

Gamston with West Drayton and Eaton Parish Council

Agenda

**Meeting to be held at 7.15 pm on Thursday 10 September 2020
held with Covid 19 guidelines Via Zoom**

Suspension of Council Procedure Rules for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow questions from members of the public.

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
- 3. Approval of minutes of meeting held on 9th & 16th July 2020**
- 4. Business arising from the meeting of 9th & 16th July 2020**
 - **Seven Trent reply on Hedge**
 - **School's rent**
 - **Email address**
 - **Update on Eaton**
 - a) Highway
 - b) Speeding and the Police
 - c) Footpath / motorbikes
 - **Grant awards Policy and application by L Vernon**
- 5 . Planning :**
 - a) Applications
 - b) Decisions
- 6 . Matters raised by village residents**
- 7. District and County Councillor**
- 8. Village warden report**
- 9. Accounts & Audit**
 - a. Accounts for payment
- 10. Highways**
- 11. Any other Previous Business**
 - a) Gamston Phone Box repair and painting
 - b) Mosquitos

Date of next meeting – Date to be arranged.

A Wilson, Clerk of the Council Tel: 07827 932022 - andreaclarewilson@hotmail.com

Gamston with West Drayton and Eaton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held via Zoom on Thursday 10th September 2020.

Present: Cllr. S Chandler (Chair), Cllr. D Ramsden, Cllr. M Crookes, Cllr. M Howard, Cllr. J Worthington, Cllr. T Adam, Cllr. R Ogle.

Apologies: Cllr. T Blagg, Cllr. D Newman.

Suspension of Council Procedure Rules for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow questions from members of the public.

The Council were joined by three members of the public, Lucy Vernon, Jane Turner and Maria Moakes.

The Chair informed the meeting that Cllr. R Gozney has now resigned from the Parish Council and the Clerk was requested to write and thank Mr Gozney for his work for the Parish Council during the past four years.

- 1. Declarations of Interest** – Cllr. M Crookes declared an interest in the application made by Lucy Vernon for funding towards the community project at the church in Eaton however, Lucy Vernon confirmed that she has since withdrawn this application.

The Chair invited members of the public to speak.

Lucy Vernon asked if the Parish Council would explain what its reserves policy is. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council do not have a reserves policy and are not required to although they may wish to consider this. At present the PC hold on average twice the Precept at the end of the financial year. The PC are, again on average, spending more than the awarded precept each year but have agreed to keep the precept at the same level for residents of the Parish. The assets are not a cash flow and include the value of the Clerk's laptop and the village defibrillator for example.

It is essential that some reserves are protected and held especially in PC's where the precept is relatively small.

Cllr. S Chandler thanked Lucy Vernon for her question.

- 2. Approval of minutes of meeting held on 9th and 16th July 2020** – approved by Cllr. M Crookes and seconded by Cllr. D Ramsden but not signed.

- 3. Business arising from the meeting of 9th and 16th July 2020**

- Seven Trent reply** – The Clerk confirmed that Severn Trent have responded and confirmed that the hedge is not their responsibility but that of the District Council. It was noted that Bassetlaw has previously denied responsibility for the hedge.

Action: Cllr. M Howard to follow up this issue by checking deeds and maps of the area.

- **Schools rent-** The Clerk confirmed that an invoice had been sent to the School and the **reply** was that the School could not pay it as there is no bank account for the Five Villages Trust.

Action: Cllr. R Ogle to check the Charities commission for confirmation of how the rent should be paid.

Clerk to respond to the Head's email, requesting a meeting with the Chair and the Head to meet to discuss the situation.

Clerk to consult with the solicitor for guidance on the situation regarding payment of rent.

- **Email addresses** – Councillors agreed that the Chair's new email address would be adopted in the future. The Clerk asked to delay changing her email as there was a lot of correspondence coming through at the moment that she did not want to risk missing – this was agreed.
- **Eaton update** – Cllr. S Chandler reported on the following:
 Highways – Via (Notts Highways) have actioned for example, the road sign entering the village, the white lines along Main Street including the Slow sign on the road and an interactive sign sighted
 Speeding and the Police – Gareth Mitchell has been approached to see if the community speed guns can be used in the village. A number of residents of Eaton have volunteered to be trained to be able to use the equipment safely. It was noted that Eaton's new website is almost set up..
- **Footpaths/motorbikes** – Cllr. M Crookes reported on her meeting with the Footpaths Officer for the area on 20.08.2020
 The broken **stile** will not be replaced and the officer will approach the land owner to address some of the issues with the footpaths **within the village**. It was noted that the path is in good order compared to many in the are and that there are indeed many more pressing cases that will take precedence.
- **Grants awards policy and application by Lucy Vernon** – Councillors noted that Lucy Vernon has now withdrawn this application. Cllr. S Chandler explained that the Parish Council had been reviewing their Grants Policy and the progress of this had been hindered by COVID. It is discussed that any grants offered will be awarded proportionally to the number of residents in each village. Cllr. J Worthington suggested that point 11 of the current draft of the policy could cover this.

Action: Cllr. D Ramsden will update the policy.

5 . Planning : None

6 . Matters raised by village residents: None

7. District and County Councillor reports – None submitted.

8. Village Warden report – The Clerk reported from the village warden that the increase in litter has been a significant problem since the reopening of both McDonalds and KFC.

9. Accounts & Audit:

The current balance stands at: £3784.95

10. Highways – Drainage holes on the main road into Retford and the growth of foliage along the drains that could lead to flooding in the future on this road was noted by Councillors.

Action: Clerk to report to Highways.

Cllr. M Howard reported on the poor state of the Gamston phone box which requires replacement glass panels and re painting.

Action: Cllr. M Howard to forward details of replacement costs to Cllr. S Chandler and to enquire if there is a willing volunteer who can re paint the box.

Cllr. J Worthington reported on the issue of mosquitoes in the villages and the research being carried out by Public Health England and other agencies.

Action: Cllr. S Chandler to forward information on this matter provided by Mr Venables.

11. A.O.B.

Cllr. J Worthington confirmed that she has attended training for chairing Parish Councils that was organised by NALC, via Zoom.

Cllr. S Chandler thanked Mrs Maria Moakes for her letter of application to stand as a Councillor.

Cllr. S Chandler asked visitors to leave the meeting.

Councillors discussed Mrs Maria Moakes' letter of application and agreed that she would be invited to the next Parish Council meeting and invited to introduce herself before co-option.

Councillors agreed the need to check with the Charities' Commission for confirmation of the parameters of the Five Villages Trust.

Date of next meeting – 08.10.2020 at 7.15 pm via Zoom

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