

## NOVEMBER MAIN MEETING 2018

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

The Meeting commenced with a one minute's silence in memory of the War Dead.

**Present:** Councillors A. Clayworth, (Chairman), 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, J. Youatt, C. Dabell.

**In Attendance:** Borough Councillor R. Walker.

**18/187: Apologies:** Nil. **Absent:** County Councillor A. Brown.

**18/188: Acceptance of Apologies:** N/a

**18/189: Casual Vacancy:**

The Chairman had received a letter of resignation from Councillor D. Bexon. The Clerk had informed the Electoral Officer and a Notice of Casual Vacancy had been posted on the public noticeboard, the website and on the Village Facebook page.

**18/190: Report by County Councillor A. Brown.** N/a.

**In the absence of Borough Councillor R. Walker, item 6 was next discussed.**

**18/191: Declaration of Interest:**

M. Wilkins registered an interest in any discussion concerning GOT4. (land at the end of Hall Drive.

**18/192: Minutes of the previous meeting:**

**Resolved:** That the previously circulated Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on the 2<sup>ND</sup> October, 2018, be accepted and signed as a true record of the business transacted with the following alterations:  
PROPOSED: M.F. Raven SECONDED: P. Bower. Vote: eight in favour, one abstention.

**18/170: Finance Acceptance of Receipts and Payments: item d.** Delete paragraph commencing with 'Capital'.

Penultimate paragraph – alter to read: 'The SSSI Loan Facility of £3,830.18 is no longer required and should be removed from the GPC Capital budget with a covering letter of explanation to D. Power, (GNR Treasurer) and seeking permission to discharge GPC from its loan facility obligation'.

The SSSI Capital grant of £800 held by GPC, will be refunded on behalf of the GNR trustees.

**18/167: Community Support Scheme £740.** Alter to '£760'.

**Progress from the Minutes:** Nil to report.

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

PROPOSED: J. Youatt SECONDED: S. Kent. Vote: All in favour.

M.F. Raven explained the figures shown on the Budget papers, as below:

**b) Paper 2 - Revenue Budget 2019/20 - £35,771.97**

Includes £1,000 costs for Election expenses during 2019.

Gotham News costs raised by £200 to allow for a fourth annual edition.

**c ) Paper 3 - Recreation Ground Budget 2019/20 - £8,589.93**

The insurance premium has been raised due to two claims this year. The dry summer has meant more water used on the Recreation Ground, Tree and ground work also budgeted. (8.18% increase on last year).

**d) Paper 4 - Environment Budget 2019/20 - £4,516.62**

PROPOSAL: Acceptance of the above Budgets subject to minor adjustments, if required.

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

**e) Approval of £200 budget for GPC Christmas Tree for St. Lawrence Church Exhibition.**

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

**f) Bank Accounts review / New 35 day Savings Account:**

J.M.F. Royce explained, a 95 Day Notice Account had been opened with Redwood Bank. A second, 35 day account will be opened to invest a minimum of £10,000 for short term access.

The Co-operative Bank 14 Day Account has been closed. £3.77 in that account has been transferred to the Co-operative Bank Current Account.

The Chairman thanked J.M.F. Royce and M.F. Raven for their diligence and hard work when arranging the various bank accounts and calculating the finance sheets.

**New Capital Requests for 2019/20 to date:**

|                              |      |
|------------------------------|------|
| a) Railway Walk Sinking Fund | £250 |
| b) Defibrillator             | £200 |
| c) Bins/Seats                | £200 |
| d) Car Park                  | £250 |
| e) Play Equipment            | £250 |
| f) Elections                 | £250 |

PROPOSAL: Acceptance of the above Capital Requests for year 2019/20 – Total: £1,400.

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

Borough Councillor R. Walker arrived at the meeting at 8.20 p.m.

**18/193: Register of Interests:**

An email had been received from RBC Monitoring Officer, re a reminder to Parish Councillors to update any change in their Register of Interests.

**18/194: Local Government Re-organisation:**

A. Clayworth reported, he had attended a meeting at RBC on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018. A debate is to be held on the possible amalgamation of Borough and District Councils to form a Unitary Authority in the hope of saving money. Questionnaires and consultations to take place on this matter after which the County Council will decide on whether to go ahead.

**18/195: Borough Councillor R. Walker reported the following items:**

**Unitary Council:** As already mentioned, this matter is currently being considered by Notts County Council and is in its very early stages.

**Fairham Pastures:** No further news on the final signing of Section 106. R. Walker meeting with D. Mitchell and R. Mapletoft on the 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 to be updated on the next stage of the process.

**Community Support Scheme: (£760).**

R. Walker has not yet received an application from organisations for this fund. J. Youatt to seek funds for the Recreation Ground play equipment.

**Sound System:** J.M.F. Royce read out a letter received from P.R. Dines, Treasurer of the Memorial Hall Trustees, seeking half payment of the cost of the sound system hired for the Memorial Hall Service of Remembrance. Cost to GPC £135.

PROPOSAL: GPC to pay £135 towards the Remembrance Day sound system.

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

**18/196: Report by Chairman of Planning and Development Committee: (J.P. Anderson).**

**Rural Exception Site for Affordable Homes:** J.P. Anderson confirmed, a public meeting had been organised, by Midland Homes Rural Housing, to take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 to consult on the Rural Exception Site. Flyers had been delivered to every house in the village.

J.P. Anderson had consulted with the current tenant of the Glebe land concerned.

**Neighbourhood Plan Update:** The next Neighbourhood Plan committee meeting will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2018. It is disappointing that the Neighbourhood Plan, is still awaiting submission by RBC for inspection. K. Mafham representing GPC with a detailed response to RBC Local Plan Part 2.

It is a year since the Neighbourhood Plan consultation. It is important to keep the public informed on other aspects, such as traffic issues. To demonstrate GPC's commitment to village concerns, the traffic survey is to be repeated on the 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2018. Thanks to those Councillors and members of the public who have offered to assist.

**Gotham Showcase:** J.P. Anderson suggested a Public meeting is held to showcase Gotham's current events and other issues such as:

Neighbourhood Plan, Traffic Survey, Church Hall, New Playground equipment.

PROPOSAL: To hold a Gotham Showcase meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.

PROPOSED: G. May SECONDED: J. Youatt. Vote: All in favour.

**RBL Site:** S. Edmunds of RBL has confirmed that the site is still under offer to a developer, subject to planning consent. A resubmission of the plan, showing smaller houses facing the road with parking behind, is understood to be forthcoming. K. Mafham has offered to draw up a design brief for RBL. M. F. Raven asked that the brief should consider the Village Sculpture.

**18/197: Planning Decisions Received:**

18/001705/OUT: 63, Moor Lane: REFUSED

18/001543/FUL: 14, The Rushes: GRANTED

J.P. Anderson had attended the RBC Committee meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2018, to hear the outcome of the above planning applications. He suggested that in future, GPC respond to applications only on valid planning grounds.

**18/198: Planning Applications Received: Nil.**

**18/199: Memorial Hall Report/Playground from GPC representatives: (A. Clayworth, G. May, S. Kent)**

Income is currently down. E.g. bar takings are less due to fewer bookings in the Memorial Hall. Lower numbers of attendees at the weekly coffee mornings.

C. Dabell left the meeting at 9.25 p.m.

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

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

**a) Playground Maintenance:** The steering wheel on one of the junior playground cars has been replaced. Regular playground inspections continue by M.F. Raven, S. Kent and J.M.F. Royce.

J. Youatt reported, 150 children and 100 adults attended the Halloween Disco raising £1,235 towards new playground funds.

Funding applications have been submitted to WREN, Aviva and RBC. Sport England has rejected the application but it may be re-applied for at a future date.

Total Funds, to date: Approximately £40,000. Plans for the new playground works agenda will be drawn up in the New Year.

G. May congratulated the Fundraising Team who have achieved a fantastic result. All agreed.

**b) Representative from GPC to serve as a Trustee.** A. Clayworth reported difficulty in attending Memorial Hall Trustee meetings due to another engagement regularly held on the same evening. It was agreed he would continue to serve as a Trustee, until the May 2019 elections.

Following the resignation of Councillor D. Bexon, a vacancy for another GPC representative to stand as a Trustee has arisen.

PROPOSAL: To appoint M.F. Raven to serve as a Trustee on the Memorial Hall committee as a representative of GPC.

PROPOSED: A. Clayworth SECONDED: G. May. Vote: All in favour.

#### **18/200: Report by the Chairman of the Environment Committee: (G. May)**

**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 was cancelled. S. Watson and M.F. Raven cleared the prunings and burned them at a later date. The Clerk has sent a letter of thanks to S. Watson for kindly volunteering his time.

G. May still awaiting M. Guest to inspect the trees at the Kegworth Road end of the Railway Walk.

#### **18/201: Standing Orders & Policies Annual Review/ next additions needed (G. May)**

M.F. Raven reported, the RBC Monitoring Officer had alerted GPC to the fact that its Code of Conduct was absent from its website. This has been amended.

#### **a) Representative to serve on the Policies Committee. (A. Clayworth, G. May, J.P. Anderson)**

Councillor M.F. Raven has resigned from the Policies Committee.

PROPOSAL: B.J. Walker to join the Policies Committee.

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

#### **b) Committee Terms of Reference**

Terms of Reference annual review in April 2019. Changes to be made re the Data Protection Act.

J.P. Anderson circulated the Cemetery and Environment Committees Terms of Reference showing that Budgets are to be prepared by November which is a move back from previously stating September/October.

PROPOSAL: Acceptance of the above Committees' Terms of Reference, subject to the Policies Committee.

PROPOSED: M.F. Raven SECONDED: S. Kent. Vote: All in favour.

**18/202: Mobile Phone use during Council Meetings. (A. Clayworth)**

A. Clayworth suggested all mobile telephones should be turned off during Council meetings. Tablet internet access is acceptable.

No recording of meetings by Councillors allowed. Public and Press are allowed to record.

It was agreed to revisit this item next month.

**18/203: Parade from the Square for Remembrance day 2018, update on arrangements (10 Marshalls)**

B.J.Walker reported, due to a decline in RBL membership, the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday will fall on GPC, with support from RBL members. (NALC had confirmed there is no legal duty for Parish Councils to undertake this duty).

B.J. Walker to type up a list of duties for the 100<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Armistice on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, as follows:

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Service in St. Lawrence Church | 10.00 a.m. |
| Stewards meet in The Square    | 10.15      |
| South Notts Bus goes past      | 10.24      |
| March commences from Church    | 10.30      |

Deputy to the Lord Lieutenant to take the salute (G. May to greet and A. Clayworth to host.

A. Clayworth to lay two wreaths – one in St. Lawrence Church and one at the Memorial Hall.

S. Watson laying a wreath at the Memorial Hall and reading the Roll of Honour.

Trustees of the Memorial Hall serving refreshments to the Band.

One row of chairs in the Memorial Hall for dignitaries. Rest of the congregation to stand.

Road closure manned by 12 marshalls wearing high vis jackets.

B.J. Walker to type up a list of the background and the instructions for the arrangements of the Remembrance service and Parade, to be lodged with the clerk for future reference.

A vote of thanks was given to B.J. Walker for her work on the above arrangements.

**18/204: St. Lawrence Church Christmas Tree Festival on 8/9<sup>th</sup> December, 2018.**

B.J.Walker and the Clerk had visited three garden centres to choose a suitable Christmas tree for the St. Lawrence Tree Festival. B.J. Walker had purchased a tree, baubles and lights at a cost of £159.07 (including VAT). Set up date is the 7<sup>th</sup> December. 2018 between 2 and 5 p.m. B.J.Walker and the Clerk to dress the tree.

**18/205: Policing Matters/Vandalism: (B.J. Walker)**

Nil to report. On the resignation of Councillor D. Bexon a new Committee member to be appointed at the May 2019 elections.

**18/206: Gotham News and Media:**

Delivery Rounds – J. Youatt offered to cover Moor Lane following the resignation of M.F. Raven from this duty. D. Bexon to continue to deliver her existing round.

The November issue of Gotham News is to be four pages longer at an extra cost of £62. (16 pages). This amount will be covered by extra advertising revenue.

**18/207: Cemetery – re assign contract for refurbishment of front row of graves – J.P.Anderson**

The contractor appointed to renovate the front row of graves had been cancelled due to his inability to complete the work by Christmas, 2018.

PROPOSAL: To appoint Bisco Builders at a cost of £2,099.87 to renovate the front row of graves. (Funded by Burial Funds).

PROPOSED: J.P. Anderson SECONDED: G. May. Vote: eight in favour, one against, one abstention.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.13 p.m.

**18/208: Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 in the Weldon Room of the Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m.