

## ***MARCH Main Minutes***

### **MINUTES OF THE GOTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL WELDON ROOM, COMMENCING AT 7.30 P.M.**

**Present:** A. Clayworth, (Chairman), J.P. Anderson, (Vice-Chairman), J.M.F. Royce, P. Bower, S. Kent, G. May, B.J. Walker, M.F. Raven, J. Youatt, M. Wilkins, H. Taylor, C. Dabell. (7.57 p.m.)

**In attendance:** County Councillor A. Brown.

**18/47: Apologies:** D. Bexon, Borough Councillor S. Matthews

**18/48: Acceptance of Apologies:**

PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson SECONDED: G. May. Vote: All in favour.

**18/49: Report by County Councillor, A. Brown:**

A. Brown handed a cheque for £500, towards Playground Equipment, from his Councillor's Allowance Budget. The Chairman thanked him for his generosity.

The Notts County Council Local Improvement Scheme has already attracted applications totalling £150,000 within Councillor Brown's Ward.

The County Council has increased Council Tax by 4.99% due to increased pressure for Social Care and the Fire Brigade. There is a 1.4 million pound budget shortfall causing Council emergency reserves to be called upon.

Some of the Fire Brigade buildings could be put to better use. Councillor Brown has sought a cross party committee to look at ways to bring this about. Fire services might be scaled down by reducing the night shift to the category of 'retained at night.'

Transport Plans to be considered at the next Council meeting. The Clifton South tram, to Phoenix Park, is losing one million pounds per week. Parking charges are to be levied at Clifton Tram car park.

The Leake Road bus shelter, adjacent to the New Rectory, does not meet operational requirements and therefore will not be installed by NCC. Cost of a bus shelter is £3,000 - £5,000 and can be paid for privately or by GPC.

Leake Road, up to Rushcliffe Golf Club, is due to be resurfaced.

The A6 to Hathern is due to be resurfaced.

Councillor Brown left the meeting at 7.57 p.m.

**18/50: Report by Borough Councillor S. Matthews:** (Apologies Received).

**18/51: Declaration of Interest:**

M. Wilkins in item Agenda item 11a: RBC Local Plan Part 2.

C. Dabell arrived at the meeting at 7.57 p.m.

**18/52: Minutes of the previous meeting:**

Resolved: That the previously circulated Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 be accepted and signed as a true record of the business transacted, with the following amendment:

**18/53: Gotham News and Media:** remove 'B.J. Walker' add 'G. May'.

PROPOSED: B.J. Walker SECONDED: S. Kent. Vote: All in favour.

**18/54: Progress from the Minutes:**

**18/7: Cycle Track:** J.P. Anderson reported, formal written support for the off road cycle track had been submitted by East Leake Parish Council and Pedals Cycle Group. J.P. Anderson had submitted a formal request , to A. Pegram at RBC Planning Dept, for an off road cycle track to Clifton. To reinforce support, a public petition could be held to be put before the County Council Transport Authority. (Agenda Item for Annual Parish Meeting)

**18/18: Data Protection:** M.F. Raven reported, an email reply from NALC advised the latest thinking on Parish Councils, possible exemption form Data Protection Rules, is that Parish Councils will have to undertake Data Protection.

**18/21: Grit Bin:** The Clerk had received advice from Councillor Royce that the supply of salt in storage is still in good condition and there will be no need to order more, for the new grit bin to be placed at the top of Moor Lane. The Manor residents approve the siting of the grit bin against the Church Wall, adjacent to lamp post no. 5.

**18/31: Remembrance Day Poppies:** The Clerk had ordered five dozen Remembrance Day Poppies at a cost of £180.

**18/55: Finance: Monthly Payments and Receipts:**

B.J. Walker asked for a special pre Precept setting Finance meeting to be held annually to discuss the budgets and properly understand funds in place to make an informed decision when voting on the Precept.

PROPOSAL: To hold a Pre Precept setting Finance meeting in 2019.

PROPOSED: B.J. Walker SECONDED: G. May Vote: Eleven in favour, one abstention.

**1. Monthly payments and receipts:**

Rigby Taylor invoice to be altered to 'Gotham Parish Council' instead of 'Gotham Bowls Club' to allow VAT to be reclaimed.

PROPOSAL: Acceptance of Payment and Receipts.

PROPOSED: J.M.F. Royce SECONDED: J.P. Anderson Vote: All in favour.

**2. Playground – additional grant of £5,000:**

PROPOSAL: An additional grant of £5,000 towards new playground equipment to be granted, making a total of £15,000.

PROPOSED: G. May SECONDED: M.F. Raven Vote: All in favour.

**3. Finance Capital Allocations 2018/19 (5 Capital Allocations)  
Proposed Extra Earmarked Reserves 2018/19 & Onwards**

Per Year	Target
----------	--------

Defibrillator	£200	£1,000	For Replacement
Bins, Seats	£200	£350	For Replacement
Car Park	£250	£5,000	Resurface
Play Equip	£250	£5,000	To replace the current proposed new
Elections	£250	£1,000	If publicly called

PROPOSAL: Acceptance of Capital Allocations to date.

PROPOSED: J.M.F. Royce SECONDED: M.F. Raven. Vote: All in favour.

**a) Software:** M.F. Raven reported, the new accounting software has been brought up to date. He suggested that the old and new accounting systems run in tandem for the next six months' to ascertain how the end of year accounts have been accomplished.

**b) Internal Auditor:** M.F. Raven reported, the requirements of an Internal Auditor have recently changed with checks on accounting systems and general procedure necessary. An Internal Auditor could cost £95-£100.

J.P. Anderson, in consultation with a parishioner who has the correct understanding of Local Government Finance and might undertake the role of Internal Auditor.

PROPOSAL: J.P. Anderson to make contact with parishioner to undertake the role of Internal Auditor. If no response within a week from today, to enrol M.F. Raven's contact at a cost of £95-£100.

PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson SECONDED: M. Wilkins. Vote: All in favour.

#### **4. Armistice 100 – Revenue Budget - £1,000.**

J.M.F. Royce spoke in favour of GPC's commemoration of Armistice Day 2018 with a village event. (Annual Parish Meeting agenda).

#### **5. Bowls Club Grant (£900).**

#### **6. Cricket Club Grant (275).**

J. P. Anderson reported, the Bowls Club and Cricket Club annual grants had remained the same amount for many years. The Cricket Club had recently called for a review. Both Clubs undertake care of their grounds which is increasingly expensive.

PROPOSAL: A 10% increase in the Bowls Club and Cricket Club annual grants from 2018/19.

i.e. Bowls Club £1000 - Cricket Club £300

PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson SECONDED: B.J. Walker. Vote: All in favour.

#### **18/56: Memorial Hall Report:**

G. May reported that the Trustees are considering replacing the ceiling and lighting in the Cheeserollers' Room.

#### **18/57: Playground and Maintenance:**

**Complaint letter/sand maintenance:**

The Chairman had received a letter from P. Cox, RBC solicitor re a complaint he had received from a worried parent re the unsanitary condition of the sand, under the climbing frame, in the Recreation Ground playground. Having taken advice from Jo Whittaker, of RBC, and Streetwise, steps had been taken to ameliorate the problem. Correct care of sand whereby raking and disinfectant spraying on a twice weekly basis will be undertaken for a month and then on a monthly basis by S. Kent and M.F. Raven.

**Alternative Safety Surface:**

Quotations had been sought for a modern safety surface to replace sand under the climbing frame. Horizon's comprehensive surface with a fifteen year guarantee would cost £5,400.

A rubber mulch surface is available in two forms, one cheaper option of a mixed rubber or a resin which is poured into a frame, guaranteed for four years, would cost £4,600.

Fawns advised artificial grass carpet.

Sand is a suitable surface if correctly maintained.

The decision over the safety surface to be the Playground Committee's responsibility.

PROPOSAL: To retain the sand for the life of the climbing frame and decide in future whether a different surface would be beneficial.

PROPOSED: G. May SECONDED: S. Kent. Vote: All in favour.

**Inspection update/goal net.**

A Howick to install a sturdy mesh net behind the goal at a cost of £300. (refer to Playground Committee).

**18/58: Chairman of Planning and Development Committee:**

**a) RBC Local Plan Part 2 update:**

RBC's final decision on what building and where in Gotham to be expected in April, 2018.

GOT 5a still on the table but no access.

J.P. Anderson has advised Earl Howe re a possible attempt to buy the Railway Track for access. Another individual owns a small portion of the Track.

A group of, approximately twenty five, residents from Hall Drive, Pygall Avenue and Tomlinson Avenue have set up a group to object to the widening of Hall Drive to access a housing development on the field at the top. This would lead to a large increase in traffic and add to the severe problems at the Hall Drive/Kegworth Road junction, already congested at school drop off and collection times.

M. Wilkins, on behalf of residents on Hall Drive and adjacent roads, sought the support of GPC to prevent a development at the top of Hall Drive on the grounds that a major road at a junction with Kegworth Road and, adjacent to the school, would be inadvisable.

PROPOSAL: GPC would not like to see any development proposal that would exacerbate the problem of extra traffic at the problematic Hall Drive/Kegworth Road junction and increased parking along Hall Drive.

PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson SECONDED: J. Youatt. Vote: ten in favour, two abstentions, (one declaration of interest).

**b) Neighbourhood Plan Update and Six Week Consultation:**

GPC awaiting the responses to the Neighbourhood Plan formal consultation. A formal record, called a Consultation Statement, to be submitted with the Plan after the consultation has ended.

The Neighbourhood grant expires at the end of the financial year, (31<sup>st</sup> March 2018) and unspent monies will be returned and re-applied for next year.

The resident at 100 Nottingham Road to meet the Chairman and J.P. Anderson to discuss the implication of a rural exception site next to his property.

G. May thanked J.P. Anderson for arranging the sighting of the two rural exception sites in Cropwell Bishop. All agreed and thanked J.P. Anderson.

**18/59: Planning Decisions Received:**

17/12 (ref: 17/02878/FUL) **10 Meadow End** – Front extension, rear and side extensions, raising of roof to provide accommodation at first floor, dormers to side (revised proposals). **REFUSED**

**18/60: Planning Applications Received:**

18/2 (ref:18/00440/FUL) **10 Meadow End** -Front extension, rear and side extensions, raising of roof to provide accommodation at first floor (revised proposals).

PROPOSAL: OBJECTION.

PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson SECONDED: M. Wilkins Vote: All in favour.

Reason for Objection: : Disproportionate to the size of the plot, over intensification, increased roof size out of character with the adjacent properties, important to preserve the stock of bungalows in the village.

18/3 (ref: 18/00437/FUL) **28 Leake Rd.** – single storey side extension.

PROPOSAL: NO OBJECTION

PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson SECONDED: M. Wilkins. Vote: All in favour.

18/4 (ref: 18/00177/OUT) **Former Hardstaffs site, Gotham Rd. Kingston:** Storage facilities.

A group of interested parties, including members of GPC, attended a site meeting attended by the Planning Officer and Asprey and Chargill, Property Developers. A traffic survey carried out some years' previously still stood and the new development would not increase traffic to any extent.

PROPOSAL: NO OBJECTION

PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson SECONDED: B.J. Walker. Vote: All in favour.

PROPOSAL: To extend the meeting to the end of the Agenda.

PROPOSED: A. Clayworth SECONDED: M. Wilkins Vote: All in favour.

**18/61: Remembrance Day Parades 2018 and Beyond:**

**a) Events pre 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018:** Annual Parish Meeting agenda item.

**b). Lamp Post Poppies:** S. Kent suggested involving the Royal British Legion members with the lamp post poppy fixing.

**c) Remembrance Sunday Arrangements 11.11.2018:** Remembrance Day service to take place in St. Lawrence Church due to its larger capacity than the Memorial Hall. The Notts Police no longer steward marches making a parade more difficult to arrange. Uniformed groups to attend and arrangements to be in liaison with RBL.

A meeting to be convened with the St. Lawrence PCC and RBL in the Weldon Room to discuss Remembrance Day.

**18/62: Report by Chairman of the Environment Committee:**

Last meeting held in February, 2018.

G. May called for a change of date for future Environment Committee Meetings due to 8.30 p.m. being too late, meaning a lack of decisions and progress on items on the Agenda.

PROPOSAL: Environment Committee Meetings to be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

PROPOSED: G. May SECONDED: P. Bower. Vote: eleven in favour, one against.

**Finger Post:** G. May progressing new finger post with J. Hackett of Via.

**Bird Feeders on Railway Walk:** The bird feeders are still in place and encouraging people to bring more feeders to hang along the Railway Walk.

**18/63: Report on Flood Prevention progress:**

The Flood sub Committee meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 was poorly attended. G. May asked that the County Council and Severn Trent attend the next meeting for an up to date report on their progress with improved drainage.

Matters to attend to are:

Drain on former Lochheads' property overgrown.

Long Paddock needs dyke digging out. (adjacent to Lochheads' property)

Railway Walk culvert inspected on a weekly basis.

Clerk to inspect storage at Gotham Bus Station and order 300 Aquasacks if storage appropriate.

**18/64: Policing Matters/Vandalism:**

B.J. Walker had circulated the February crime figures. Domestic burglary on the increase.

An email had been received from P.C. Kelly Warwick advising she is now based at Cotgrave.

**18/65: Gotham News and Media:**

A new team needs to draw together with a dedicated editor. M. Wilkins to step down from laying out the Gotham News due to work commitments.

H. Taylor offered to write a report on traffic pollution for the next issue, in July. Articles to be sent to [Gothamnews@outlook.com](mailto:Gothamnews@outlook.com). 850 copies of Gotham News ample. About 25 left over.

**18/66: Annual Parish Meeting:**

The Annual Parish Meeting to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2018.

**18/67: Chairman's Report:**

The Chairman had received a request from a parishioner, re a dedication bench in memory of relation. The Chairman to respond in favour with the advice that the landowner's permission to be sought before installation.

**18/68: Clerk's Report:**

The Parish Forum on the 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2018, was cancelled due to bad weather. J. Kirkwood to arrange a new date.

**18/69: Matters to Report:**

J. Youatt reported, Easter Egg Hunt to take place on the 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2018, in the afternoon, on the Recreation Ground. (in support of the Playground new equipment).

**18/70: Items for Next Agenda:** Annual Parish Meeting agenda.

**18/71: Date of Next Meeting:** The Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.