

# Fleet Parish Council

## Meeting – Monday 20 January 2020

A meeting of Fleet Parish Council was held at the Community Hall, Hargate Close, Fleet Hargate on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7pm which was attended by 17 members of the public and the following Councillors:

Paul Barnes (Chair), Evelyn Penney, Geoff Donley, Stephen Dickey, Eddie McNally, Valery Gemmell & Clerk – Robyn Negus

**Public Forum** – A public forum was opened and attending parishioners raised the following:

- Request for update on case raised for mud on pavement along Eastgate. Clerk confirmed a case had been raised and highways had closed it as they felt no further action was needed. As the mud is still an issue it was agreed that Clerk would re raise the case.
- A Parishioner raised a concern that their neighbours flood lights were causing a nuisance. They were advised by Council to direct their concerns to The Environmental department at SHDC.
- A request was raised for an additional Parish notice board to be erected on the corner of Eastgate. It was discussed again later in the main meeting and **agreed** by all to order. Please see Action list.
- A question was asked about the distribution of the Playing Field Questionnaires and why some properties didn't receive them. Cllr Barnes explained that in order to avoid any costs, volunteers assisted to distribute and collecting questionnaires. Due to circumstances outside of our control, not all roads were covered, therefore apologised for any roads that were missed.
- A Parishioner also added he would like to wish all a happy new year and give thanks to all Councillors and the Clerk for their work and efforts.

There were no reports from elected members of Lincolnshire Council and South Holland District Council.

The Public Forum was closed and the main meeting commenced at 7:10pm

1. **Apologies for Absence** received from Cllr Coupland, Cllr Ward & Cllr Futter. Reasons given were noted and **accepted** by all.
2. To receive any **declarations of interest** in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and to consider any requests for dispensations in respects of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in Agenda items. None received.
3. **Signing of the Minutes** – The minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2019 were read and **agreed** by all, as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Financial Matters:**
  - Reconciliation of Bank account - Clerk talked through current bank balance following reconciliation of the bank statement for November & December 2019 - Clerk advised balance as at 31/12/19 was £10,600.76 less £506.13 for un-presented cheques, therefore the total balance being £10,094.63. Members were provided with a copy of the latest bank statement for their records. Thanks was given for receipt of £250.00 from Cllr Coupland's District budget towards the Fleet Christmas Festival and a kind donation of £1,000.00 from Chosen towards Development of the Playing Field.
  - Payment of Invoices - Cheques written since last meeting:

Payment	Date	Value	Purpose
200755	11-Nov	£348.00	Grass Cutting Playing Field
200756	11-Nov	£360.00	Amenities Grass Cutting
200757	18-Nov	£97.94	Plants for planters
200758	18-Nov	£10.80	LALC
200759	18-Nov	£44.10	Mileage
200760	18-Nov	£14.48	Toner

## Fleet Parish Council

200761	28-Nov	£63.16	Fleet Xmas Festival
200762	28-Nov	£26.47	Stationary
200763	03-Dec	£1,000.00	War Memorial Works
200764	12-Dec	£42.73	Litter Picker
200765	12-Dec	£485.53	Clerk Salary & Expenses
Online Credit	16-Dec	-£250.00	SHDC - Fleet Xmas Festival
Online Payment	13-Dec	£157.48	Xmas Festival Expenses
Online Payment	20-Dec	£90.00	Amenities Grass Cutting
Online Payment	23-Dec	£450.00	Mole Catcher
Online Payment	23-Dec	£2,533.76	War Memorial Works

- Budget/Precept – Following discussion and analysis of the Budget figures prepared by the Clerk, it was **resolved** to increase the Precept to a figure of £28,150 for 2020/21 from £22,550 in 2019/20 to cover estimated expenditure. This will equate to an increase of around £3.17 per month or 0.73p a week for a band D property.
  - Grant Application – Following a discussion to apply for a Grant towards Development of the Playing Field from the Gedney Marsh Windcluster Fund. Cllr Barnes proposed we form a Sub Committee for Grant Applications, this was seconded by Cllr Gemmell and **agreed** by all, that Cllr Donley would chair the committee along with Cllr Penney and co-opt volunteers to assist. All grant applications to go through Cllr Donley. Cllr Gemmell also mentioned another wind farm that we can approach and agreed to forward details to the Clerk.
5. **To receive reports** - from:
- Playing Field & Pavilion Working Group – Cllr P Coupland report received prior to the meeting on the following:
    - Grass cutting for the year now complete.
    - Field maintenance completed, mole treatment and dyke clearance.
    - Footpath at memorial near completed, top soil to be supplied.
    - Walking footballers have marked pitch out, aim to start late Jan.
    - Some dog walkers still letting dogs off leads – This was further discussed and the Clerk advised that we are looking at ways to enforce the byelaw and also looking to obtain a Public Space Protection Order in order to allow dog wardens to also access the playing field and enforce the council's decision for dogs to remain on the lead whilst using the playing field – Action list for March
    - Cllr Coupland suggested we ask Contractor to lay area of tarmac 3mx1.6m to seat area at memorial, at a cost £250 plus vat. Cllr Penney advised that this bench is owned by the Royal British Legion. It was agreed that Cllr Barnes, Cllr Dickey & Cllr Donley meet with an RBL representative to have a look and discuss further.
  - Planning Issues – Cllr Donley reported on to the following planning applications received:
    - H05-1208-19.Rhinestone Cottage. No objections.
    - H05-1200-19.Heron Cottages Camping and Caravanning. Echo query raised by Cllr. Gemmell as to whether this would constitute a change of use and have further repercussions down the line. Been previous appeals as to similar changes in different areas. I appreciate that they have reduced the number of statics but to change Condition 5 does seem superfluous unless they wish long term to class this as a permanent development with all that entails so would object.
    - H05-0774-19. Condition from planning to monitor smell a logical response. Concur. No objection.
    - Holbeach House. Variation of rule 5 on affordable housing ongoing Holbeach House. Affordable Housing Clause. No decision has been taken as yet. Planning will keep us informed.

## Fleet Parish Council

- Meet & Greet Public Forum – Cllr Barnes reported that the main topic of discussion was redevelopment of the Playing Field and questionnaires. Several volunteers came forward to assist with distribution and collection of these. Feedback received on the questionnaires was very good.
  - Skate Park fund raising group – In the absence of Cllr Ward & Cllr Futter, it was **agreed** that Cllr Donley would try meet and discuss any Grant application forms received so far.
  - Fleet Christmas Festival – Cllr Barnes reported that the event went very well and thanks was given to all who helped to organise and set up. He also reported that Fleet Parish Council have been asked to take the event on and organise moving forward. This was discussed and all **agreed** it may be a consideration that we control the event, but it will be managed and organised by volunteers. Cllr Penney proposed arranging a Fleet Driveway sale to be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Parishioners would be asked to pay £10 to register their address and be included on a map which will be provided to buyers. This date also coincides with the Flower Festival in Fleet so would attract more people. In order for the event to be success, Cllr Penney has asked to the help of any volunteers. It was **agreed** by all that Cllr Penney start to plan.
6. **Fleet Identity** – Clerk advised that following her email to the Royal Mail to confirm that Fleet Parish Council would not be perusing the address change, she had received a response to confirm ‘once we’ve carried out a locality consultation, regardless of whether the changes go ahead we have to allow at least two years before we can look at the case again. If after this time one of the residents wishes to take up the role of instigator after this time, they should mail [addressmaintenance@royalmail.com](mailto:addressmaintenance@royalmail.com) and we can provide details of the process which they will need to follow’. Therefore, in light of this time bar wanted to check if this would have an impact on the Parish Council decision not to pursue. Following a brief discussion it was **agreed** by all that the decision not to pursue still stands.
7. **Development of the Park** – Cllr Barnes reported that following distribution of over 900 questionnaires we had 172 returned. After entering opinions into a score sheet the results were as follows:
- 1 – Hard Standing at Old Main Road
  - 2 – Footpath around perimeter
  - 3- Seating (sited by path)
  - 4 – Additional Child Play Equipment
  - 5 – Nature garden
  - 6 – Adult Exercise Equipment
  - 7 – 5 aside Pitch/Walking Football
  - 8 – Skate Park
- It was reiterated that Fleet Parish Council will look at all options, but this exercise was carried out to prioritise what people wanted and what we can focus on first in order to find out costing to support Grant applications. Hard Standing was discussed along with security and safety requirements. Cllr Barnes reported that early indications of cost for a 700 Sq Metre area is estimated to be in the region of £30,000. Cllr Barnes proposed we write up a specification for the hard standing and what is required in order to go out for tenders. This was seconded by Cllr Gemmell and **agreed** by all. Agenda March
8. **Tenders for Amenity & Playing Field Grass Cutting for 2020** – Cllr Barnes asked the Playing Field & Amenity Working Group to a document Amenity areas and timescales for all grass cutting in order to go out for tenders as soon as possible. Cllr Dickey **agreed** to produce this.
9. **Double Parking by School and Safety Issues Associated** – Nothing further to report
10. **Forward Planning & Events** – It was resolved that this the proposal of a Fleet Driveway sale had already been discussed under item 5 on the agenda.

## Fleet Parish Council

11. **Dyke to the side of the Playing field** – In the absence of Cllr Coupland, Clerk reported that the Dyke had been cleared apart from a small amount of debris at the bottom. This had been delayed due to adverse weather and being able to get the machinery into position. This would be done as soon as possible.
12. **Good Neighbourhood Scheme** – Clerk reported that we had received a small update about this project. Good Neighbours Scheme are run by local volunteers who provide day to day support for other residents who may need help on the occasional basis. For older people, this support may enable them to live independently in their own homes and communities for longer and reduce the feelings of isolation and loneliness. More information will follow, but for anyone interested the details received so far will be displayed on the Parish Website.
13. **Correspondence Received:**
  - Email from South Holland Parish Voluntary Service inviting members to attend their next meeting on 24 March 2020 @ 7:00pm – It was **agreed** to let the Clerk know should any Councillors wish to attend.
  - Email from SHDC - Highway Verge Grass Cutting 2020 (For Information) – Clerk shared the quotations received for Highway Verge Cutting. All **agreed** – Cllr Barnes requested a copy of the maps to confirm we do not duplicate areas when adding addresses for our Tender document.
  - Email from LALC with details of the Clustering Conclusion – Information shared with full council. Nothing further to action.
14. **Actions List** - Clerk went through the current Actions List to provide an update and ascertain which items had been dealt with since the last meeting, resulting in the highlighted items being removed due to completion. (Please see separate sheet titled Actions List)
15. **Speed Watch Initiative:**
  - Cllr McNally advised he had nothing to report. We are still awaiting the Authorities to provide any data obtained once they have had the opportunity to set up their speed cameras
  - Cllr Barnes confirmed he would approach Long Sutton to ask if they would consider sharing their Speed Watch equipment.
16. **Planning Matters** - Cllr Donley confirmed he had nothing further to report. Cllr Gemmell requested her application for Modification order to Definitive Map – Branches Lane to Damgate Road under reference 392, be noted. She hopes for this to be amended soon.
17. **Date of next meeting** - It was noted that the next meeting will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> March and next Meet & Greet Public forum on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
18. **Closed Session** - it was **resolved** to go into closed session to discuss an email received from LALC