

Gawcott with Lenborough Parish Council

The Minutes of the meeting of the Gawcott with Lenborough Parish Council held on Thursday, 10th June 2021 at 8.00 pm at the Gawcott Village Hall.

Present: Parish Councillors: Mrs S Burgess, Mr T Dugher, Mr A Ulph and Mr A D White [Chairman]. Treasurer: Mr P Ramsden.

Buckinghamshire Councillor: Councillor R Stuchbury

Other attendees: Ms J Moir and Mrs S Hetherington

A record of all attendees has been retained for Covid-security track and trace purposes.

1. Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor

Councillor Stuchbury reported at length on Buckinghamshire Council matters including the smaller Cabinet, Scrutiny Committee, Children's Welfare, Adult Social Care, Education catch-up, Covid policies, Community Boards, Fire Authority budgets and the involvement of parish councils in the consideration of planning applications.

Councillor Stuchbury confirmed the appointment of a Buckingham Town Centre Manager [Emma Churchill] and mentioned that there will be activities organised for children over the summer holidays which may appeal to Gawcott residents. Arrangements are in hand to design and manage the new cemetery at Tingewick Road.

3. Commencement of Parish Council business meeting

4. Apologies: from Councillor Fealey.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting on 20th May 2021

The Minutes were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. Matters arising

The Chairman confirmed that investigations are in hand to fill the 3 vacant seats on the Council by co-option.

7. Declarations of Interest: None.

8. Finance

PC Balances	Deposit A/cc 00165984	£29,078.34
	Current A/cc 00152092	£7,695.08
	Current A/cc 00672967	£4,015.73

Councillors unanimously agreed to the payment of the following invoices: Mrs K Richards: £120 – pavilion cleaning; K Parker: £80.00 – Village Green mowing; Buckingham Almshouses etc Charity: £452.40 – rent for Hodding Wood; FJ Morris: £5996.40 – basketball/netball practice square; ROSPA: £157.80 – play area checks.

The Chairman noted that there is an outstanding payment of approximately £2500 from e-on for the pavilion solar panels. This is being followed up by the Treasurer.

The Chairman proposed the adoption of the revised Financial and Management Risk Assessment and Governance Report dated May 2021 required for the Audit. This was unanimously approved.

The Treasurer confirmed that the Audit Return papers have been passed to the Independent Assessor and will be available for approval by Councillors at the July meeting. The Chairman agreed to give notice to the Auditors that an extension to the audit submission dates will be required.

The Treasurer presented a schedule showing Playing Field income and expenditure over the past five years. It was agreed that an additional meeting will be convened to consider and set fees for the use of the Field for 2021/2022.

9. Highways and Transport

The schedule of outstanding highway repairs remains largely unchanged but the number of locations requiring repairs is increasing rapidly as previous road works carried out by EW Rail and Bucks Council are breaking up. Furthermore, the damage to verges, road edges and surfaces is increasing. Particular attention has been drawn to Radclive Road, adjoining Red Lion House, and the junction of Main Street and Buckingham Road. Also requiring attention are substantial surface damaged areas at The Rise, Back Street and New Inn Lane. Hillesden Road is also showing signs of structural failure and considerable surface degradation.

A report has been prepared for Councillor Fealey focusing on the HS2 and EWR construction routes and this has been discussed with Councillor Peter Martin who visited the Parish last week.

The Chairman is expecting to meet with Mr Chris James from HS2 to discuss HS2 related road repairs which are becoming urgent, particularly at the junction of Radclive Road and Main Street. The absence of the promised 'No Entry to HS2 traffic' signage at Buckingham Road is also an issue.

The Back Street 'No thoroughfare/Narrow road' signage is on order.

The Chairman reported no progress on the pole to be located at Preston Road for the MVAS.

The footpath repairs required at Lenborough Road and Hillesden Road will be reported on the FixmyStreet site.

The Chairman reported that a resident, Mr Benedict O'Halloran, is making enquires of the Thames Valley Police about establishing a Speedwatch Group in the Parish. Councillors expressed their support for this project.

10. Planning

The Chairman reported the **approval** of materials for the extension at Woodville, Main Street.

There were no observations relating to a retrospective application for alterations at Lenborough Farm or the alterations to a rear extension at Rose Cottage, Main Street.

The activities of Repro Plastics in Radclive Road involving highway loading/unloading, are presumably still under consideration by Buckinghamshire Highways and the Planning Enforcement Department but there has been no information forthcoming about progress. Meanwhile the very dangerous parking and unloading on the highway continues.

Works of repair appear to have ceased at the listed Manor Farm Hillesden Road.

There are no further reports about the Travellers Field at Radclive Road. There has been no reported action from the Enforcement Officer on the mobile home which is now located without consent at Kilcara, Radclive Road. The rear fencing appears to have been removed so that this is now part of Oakhaven Park.

11. Environment

The flooding investigations continue. A report is expected later in the summer. Road gulley cleansing in Main Street appears to have been carried out.

Mr T Goodman and Mr P Ramsden propose to organise the thinning of trees in the woodland over the next six months. They were thanked for their work in managing the woodland.

Councillors are to consider the planting of a Jubilee Tree avenue at the Field, along the Lenborough Road frontage, together with providing a new pedestrian gate in the north east corner of the Field to give access to the footpath within Faccenda's field.

Fly-tipping at the telephone mast, Radclive Road, has not been cleared. There is further tipping of building materials at the Travellers Field, Radclive Road.

12. Leisure

The Chairman reported the employment of a Playing Field Assistant principally to deal with unlocking, locking and checking security at the Field each day at a cost of £30 per week.

The ROSPA report has very recently been received with some further works required to replace swing seats, adjustments to the zip wire and two further wooden posts to be replaced on the trim trail. Further detailed attention to the report is required. The Chairman accompanied the ROSPA surveyor on the inspection.

There is continuing concern about the running of dogs at the Field, often by non-Gawcott residents. Investigations will be made about the adoption of enforceable regulations to prevent this potentially anti-social use.

The Chairman reported that works to create the Netball/Basketball practice area are complete. Seeding of the created banking will be carried out in season.

It was agreed that the Osborn memorial seat will be ordered without an engraved message. A brass plaque will be added later.

13. Community

The Village Hall has partially re-opened at this time for children's activities and for Trustee and PC meetings only.

The Solar Farm will make funds available for distribution in July and the Chairman will produce a case for a Parish project.

A PC Facebook presence is being actively considered.

14. Administration

Councillors agreed to the acquisition of a new battery and applicator pads for the defibrillator at the Village Hall at a cost of £259.95. *[Note: These have now been fitted by the Chairman.]* The Football Club will be reminded of their responsibility to manage the defibrillator at the pavilion. *[Note: Reminder despatched].*

15. Emergency Business: None.**16. Any Other Business:**

The matter of grant applications was discussed. The Chairman and Councillor Ulph will discuss this further.

The Chairman introduced the prospect of organising a Jubilee Café at the pavilion over the summer of 2022, following a limited upgrade of the pavilion with the assistance of a Solar Farm grant. It is envisaged that this would be run by a paid 'manager' so that the facility would be open at weekends from June to September and with opening on selected weekdays during the school summer holidays. It would be run on a 'break even' basis with any profits being donated to charity.

The Annual Parish Meeting remains outstanding due to Covid regulations. If the meeting cannot be held on 8th July, it will be held on 9th September starting at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. This timing remains subject to the then current regulations.

[Note: The postponement of Covid relaxations on 21st June means that a Parish Meeting on 8th July is not possible, so, the default date of 9th September becomes the planned meeting date].

17. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on the Thursday 8th July 2021 commencing at 8.00 pm at the Gawcott Village Hall Buckingham Road Gawcott.

18. Closure of Meeting. The business meeting concluded at 9.38 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Alan D White. Parish Clerk

20.06.2021