

Grimston Parish Council Grimston Parish Council
Minutes of the Council Meeting on Monday 14 September 2020
Virtual Platform – Zoom at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Israel(Chairman), P Coleman, Fraser, Johnson, Pitcher, S Coleman, de Whalley, Twite, and Barnicoat

In Attendance: Mrs P Sewell (Clerk) and 7 Members of the Public

20.064 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT AND TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman welcomed all to the September Meeting. The Chairman informed the Council that Cllr Liz Packer had resigned and asked that the Council’s thanks for her service be recorded. The Chairman also reported that contractors had damaged several gravestones at the Church. CGM had been quick to accept fault and offer reparations, the Chairman apologised on behalf of the Council to those affected. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Coe and B.Cllr C Manning

20.065 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

20.073 Cllr de Whalley declared an interest as a Trustee, he took no part in the vote, but did answer questions when they were directed to him.

20.073 Cllr Barnicoat declared an interest as a Trustee was a family member, he took no part in the discussion or vote.

20.066 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF 6 JULY AND 7 AUGUST 2020 AS A TRUE RECORD

- **Cllr Johnson proposed: Council to Accept the Minutes of 6 July and 7 August 2020 as a true record**
- Resolved

20.067 MATTERS ARISING (INFORMATION ONLY)

School Speed Signs: The Council noted that Holly Meadows has written to say it was thrilled with the Zig Zag signs, the school was opening earlier and finishing later so the reduced 20mph and very visible signs would work well.

Church Green: The Council noted that the annual tidy up had been completed.

Clock Tower: The Council noted that the Clock had been serviced.

20.068 CORRESPONDENCE

The Council note correspondence as listed

Police Q and A: The Council offered no questions, but Cllr Fraser said she hoped to attend.

Resolution to suspend business to receive Ward Reports and Parishioners’ Questions

B. Cllr de Whalley gave a report, key items included: The KLIC Innovation Centre, monies owed would be recovered. King’s Lynn had received an initial £750K as part of the Government’s £25M Town Deal fund to be split between the establishment of a nursing college and public space. The Council had agreed a Balloon and Chinese Lantern policy preventing such items being released from land that it owned. The full Council would review a Biodiversity/ Climate Change action plan.

-A resident queried Cllr de Whalley’s attendance record at recent Parish Council meetings citing conflicting interests with his role as Borough Councillor. Cllr de Whalley agreed that there had been a conflict recently as there had been a key issue in another parish and its meetings clashed with Grimston, but that he had been a parish councillor for Grimston for many years and he felt his attendance overall was good.

-A resident stated that the responses from the GF&AT on the reasons for the withdrawal of the permits

were disingenuous, initially it had been on safety grounds, real evidence of which had not been forthcoming, then on environmental grounds. It was also felt that the Trust had responded insensitively to the criticism of the way in which the consultation had been carried out. Cllr de Whalley apologised if the case had not been made clear, but that both aspects were relevant to the decision. Cllr Whalley restated that shooting was now very much at odds with the management of the land which included two SSSIs both of which brought in a significant grant to cover land management, this funding could potentially be stopped. Cllr de Whalley confirmed that those costs did not contribute to the grant funding. Cllr De Whalley reported that the decision had been supported by all Trustees with one abstention. Cllr de Whalley was asked about the retention of one Trustee, he confirmed that the Trust had voted to amend the constitution to include an additional co-opted Trustee.

-A resident asked that the Parish Council consider making it a requirement that its nominees to the GF&ATrust regularly report back to the Council to ensure better liaison. The Clerk explained that once the nomination had taken place and accepted, the Council had no control or sanction over the appointed Trustee, however Council had appointed Cllr Coleman partly on the basis that he had stated he would like to see more transparency and openness and intended to make regular reports.

-Cllr de Whalley stated that he would take all the comments back to the Trust. In the current situation, it had not been possible to arrange a face to face meeting, but he would push for one. Concern was expressed that the GF&ATrust had not moved meetings onto Zoom.

-Chairman of HUFL reported that there had been a very successful car boot sale and that the catering stall had covered its cost in one sale, the committee was looking into providing power and water to the site for next year's season with the purpose of actively raising funds for the Community Centre

20.069 FINANCE

20.069.01 To Approve payments due

▪ Cllr Pitcher proposed: Council to approve payments as listed - *Resolved*

Payments	Heading		Gross	VAT
Mrs P Sewell	Salary (July)		487.06	0.00
Mrs P Sewell	Salary (August)		487.06	0.00
Mrs Sewell	Expenses TOTAL		147.68	0.00
"	Home Office Allow.	34.00		0.00
"	Postage	36.51		0.00
"	Ink	24.57		4.09
"	Litter bins (KL&WNBC)	52.60		0.00
R J Staff	Grass Cutting	Dog/Bins	49.50	8.25
CGM	Grass Cutting	Church/Green	308.35	51.39
CGM	Grass Cutting	Church/Green	308.35	51.39
CGM	Grass Cutting	Church Green	75.00	12.50
Smiths of Derby	Clock Tower	Service	195.60	32.60
Uptech Ltd	Gen Administration	Domain	86.40	14.40
Mr N Smith	Audit	2019/20	90.00	0.00
Community Heartbeat	Defibrillator	2020-2021	162.00	27.00
Pearce and Kemp	Street Lighting	July	85.20	14.20
Pearce and Kemp	Street Lighting	August	85.20	14.20
EON	Street Lighting	August	140.91	6.71
EON	Street Lighting	September	140.91	6.71
Total			2849.22	243.44
Receipts				

Santander	Interest (June)		9.04	
Santander	Interest (July)		2.03	
Santander	Interest (August)		0.27	
Mr N Smith	WW1 Anniversary	Book	15.00	
Total			26.34	

The Clerk reported the reduction in monthly interest receipts on the Santander Account.

20.069.02 To Receive and Approve Quarter 1 Report April- June 2020

- **Cllr Coleman proposed: Council to receive and approve Quarter 1 Report April- June 2020 - Resolved**

20.070 PLANNING MATTERS

20.070.01 To consider responses to Planning Applications

20/00583/LB: Listed building application for renovation, alterations and extension to dwelling at Elder Farm Elder Lane Grimston

20/00582/F: Application for renovation, alterations and extension to dwelling at Elder Farm Elder Lane Grimston

- **Cllr Pitcher proposed: Council to maintain its objection to both Elder Farm applications in view of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Building's response - Resolved**

20.071 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/ STREET LIGHTING ISSUES

20.071.01 To receive fault reports

The Chairman thanked Cllr Johnson who had carried out an inspection of the Street lights last week, all faults have been reported to the contractor. Cllr Johnson said he would monitor. A deep pothole was also reported in Fen Lane

20.071.02 Speeding SAM2 Signs – To approve Operational Policy and Training

The Council noted that the unit should be delivered in early October. Cllrs Israel, P Coleman, Johnson and Pitcher had volunteered to be part of the installation team.

- **Cllr P Coleman proposed: Council appoint Cllr Johnson to supervise battery and rota - Resolved**
- **Cllr Johnson proposed: Council to approve the SAM2 Operational Policy - Resolved**

20.071.03 Cycle Path proposal

The Council noted that Cllr de Whalley and the Clerk had had a productive discussion with the County Council who supported the proposal and offered expertise in providing a surface suitable for both cyclists and horses. The key issue was funding and the crossing of the A149.

20.071.04 Access to Railway Line and linking path

The Chairman thanked Cllr S Coleman who had surveyed the path. Cllr Barnicoat said that care would be required to remove the fallen trees. Council noted that Sibilco had tabled an internal discussion on whether to agree to a permissive path due to commercial interests. The Clerk had sent them photographs of the access including the stile. Cllr P Coleman reported a fallen tree on the railway line that crossed Hudson Fen.

20.072 POST CODES AND BOUNDARY FOR VONG LANE

The Chairman referred Council to the correspondence with the Borough Council on the anomalies of Vong Lane addresses. Cllr Johnson reported that he had spoken to householders along Vong Lane who confirmed their frustration with the inconsistent designation: Church Close was regarded as Grimston with a Grimston postcode but the houses on the other side towards the Church were part of Pott Row, although on the Grimston Electoral Roll.

- **Cllr Johnson proposed: Council to support clarity for those residents of Vong Lane and Church Close - Resolved**

20.073 GRIMSTON AND FEN ALLOTMENT TRUST

20.073.01 Permit withdrawal

The Chairman referred the Council’s attention to the letter written by the Chairman of the Trust explaining the decision for the withdrawal of permits, and that there has been no change to the Trust’s position for the reasons stated. The Chairman said it was obvious there was still much frustration and he would be happy to chair a meeting between parties if that would help.

20.073.02 Request for Council to carry out an annual audit of G&F Allotment Trust

The Chairman referred Council to the resident’s letter requesting that the Council audit the work of the Trust. The resident explained that although the Trust had come to her attention because of the shooting permits, she was more concerned about the management and governance of the Trust itself. The Clerk stated that an audit of the Trust’s decisions was outside the remit of the Parish Council. The law permitted County and Borough Councils to review the work but only with the support of the said Charity. It was the Clerk’s view that the Trust would not support this suggestion especially as it felt it operated within the Charity Commission’s guidance. The Clerk advised that concerns, if not satisfactorily addressed by the Trust, should be directed to the Charity Commission as it was the regulatory body and had expertise along with the powers to act if necessary. The Clerk suggested that as the host of the Annual Parish Meeting which involved local charities submitting accounts and overview of the year’s work, the Council could look at how to improve access to the information prior to the meeting.

20.074 TO SET UP WORKING GROUP TO PLAN FOR FUTURE PROJECTS

The Council considered the suggestion to establish a project working group for the purpose of putting together a project list of current and future projects. The Council now had CIL money and the CIL policy required the Council to demonstrate consideration and engagement before allocation. Longer term this would also help financial planning and enable the Council to take advantage of grants and match funding schemes.

- **Cllr Pitcher proposed: Council to set up a Projects Working Group - Resolved**

20.075. BULB PLANTING 2020

Council noted that Mrs Packer had offered to continue to organise the Annual Bulb planting and suggested 24 or 31 October.

- **Cllr P Coleman proposed: Council to set the date of the Community bulb planting on 24 October - Resolved**

20.076 COUNCILLORS REPORT

None

20.077 DATE, TIME OF NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Cllr Pitcher asked the Council consider the re-instatement of the Planning Committee

The next meeting would take place on Monday 5 October 2020 at 7.30pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....