

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 MAY 2016
AT 7.30 PM

Present: John Falshaw (Chair), Colin Corlett, Mary Kirby, Clerk and five members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Darren Jackson, Dave Waters, Borough Cllr Richard Sherras

MINUTES OF 21 APRIL 2016

The Minutes of the meeting of 21 April 2016 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public expressed their objections to the proposed development of two houses on Bentlea Road. It was explained that there were serious surface drainage issues regarding the site in question and a letter detailing the drainage problems was read to the meeting. It was also reported that there were already access problems for that particular end of Bentlea Road with larger vehicles struggling with the single track lane so construction traffic would exacerbate the problem. It was also noted that an adjacent property contained a pond which attracted a variety of wildlife, including, it was believed, a protected species, so a wildlife survey should be conducted by the appropriate agency.

Susan Wallbank and her business partner, Peter King, provided an update on developments regarding the digester at Willcross Farm. It was explained that a dryer would be installed on the site which would reduce the amount of liquid requiring transportation by one-third. In addition, two larger tankers were to be purchased which would also reduce the number of trips required through the village. It was acknowledged that there had been some complaints about transportation through the village at school finishing time but it was explained that a set of temporary traffic lights, in place for several weeks, had caused long delays which meant vehicles had been passing the school far later than intended. It was also noted that other large agricultural vehicles, which had nothing to do with the digester, often passed through the village so it was not appropriate to place the blame wholly upon digester traffic.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Current Account	£5,068
Deposit Account	£1,196

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

Aon (UK) Ltd	Annual insurance premiums
RVBC	Annual grass cutting (Recreation Ground)

YEAR END MATTERS

The meeting considered the Annual Governance Statement and agreed that the following summarised matters could all be answered in the affirmative for the year under review, namely

1. the statement of accounts was prepared in accordance with appropriate regulations
2. an adequate system of internal control was maintained
3. there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance which could have a significant effect on the ability of the council to conduct its affairs
4. there was proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights under appropriate regulations
5. a risk assessment has been undertaken
6. an adequate system of internal audit of the council's records was maintained
7. appropriate action has been taken on matters raised in internal and external audit reports
8. the council has considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments could have a financial impact on the council

The Annual Governance Statement was accordingly approved by the meeting and Mr Falshaw and Mrs Holmes proceeded to sign the Statement as Chair and Clerk respectively.

The Clerk advised that it was necessary for the meeting to approve the accounts for the period ended 31 March 2016. The Clerk outlined the entries on Section 1 of the Annual Return, explaining differences with the previous year's figures and the accounts were duly approved and signed by Mr Falshaw and Mrs Holmes as Chairman and Clerk respectively. The Clerk confirmed that the accounts and supporting paperwork had been subject to an internal audit and that the internal auditor had not found any issues to report. The Annual Return could now be submitted to the external auditors.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

3/2016/0367 2 dwellings, Bentlea Road

It was agreed that a letter of objection should be written to RVBC noting in particular the surface drainage and access issues of the site in question. It was also agreed that the Clerk should contact Borough Cllr Richard Sherras to see if the application could be called in as it was not known how many letters of objection would be sent by residents.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

It was noted that the Parish Lengthsman had re-commenced work around the village but had yet to submit an invoice. It was confirmed that the lengthsman sprayed vegetation with a product that was safe for children and animals.

RVBC PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS

This item was deferred until the next meeting pending receipt of appropriate information.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of Richard Sherras this item was not considered.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised she had received a letter from an organisation looking to protect playing fields and green space around war memorials. There were no cost implications to listing an area for protection and it was agreed that further enquiries should be made with a view to listing the Cenotaph Gardens.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Colin Corlett reported that a resident had complained the site fencing at Strawberry Fields covered the entire verge thereby obliging pedestrians to walk on the road which was unsafe. It was agreed contact should be made with the developers to remedy the situation.

The Auction Mart had not yet positioned their defibrillator as they had queried the lack of a lockable defibrillator cabinet. It was agreed contact should be made with Matt Dugdale of the NW Ambulance Service to query whether another cabinet could be provided.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 16 June 2016 at 7.30 pm