

## OCTOBER MEETING 2018

### **MINUTES OF THE GOTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> October, 2018 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL WELDON ROOM, COMMENCING AT 7.30 P.M.**

**Present:** Councillors G. May, (Vice-Chairman), B.J. Walker, M. Wilkins, J.M.F. Royce, H. Taylor, P. Bower, M.F. Raven, S. Kent, J.P. Anderson

**In Attendance:** County Councillor A. Brown, Borough Councillor R. Walker.

**18/164: Apologies,** A. Clayworth, (Chairman), D. Bexon, J. Youatt. **Absent:** C. Dabell.

**18/165: Acceptance of Apologies:** PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson. SECONDED: G. May. All in favour.

In the absence of the Chairman, G. May, Vice-Chairman, chaired the meeting.

#### **18/166: Report by County Councillor A. Brown.**

County Councillor A. Brown reported the following items:

**Skylink Bus:** A meeting has been arranged with A. Brown, G. Wheeler, Trent, Barton, East Midlands Airport, Roxhill and County Hall Officers on the 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 to discuss the funding of the Skylink bus pick up points being extended to include the Parkway station and A453 villages. The expansion of East Midlands Airport demands an improved public transport system, either by the use of Uber, Skylink or a network of buses. If the bus service gains financial support, it must be used by local people or it may be cancelled.

**Gotham News Chairman's report:** A. Brown was disappointed to read in the recent edition of Gotham News, that speeding was deemed a Notts County Council problem. Speeding is a police matter.

**Interactive Speed Sign:** Currently, the foundation base for the sign is being installed at the East Leake end of The Ridgeway. Other speed deterrents could be stronger markings on the road and the Village Gateway Scheme.

**Flood Map:** A. Brown asked for the drainage map originally obtained for retired Chairman, G. Hutter and later passed to J.M.F. Royce to be made available to the Flood Committee as it is not possible to obtain a copy from NCC. J.M.F. Royce confirmed the drainage map had been loaned to A. Howick. G. May to contact A. Howick.

J.M.F. Royce asked A. Brown to give thanks on GPC's behalf to Via Highways Dept. for their help with researching riparian ownership of village dykes and ditches, etc.

**Road Signs:** M. Wilkins asked for road signage to be cleaned. A. Brown to issue this request at NCC.

**County Councillor A. Brown left the meeting at 7.45 p.m.**

#### **18/167: Report by Borough Councillor R. Walker:**

Borough Councillor R. Walker reported the following items:

**Fairham Pastures:** Section 106 has moved closer to being signed off and has now been engrossed. R. Walker to report on the next stage of the process.

**Travellers' Sites at Fairham Pastures:** Four Travellers' Sites to be built in the South West corner of the development. Plots would be purchased by individual travellers to set up semi-permanent pitches after gaining planning permission.

**Land Banking:** RBC has been warned about developers gaining planning permission for new houses that are then never built. There is to be a national meeting about this matter. There are still insufficient houses being built in Rushcliffe.

**RBL site:** Still no news on the development of the former RBL site. The NCC Highways had objected to the entry of traffic from Nottingham Road.

**Community Support Scheme £760.** This fund is accessed by written or email application to Borough Councillor R. Walker from local groups. GPC could apply for playground equipment funding.

**Local Broadband:** Parishioners with poor broadband connection can contact R. Walker giving details of their provider, internet speed details and post code. Improved connection may be possible.

**18/168: Declaration of Interest:** Nil.

**18/169: Minutes of the previous meeting:**

**Resolved:** That the previously circulated Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, be accepted and signed as a true record of the business transacted.

**PROPOSED:** M.F. Raven **SECONDED:** P. Bower. Vote: eight in favour, one abstention.

**Progress from the Minutes:** Nil.

**18/170: Finance Acceptance of Receipts and Payments:**

**a) Acceptance of Monthly Payments and Receipts:**

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

**b. Donation towards Boys Brigade Band for Remembrance Day March to Memorial Hall.**

**c. Contribution to Remembrance Day Wreath** (items b and c to be debated together).

J.M.F. Royce reported that over previous years, GPC had donated £250 to RBL to defray the cost of the Remembrance Day wreath. The RBL had made a donation of the marching band from this.

**PROPOSAL:** To increase the donation to defray the cost of the wreath to £300 for the centenary year with the proviso that £200 is paid to the Band.

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

**d. Financial Half Year Update – Revenue and Capital Budgets 2018/19:**

Half year Revenue and Capital budgets circulated.

**Revenue Budget 2018/19:** Within normal limits for half year.

**e. Consider Capital allocations for:**

**a) Removal costs of playground equipment.** (no grants available).

**PROPOSAL:** £2,000 for playground equipment removal.

**b) Refurb or replacement of fence around Junior play equipment.**

**PROPOSAL:** £3,000 for a replacement fence similar to the existing, (supplied by Jacksons).

a) and b) **PROPOSED:** J.P. Anderson **SECONDED:** G. May. Vote: All in favour.

**c) Rec Ground tractor mower sinking fund.**

**PROPOSAL:** £1,000 sinking fund towards provision of a replacement tractor.

PROPOSED: J.M.F. Royce. (No seconder).

**f. Proposal to permanently use Scribe Accounts software system only (M.F.Raven)**

PROPOSAL: To permanently switch to Scribe Accounting system in favour of the current spread sheet system of account recording.

PROPOSED: M.F. Raven SECONDED: M. Wilkins. Vote: eight in favour, one abstention.

**g. Cemetery Committee – Acceptance of G. Neil to renovate front row of graves £1.470.**

PROPOSAL: Acceptance of quotation of £1,470 for the renovation of the front row of graves with the proviso that work should be completed by Christmas 2018.

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

J.P. Anderson reported, Cemetery mowing costs had been increased by 2% in a draft budget for year 2019/20. The Cemetery Committee had unanimously approved the draft budget.

Ivy had been removed from around the base of the yew tree, on the right hand side of the cemetery by Horizon.

The Clerk made out a cheque for £350 Chairman's half year allowance to be delivered to A. Clayworth.

The SSSI Loan Facility of £3,830.18 is no longer required and should be removed from the GPC Capital budget. The Capital grant of £800, long held by GPC will be returned to GNR trustees with a covering letter of explanation to D. Power, (GNR Treasurer) asking for permission to discharge GPC from its loan facility obligation.

A finance meeting will be held on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 to discuss the 2019/20 Revenue Budget.

**18/171: Report by Chairman of Planning and Development Committee: (S. Kent)**

S. Kent reported, a Planning meeting was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.

J.P. Anderson reported advice had been received re the RBC Local Plan Part 2 now had a date for inspection which GPC can attend.

PROPOSAL: K. Mafham to be appointed to attend the Inspection of RBC Local Plan Part 2 on behalf of GPC at a cost of £850.

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

**Neighbourhood Plan Update:** J.P. Anderson reported, RBC still looking at the Gotham Neighbourhood Plan. The Environment Agency had not responded to a request to consult on the document. M.F. Raven to research this matter with a view to speeding up RBC approval of the Neighbourhood Plan. If the new version of the Government National Planning Policy Framework housing numbers are taken into account, new housing numbers may be reduced in Rushcliffe.

**Local Minerals Plan:** The County Council Mineral Plan affects Barton in Fabis. GPC have signed an objection letter which has been forwarded to NCC.

**18/172: Planning Decisions Received:** Nil.

**18/173: Planning Applications Received:** Nil.

Ref: 18/01543/FUL - 14 The Rushes – Planning application to be debated by RBC planning committee on the 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2018. Representatives from GPC may attend. No agenda drawn up, to date.

**18/174: Memorial Hall Report/Playground from GPC representatives:**

Next meeting to be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2018.

**Playground Maintenance:** A complaint about a possible sand flea infestation, under the climbing frame, has been resolved by treatment with table salt. There is still insufficient sand beneath the climbing frame and a quotation has been obtained, previously, for sand extension.

The steering wheel on one of the junior playground cars has been smashed.

PROPOSAL: To place an order for 2 steering wheels at a cost of £53 each – carriage £10.

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

PROPOSAL: To extend the meeting beyond 9.30 p.m. to the end of the Agenda.

PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson. SECONDED: M. Wilkins. All In favour.

**18/175: Report by the Chairman of the Environment Committee: (G. May)**

**Boundary Signs:** G. May reported, the Environment Committee had debated replacing the ‘Gotham’ signs with boulders of gypsum, as previously discussed in 2015. She will ask NCC Highways to meet to discuss this proposition and other options. She is in favour of the boundary signs staying on the boundary so as not to exclude households beyond the signs, as suggested by NCC.

J.M.F. Royce had researched the Laing O’Rourke site, adjacent to the A453, but was disappointed to find no large boulders of gypsum. The site has been left in a deplorable state. J.M.F. Royce is willing to source some boulders of calcium sulphate anhydrous, if required.

**Railway Walk:** A Working Party to meet at the picnic table area of the Railway Walk to burn prunings on the 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 at 10.30 a.m.

A tree branch is hanging down over the picnic table and requires removal. S. Kent and P. Bower offered to attend to this matter.

**18/176: Standing Orders and Policies Annual Review:**

Progressing in light of recent Government changes and extra requirements.

**18/177: Mobile Telephone Use during Council Meetings. (refer to next meeting).**

**18/178: Remembrance Sunday & Armistice Parade from The Square:**

The Clerk had booked a temporary road closure of Leake Road from the mini roundabout and Nottingham Road to the Memorial Hall commencing at 10.30 a.m. She will alter this to a ‘rolling’ temporary road closure.

G. May passed the GPC wreath to the Clerk to give to A. Clayworth, (Chairman of GPC).

**18/179: St. Lawrence Church Christmas Tree Festival (theme: Mistletoe and Wine).**

Agreed: GPC to participate. Clerk to inform A. Farnsworth of the PCC.

**18/180: Policing Matters/Vandalism: (B.J. Walker/D. Bexon)**

The Clerk had asked P.C. Kelly Carlisle for a speed gun check on Leake Road to deter speeding motorists. The Clerk had been advised by P.C. Carlisle to report the minor offence of a stolen Victorian Railway ‘shut the gate’ sign from The Old Rectory, on the 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, by telephoning the Police on 101.

**8/181: Gotham News and Media:**

B.J. Walker reported, a September issue of Gotham News had been circulated. Chadborn Avenue had not yet received their copies. B.J. Walker to check on distribution.

Copy date 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 for the November issue.

Advertising rates are to be reviewed. Last increase was in 2016.

M.F. Raven asked for clarification of advertisers' agreement to four issues of Gotham News in 2018. B.J. Walker confirmed that in the past it had been traditional to issue four editions of Gotham News annually. Discuss the finance of Gotham News at the November meeting.

PROPOSAL: To formally approve the production of four editions of Gotham News during 2018.

PROPOSED: M.F. Raven SECONDED: S. Kent. Vote: eight in favour, one against.

**Borough Councillor R. Walker left the meeting at 10.00 p.m.**

**18/182: Chairman's Report:** (Apologies received)

**18/183: Clerk's report:**

**Approval to purchase 11<sup>th</sup> edition of Charles Arnold Baker at £103.99**

PROPOSAL: To purchase the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of Charles Arnold Baker at £103.99

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

**18/184: Matters to Report:**

**Conference:** G. May, B.J. Walker, A. Clayworth and J. Youatt had attended the Town and Parish Conference on the 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2018.

Topics included:

Simon Robinson of RBC had given a talk on planning.

A topic entitled 'Operation London Bridge had discussed what arrangements were in place in case of a Royal Bereavement.

Armed Forces Covenant – Effect of the Defence Rehabilitation Centre and liaison with Parish Councils.

**Hall Drive:** M. Wilkins to pass photographs of shoddy road repairs following work by Severn Trent on Hall Drive. Clerk to forward to Severn Trent for comment.

**18/185: Items for Next Agenda:** Mobile Telephone Use at Meetings. Budgets 2019/20

**18/186: Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 in the Weldon Room of the Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m. The Meeting closed at 10.25 p.m