

**GAYTON PARISH COUNCIL****MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT GAYTON JUBILEE VILLAGE HALL  
ON MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

**Present:** Mr B Anota, Mr P Savage, Mr S Verber, Lady Romney, Mr A Dewing, Mr S Taylor, Mr P Gidney, Mr J Currey, Mr P Grant and Mr A Beales.

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr R King. Cnty. Cllr. Toby Coke did not attend the meeting.

**2. Declaration of Interest – The Councillors will declare any personal or prejudicial interest in any item on the agenda.**

Lady Romney declared a pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest in items 7 and 11a. Mr Beales also declared a pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest in items 7 and 11a.

**3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November for approval.**

Lady Romney proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the previous meeting and Mr Savage seconded this. All agreed.

**4. Report from County Councillor and Borough Councillor.**

Mr Beales reported that the Borough Council is undertaking an early review of the Local Development Plan in order to avoid the possibility of not continuing to meet its 5 year land supply requirement. This means that it is extending the Local Plan by 10 years from 2026 to 2036 and is therefore asking for further sites to be put forward for development. It is unclear whether sites outside of the existing development boundary will be considered and whether there could be further development in Gayton. A public consultation on the proposed sites and updated policies will take place in early 2017.

Mr Beales also reported that no decision has been made in relation to the proposed siting of a new School and it is unclear what the Environment Agency will decide. He noted that the plans for the Manor Farm development include a footpath along Back Street which would be very useful should the proposed site receive permission.

**5. 10 Minutes Open Forum for Parishioners.**

A parishioner asked what the speedgates were for and it was explained that they are designed to slow approaching vehicles as the road appears narrower.

It was noted that a speed data capture sign which has been installed by Norfolk County Council has been put in a position at which vehicles must slow down. It was felt that the data would not adequately show the speeding issues suffered in Back Street although the box may be collecting data on the number of vehicles rather than the speed.

It was noted that some drainage work had been carried out on Winch Road outside Bridge House although it appears that neither the Parish Council or nearby residents were informed about the works.

A parishioner reported that a person had recently fallen over on Grimston Road and felt that it was only because of the light in her garden that the person was not hit by a car and that additional streetlighting is required in the area.

A parishioner queried how much had been paid for Churchyard strimming and reported that the quality of the strimming is not very good. It was suggested that this be raised with the Vicar who instigated the contract with the current contractor.

**6. Budget 2017/18 – The Council will consider a draft budget in preparation to set the precept at the January meeting**

The Clerk provided a draft budget for the 2017/18 financial year. It was noted that two items need to be discussed before the budget can be agreed. The Council must decide whether it wishes to continue to provide the raised level of donation to the Church towards Churchyard strimming. This will be decided at the next meeting. It was noted that the slush fund for conversion of streetlights to LED lights would reach £4,500 at the end of the 2017/18 financial year if a further £1,500 is retained towards the costs in the new budget. It was felt that a decision needed to be made on whether the Council will convert its streetlights and if so, when. It was agreed to procure quotations for the cost of converting the streetlights in increments of 5 to consider at the next meeting. At present, the budget does not indicate that a rise in precept is required.

**7. Green space at Manor Farm application – the Council will consider Gayton Estate’s proposal to transfer funding and the responsibility for green space to the Parish Council at Manor Farm with further information from Mr Beales on the details of the Section 106 agreements**

As this item was just to provide information the Clerk confirmed that neither Mr Beales or Lady Romney needed to leave the room. Mr Beales confirmed that there is a set formula in place to work out the funding available for maintenance of green space, however, advised the Council to contact Sarah Moore, Operations Manager for the Borough Council, who can provide more detailed and specific information on the amount of funding the Parish Council would receive etc.

**8. New play equipment for toddlers – the Playing Field Working Party will confirm any progress made**

Mr Currey advised that he and Mr Grant had visited Gayton Goslings to explain the project and that the Gayton Goslings Committee had agreed to discuss this at its next meeting and agree how it could be involved. It is possible that one or two parents who use Gayton Goslings will join the working group. An invitation to join the Working Party had also been made to the residents who originally contacted the Council and requested additional equipment. Mr Currey confirmed that it is planned to hold a meeting of the Working Party in January to discuss how best to undertake a consultation of the Parish and hopes to have a further update on progress for the February meeting.

**9. Streetlighting – the Council will consider whether any additional streetlighting is necessary following a request from a parishioner**

The Clerk advised that a resident of Winch Road, slightly outside of the village near the barns, had requested whether a streetlight could be erected outside his property. The Council considered the request and whilst it acknowledged that it is very dark in that area, also noted that very few parishioners would benefit from a streetlight in that area of the village and at a cost of approximately £1500 a pole, it was felt that it would not be appropriate for the Council to install a new light there.

The Council then undertook a wider discussion on additional streetlighting in the whole Parish and whether this should be a Parish Council initiative. The Council noted that it had adopted a ‘dark skies’ policy in relation to planning applications which should therefore guide its decision in relation to additional streetlighting. It was also noted that the conversion of the existing lights to LEDs would greatly improve the lighting available. On this basis, it was agreed that the Council will not pursue the installation of further streetlighting at this time.

**10. Neighbourhood Plan – the Council will hear new information from Mr Gidney and consider undertaking its own Neighbourhood Plan**

Mr Gidney explained that he believes that a Neighbourhood Plan can improve developer's attitudes to development in an area and that they help Communities to shape and direct development. After some discussion, it was agreed that there are no disadvantages to producing a Neighbourhood Plan, other than the cost of production and the time and effort required to produce one. Mr Gidney confirmed that he knew of two volunteers willing to take part in the creation of a plan and would look into the costs of production, also. On this basis, Mr Beales proposed that Mr Gidney invites an officer of the Borough Council to the February meeting to provide more detail on the process of creating a plan and Lady Romney seconded this. All agreed.

**11. Planning**

a) *Applications to consider*

Construction of 15no. new dwellings and 2no. barn conversions at 3 Church View Lane, Gayton

Mr Beales and Lady Romney left the room before discussion began.

The Council noted the slight changes to the layout of the new dwellings from the original application, however, felt that nothing had changed its original decision on the application, therefore, it was agreed to restate the initial objection to the application.

Mr Beales and Lady Romney rejoined the meeting.

b) *Decisions received from BCKLWN / NCC*

None

c) *Any applications received after 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016*

None

**12. Gayton Playing Fields – the Council will discuss**

- **any playing field issues**

There were no general issues to report.

- **consider the Annual Inspection Reports**

It was noted that there are no high or medium risk items and the only item that requires attention is a rotting beam on the wooden walking bar at the Gayton Thorpe playing field. Mr Taylor agreed to looking into the repairs required.

- **Consider a quotation for repairs to the skatepark to stop water lying on the surface**

The Council considered a quotation for £600 + VAT from a firm recommended by The Playing Field Inspection Company to make further repairs to the surface of the skatepark. The Council felt that this quotation was quite high and therefore agreed to contact the Borough Council, West Winch Borough Council and possibly Downham Market Town Council to see which firm these Authorities use to maintain their skateparks.

**13. Highways – the Council will discuss any Highway issues and consider any Speedwatch issue.**

It was noted that Andy Wallace, NCC Highways Engineer, had confirmed that he had contacted the owner of the property on Lynn Road whose fir tree hedge is obstructing the footpath and asked it to be cut back.

Mr Beales confirmed that he had met with Mr Wallace on 15<sup>th</sup> November to discuss various highway issues in Gayton. It was noted that a stop sign had been knocked over in Wells Wondy Lane and Mr Wallace advised that a 30mph repeater on Winch Road will be moved as it is currently covered by a hedge and it is difficult to mount the VAS sign on it.

**14. Correspondence received since last meeting (see attached schedule)**

There was no correspondence.

**15. Finance – the current financial standing of the Parish Council will be reported and the following payments will be presented for payment: -**

Mrs K Senter	1 month's clerks salary & expenses - August	BACS	£	450.32
TT Jones Electrical	Streetlight maintenance	101586	£	486.76
CGM	Grounds maintenance	101587	£	47.65
Gayton Jubilee Village Hall	Hire	101588	£	21.00
PJ & B Jones Ltd	Strimming at Church Yard	101589	£	72.00
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 1,077.73</b>

Mr Taylor proposed that the Council make the payments listed above and Mr Verber seconded this. All agreed.

**16. Items for Report or Future Agenda.**

Neighbourhood Plan

Conversion of streetlights to LEDs.

Contribution to Churchyard maintenance in 2017/18

**17. Date of next meeting is planned to be 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.**

Signed by Chairman..... 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017