

GAZELEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Gazeley Parish Council Held in Gazeley Village Hall on Tuesday 11th October 2016

Present: Cllr Judy Moatt (Chair), Cllr Kevin Grimwood, Cllr Hilary Appleton, Cllr Tom Morgan and Cllr John Chambers.

Also Present: Parish Clerk, Lynne Francis and 5 members of the public.

16/10.1 Apologies for absence: Cllr Charlene Vandembroucke had sent apologies as she was unwell.

16/10.2 Declarations of interest in matters on the agenda:
None declared.

16/10.3 Reports from external bodies

i. County Council Report:

There had been no report from Cllr Colin Noble this month.

ii. District Council Report:

Cllr Rona Burt was attending a cabinet meeting to discuss the Hatchfield Farm application this evening but had sent her monthly report.

The order to create the Mayoral Combined Authority will be laid before Parliament on 24th November.

The timetable for the Local Plan will be discussed on 25th October.

16/10.4 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 13th September 2016.

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

16/10.5 Parish Council Vacancy.

Since the last meeting, Councillor Vini Mallen has resigned from the Parish Council.

The Clerk has advertised the vacancy in accordance with the usual procedure and the Returning Officer has given notice that if he does not receive a request, by 18 October, from ten electors to hold an election to fill the vacancy, then it will be filled by co-option.

16/10.6 Clerk's Report and any other matters arising from the minutes.

i. Clerk's Report and correspondence

- The Clerk had written to accept a quotation for works at the playground from Playmaintain Ltd.
- P & P Property Services has been notified that their quote for the installation of posts for the speed indication device has been accepted.
- An email had been received from a resident of Tithes Close, drawing attention to the poor state of the paths throughout the close and also the condition of the street signs at both entrances to the close. The Clerk had passed those concerns on to the relevant council departments.

- The OneSuffolk website is being administered by Community Action Suffolk from 1st November. If the parish council wishes to continue to use this site there will be a charge of £30 p.a. + VAT in future.

It was resolved that the parish council should continue to use the website and accept the charge.

ii. Other Matters Arising

There were no further matters arising from the minutes.

16/10.7 Finance

i. Authorisation of outstanding payments:

The following outstanding accounts were authorised.

Mrs L Francis, Newprint, October Newsletter	£ 64.00
S.P. Landscapes, September 2016	£540.00

At 11.10.16, the total balance of both Parish Council accounts stood at £19,761.18

ii. To confirm the conclusion of the External Audit.

The Annual Return has been approved by BDO and the Notice of Conclusion of Audit will be displayed on the notice-board.

16/10.8 Planning Matters

DC/16/2127/FUL – Outline Planning Application, Means of Access/Layout, modular business units, Land at Bury Road, Kentford, Suffolk.

The Parish Council had no objection to the proposals.

DC/16/2102/TE3 – **Removal of Public Payphone, Road from C658. Gazeley, Suffolk.**

On the grounds that the payphone had not been used for more than a year, the Parish Council had no objection to the proposals.

16/10.9 Consultation on the future of Mill Meadow Pupil Referral Unit, Gazeley

Only two councillors had objections to the closure of the PRU so the Clerk had not responded formally to the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council. The councillors concerned therefore submitted their comments as independent residents of the village.

The Clerk had forwarded correspondence received from Joy Stodart, School Organisation at Suffolk County Council, to councillors. In short, she had confirmed that if the Secretary of State approves closure of the school, then the county council would have no further need of the site for educational purposes as it is too small for their basic requirements and therefore it would be financially non-viable.

If, in the future, a decision to dispose of the site is reached, then the Parish Council will be consulted in the usual way.

16/10.10 RPA's Response to the Secretary of State's decision to overturn the Hatchfield Farm application.

A draft letter from the Rural Parishes Alliance to local councillors has been produced following the Secretary of State's decision to overturn the Hatchfield Farm application. The decision is due to be reviewed by Cabinet at the district council this evening and local parish councils have been urged to

send the letter to their local representative and MP Matthew Hancock to inform them of the disappointment felt by that decision and the concern felt with regard to the impact this will have on local villages. Gazeley Parish Councillors had agreed to endorse the letter which had been sent in accordance with their wishes.

16/10/11 Councillors' Reports

- **Cllr Morgan - Playground maintenance.**
Cllr Morgan had not received any information from PlayMaintain since the Clerk had written to accept their quotation.
- **Cllr Vandenbroucke – Speed Indication Signs.**
As Cllr Vandenbroucke had been away for much of the last month and not present at the meeting, this item is deferred to the November meeting.
- **Cllr Judy Moatt – Two visitors to the playground have asked that bird deterrents be attached to the swings as the seats are in a terrible state.** The Clerk noted that Gazeley United Charities had agreed to purchase a picnic bench to be installed at the play area and she wondered whether an area of hard-standing could be laid down to preserve the wood and make grass cutting easier. It was suggested that an area of mesh could be put down to allow the grass to grow through and also to be mown. This idea will be followed up before the bench is installed next spring.
The Village Hall Committee is discussing plans for a refurbishment of the kitchen and the installation of an industrial dishwasher.
- **Cllr Appleton** wondered whether Vini Mallen would still be prepared to be involved in future activities at the playing field following a recent meeting at the village hall and she agreed to talk to him about it.

16/10.12

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 8th November at 7.30pm in the village hall.

PUBLIC FORUM

No further issues were raised in the Public Forum and the meeting was closed at 9.25pm.

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....