Sperrink's Nursery site.

The Parish Council had been asked to suggest a name for the new site and after a short discussion it was agreed that the name Sperrink's Close be put forward for consideration.

16/3.9 Councillors' Reports

Cllr Grimwood suggested that a litter pick should be organised before the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations.

Cllr Morgan informed the council that Strutt & Parker had been in contact with him on the matter of fencing off the allotments from the rest of the field. He had referred them to the Clerk.

Cllr Judy Moatt noted that the aerosol cans that had been dumped in Needham Street nearly a year ago were still there.

Cllr Chambers noted that refuse lorries were driving over the verges in Mill View.

The Clerk advised that photographs should be taken to be forwarded to the council.

Cllr Vandembroucke had responded to the increasing reports of dog fouling around the village by creating some posters warning dog walkers to clean up after their pets. She asked if it would be in order to put them up at strategic points around the village. No objections were raised.

She also asked whether the Parish Council would like her to raise anything specific at the Parish & Town Forum which she would be attending this week. There was no response but she was thanked by Cllr Appleton for representing the Parish Council at the forum. In reply, Cllr Vandembroucke also expressed appreciation for the efforts of Cllr Grimwood and Cllr Mallen in leading a working party to clear the huts at the playing field.

It had been noted last month that the Section 106 payment, arising out of the development at the former Sperrink's Nursery had been allocated to Moulton School. Cllr Grimwood had queried this and suggested that a certain amount was held in reserve. Parish Councils are not consulted about the allocation of Section 106 payments but Cllr Chambers noted that any money released to a Parish Council had to be applied for and was only released on condition that it was spent on a fully costed specific project.

16/3.10

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12th April in the Village Hall.

The Chairman asked if there were any more questions from the floor and as nothing further was raised, the meeting was closed at 9.00pm.