

Goldshaw Booth Parish Council

MINUTES OF GOLDSHAW BOOTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ST. MARYS SCHOOL, NEWCHURCH IN PENDLE ON TUESDAY 12th DECEMBER 2017.

PRESENT-

Councillor Chris Burt - (Chairman)

Councillors: Robert Donovan, Carl Ryder, Chris Stuttard, and Kathleen Wilkinson. In Attendance: Jennifer Sutcliffe, Parish Clerk, and Borough Councillor James Starkie.

1. WELCOME TO GUESTS AND VISITORS

The Chairman welcomed members.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public were present.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andy Cowell and Chris Hudson.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14th November 2017, be amended in Section 8 to state that “The drainpipe had been highered in an attempt to retain the water” and that “the unused tree stumps at the side of the church yard be utilised to make stepping stones in the pond, leading to the island and that two benches had been made” The Chairman annotated the minutes which were then approved as a preferred record.

6. MATTERS ARISING (For information only)

Councillor Burt reported that the overhanging branches above the toilets have not been attended to by the lengthsman, despite requests being made for the work to be undertaken on numerous occasions. Councillor Burt also advised that he had received acknowledgement from Linda Anderson regarding the £250 allocated to the Parish Council for the upkeep of PROW (Public Rights Of Way) who had confirmed that the Parish Council could apply for the funds in their own right and she had noted our interest in being part of the scheme.

The rubbish bins in the playground had now been emptied. The old notice board in Spenbrook had not yet been removed and this will be attended to in January.

Councillor Burt is to discuss the road sweeping with Pendle Borough Council to discuss the frequency of visits.

The Asset Register had been discussed with the Clerk and will be an agenda item in January for Councillors to decide which items should be insured.

The Clerk reported that she had contacted North Valley Supplies regarding materials for the public toilets and was awaiting a quotation.

The garden area by the new notice board is still to be strimmed but is weather dependent, as the wild seeds need to be planted as soon as possible.

Councillor Ryder joined the meeting at 7.25pm.

7. REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND PARISH COUNCILLORS

Councillor Burt

Discussed the Best Kept Village Report that had been received and he was disappointed with the document and had found it unnecessarily disparaging to Spenbrook. A decision as to whether to enter next year would need to be taken by all Councillors.

Councillor Cowell

He forwarded a report to say that LCC had approved his request for a heritage type bus stop sign and he had offered to donate a sign for Spenbrook once he found a suitable one. He would paint the pole black and it should complement the new notice board. He also asked if Councillors wished to put the parish boundary map on the website. This would be completed shortly.

Councillor Ryder

Discussed the Best Kept Village Report and thought that 90% of the criticism was out of the control of the Parish Council. Councillor Donovan also had the same thoughts but felt the Parish Council should be involved in the competition. Councillor Wilkinson thought the report was fair and should be used to improve things. It was pointed out that difficulties had historically occurred in attracting villagers to assist with the upkeep of the village. Councillor Ryder would strim the area by the new notice board over the Christmas period.

The flooring in the public toilets needed updating and the Chairman suggested that Councillors make a “wish” list of jobs they would like to see completed and produce this for the February meeting. Some items could possibly be included in the capital grant scheme.

Councillor Stuttard

Reported that he had received correspondence from LCC regarding the road sign defect on Well Head Road and it will be attended to in due course. He had also reported other similar faults in the wider area.

Councillor Donovan

Reported the continuing problem with dog fouling in the village, particularly along the top of Jinny Lane and Cross Lane, past the shop. It was agreed that a further notice would be put in the Parish magazine.

Councillor Wilkinson

Toilet income for the month was £22.76. There were roadside weeds blocking the drains in Newchurch. The road onto Sabden Fold was adversely affected with ice and that no salt/sand was available for residents to use. The Clerk had requested that LCC refill the grit bins. The fence defect on Well Head Road, which had been reported to LCC, had still not been rectified and a further defective area at the bottom of Jinny Lane needed attention, although that was the responsibility of Roughlee. The two deep holes in the road at Spenbrook Mill had already been reported.

Councillor Hudson

Forwarded a report stating he was disappointed with the Best Kept Village Report, in particular the reference to private properties. He had reported, for a second time, to the owners of Spenbrook Mill, that the gate into the yard was not padlocked. They had assured him it will be dealt with. He had also reported to LCC the deep potholes on Spenbrook Road, by the mill. Newchurch resident, Jim Tunstill had positioned a bench adjacent to the pond on the playing fields, although it is anticipated that work on the project has been restricted due to the inclement weather.

8. WOODLAND TRUST

The Chairman advised members that the bid to The Woodland Trust, to replace the dead ash trees in Sparable Wood, had been successful and the replacement trees should arrive in March 2018. Children from the school will be invited to take part in the planting of an area, together with Lee Johnson from PBC. A notice to residents will be sent out asking for volunteers to assist with the planting on a Saturday in March, and the possibility of residents donating a tree to the Parish Council will be mentioned to gauge interest.

RESOLVED:

That the information is noted.

9. WEBSITE

Councillor Ryder reported that he has been in discussion with Hyndburn Voluntary Trust who has expressed an interest in updating the Parish Council website. Further updates will be provided in due course.

RESOLVED:

That the information is noted.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – 17/0554/HHO & 17/0694/TCA

Members had been forwarded details of the planning applications.

RESOLVED:

That no objections or observations were made.

11. CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Gifts for residents over 70 years of age will be provided this year, as decided earlier in the year. Councillor Wilkinson will attend to the purchase and distribution. Due to the absence of two Councillors, it was decided that this item would be added to the January agenda for discussion as to whether gifts would be provided next Christmas.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That gifts will be provided to residents over 70 years of age this year.
- (b) That the item is added to the January 2018 agenda for Councillors to discuss whether gifts will be provided next year.

12. FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

The financial transactions for the month of November were reviewed. Since the last meeting, payments totalling £292.95 have been made. Receipts of £22.76 (Toilet income) had been received.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the financial transactions are approved.
- (b) That the income and expenditure book and was noted.

13. PARISH MAINTENANCE

It was identified that the flags outside the public toilets needed attention, due to the slime/moss on the Indian stone flags.

RESOLVED:

That the information is noted.

14. LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

As two councillors were not in attendance, it was decided that this item would be added to the January agenda for discussion.

RESOLVED:

That the item will be added to the January 2018 agenda.

15. BUDGET 2018/19

Members discussed the draft budget.

RESOLVED:

That the budget will be added to the January 2018 agenda for full discussion and approval.

16. REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Borough Councillor Starkie reported that BT Openreach had erected 30 poles on Barley Lane, without consultation. These had been erected as directed by the Government via Lancashire County Council to install fibre optic cable to provide high speed broadband. The central hub in Roughlee carries the fibre optic cables for 350 houses and this had to be completed by December this year. He met with representatives from the area of outstanding natural beauty and multi agencies to discuss the situation and the progress to date; it was thought that by the end of this week, the system could be “lit” (operational).

County Councillor Wakeford was not in attendance and it was agreed that the Clerk will contact him to ascertain the up to date position with regard to the speed indicator device.

17. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Parish Maintenance.
- Asset Register.
- Christmas Gifts.
- Lengthsman Scheme.
- Budget.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 9th January 2018

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.