

Glemsford Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 13th Mar 2018 @ 7.15pm at Glemsford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: Brown (chairman), Southgate, Plumb, Sewell, Stephens & Cain
CCllr Kemp & DCllr Holt. The clerk.
23 members of the public.

01.03 Chairman's announcements

No vote will be cast on planning application DC/18/00856 as the Parish Council are awaiting further information.

Next month is the Annual Parish Meeting. Anyone wishing to attend please advise the clerk.

A reminder to allotment holders; the rent is due by the end of March.

There is a part II meeting for Councillors.

02.03 Apologies for absence

Cllrs Leopold and Homer.

03.03 Declarations of interest/dispensation requests

Cllr Plumb declared an interest in all planning matters due to being a member of the planning committee at BDC.

Cllr Southgate declared a pecuniary interest in planning item DC/18/00856

Cllr Stephens declared a private interest in planning application DC/18/00856

04.03 To adopt minutes of council meeting held on 13th Feb 2018

It was resolved to adopt the minutes

05.03 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

Quotes had been obtained for the purchase of two dog fouling signs for the playing field. It was resolved to purchase these at a price of £312.00 plus VAT.

06.03 To receive reports

CCllr Kemp – A full report can be viewed on the website or at the clerk's office.

Suffolk County Council are very slow in replacing street light bulbs.

DCllr Holt – The Local Government Boundary Commission electoral review of Babergh is running until the 30th April.

The new houses at Schoolfield have still not been occupied. The handover of keys has been delayed due to ongoing issues.

Enquiries were made about a granted planning application at Scossels which had not been referred back to the Parish Council after amendments had been made. DCllr Holt is to look into this.

DCllr Plumb – DCllr Plumb explained why he declared an interest with regards planning applications; his decision would be deemed as predetermined if he voted at Parish then went to BDC to vote. DCllr Plumb is attending sub-committee meetings with reference to the new Joint Local Plan. Anyone who requires further information about this can attend his ward surgery at the village hall on the third Friday of each month at 12midday.

07.03 Planning New applications:

Standing orders suspended to include public discussion

7.30 Cllr Southgate leaves the room

DC/18/00856 - New St Farm, New St

Conversion of existing agricultural barn, rebuilding of linked yard buildings, removal of redundant buildings and erection of extensions to barn, creation of car park and new access to site to facilitate use for weddings, functions and events

Many objections were voiced regarding this application. Major concerns are noise levels, affect on local properties, loss of village amenity with reference to pedestrians using 'the horseshoe', traffic concerns, the number of 'events' and their type and the historic structure of the barn. The applicants discussed measures that are being put in place to address issues and the opportunity of local employment.

The application is to go before the Committee at BDC in May. One objector and one applicant may attend the meeting.

No vote was taken by the Parish Council as they do not have all relative information.

Standing order re-instated

8.05pm Cllr Southgate enters the room

Granted applications:

DC/17/03005 - 1 Scossels

Erection of part two storey part first floor side extension over existing garage; conversion of garage into additional living accommodation and provision of additional parking

DC/18/00239 - Links Close

Fell horse chestnut tree

DC/18/00178 - 2 Rectory Close

BDC does not wish to object to - Tree works in conservation area – reduce and thin crown volume by up to 40% on 1no field maple. Repeat reductions may be undertaken on an ongoing basis to these established pruning points whenever re-growth exceeds 2m subject to good health of the tree

DC/18/00447 - 55 Egremont St

BDC does not wish to object to - Fell Honey Locust

08.03 Public question time

It was asked if the decision on a planning application can be questioned; after a decision has been made it can be taken to appeal by the applicant or an objector can request a judicial review.

09.03 Accounts for approval

It was resolved to agree the accounts

10.03 Budget figures - to agree

It was resolved to agree the budget figures

11.03 Cemetery working group meeting – report

Cemetery Charges

The charges have not been increased since Sept 2015.

It was resolved that charges are increased from 01.04.18 as follows:

Burial (Interment)	from £400 to £420
Purchase of Exclusive Rights	from £200 to £210
Opening of existing grave	from £400 to £420

Ashes (Interment)	from £200 to £210
Purchase of Exclusive Rights	from £100 to £110
Opening of existing grave	from £200 to £210

Erection of a monument	from £135 to £145
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Added Inscription	from £385 to £400
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It was resolved that the no charge age limit for infants and children be increased to 16yrs (village children only)

Mortuary Building – possible shutters for

The possibility of installing wooden shutters over the existing windows on the mortuary building was discussed as the building is in need of a tidy up. Existing woodwork also requires painting.

It was resolved that quotes are obtained to install shutters and paint existing woodwork. The clerk will check to see if planning permission is required.

New land purchase

The purchase is progressing. Correspondence has been received from the Parish Council solicitors and a payment of £250 has been made on account of fees (as previously agreed).

The removal of excess soil from the cemetery was discussed. It was agreed that it would be better to wait until the new land is available and use this area to spread the excess soil rather than cause disruption removing the soil at this present time.

Future plans with regards the land where discussed. It was felt that the best way forward once the land has been purchased is to have one contractor who would be responsible for removing soil, general landscaping, fencing, a hard standing area, hedge trimming etc. Once the land deal is complete this idea together with a specification will be proposed to full Council.

Enquiries are to be made to BDC with regards planning permission for change of use of the land.

Graves – tidy up

Graves are once again in need of a 'tidy-up'. It was agreed that a notice will be displayed on the Cemetery notice board after Easter requesting that graves are tidied by the end of April.

Subsequent notices will be placed on individual graves after this time if necessary.

Funeral directors are to be reminded that the Cemetery is a lawn cemetery and request that this information is passed to grave owners. A copy of rules and regulations of the cemetery will also be sent.

Hedge Trimming

It is necessary to trim the hedge between the Graveyard and the Cemetery. Cllr Southgate will obtain a quote for this.

12.03 Purchase of waste bins and dog bins

It is necessary to buy some new dog and litter bins.

Unfortunately the current style used are no longer available. A new supplier has been found.

It was resolved to buy 4no litter bins @ £235 each plus VAT

It was resolved to buy 4no dog bins @ £135.00 each plus VAT

13.03 Graffiti - removal of

It was resolved to spend £350 plus VAT removing graffiti from around the village.

14.03 Schoolfield play park – repair to equipment

It was resolved to spend £830.00 plus VAT on repairs.

15.03 Village hall road – repair to

It was resolved to obtain quotes to repair the road at the entrance to the village hall. 50% of the proceeds of the installation of the mast have now been received which will pay for this repair.

16.03 Payroll – possible use of SALC services

It was resolved to use the services of SALC for payroll

17.03 Budget for expenditure on hedge cutting (various locations)

There is an outstanding budget of approx £3000.00 to spend on hedge cutting around the village. *It was resolved* to obtain quotes to cut hedging at various locations.

18.03 Street light order – further LED replacements

It was resolved to spend £24,273.26 on the next phase of street lights.

19.03 Request by WI to 'poppy bomb' the War Memorial

It was resolved to allow 'poppy bombing' of the War Memorial

20.03 Asset List – to agree

It was resolved to agree the asset list. A finance meeting is to be arranged to discuss this in more detail.

21.03 General Data Protection Regulation – update

It was resolved to progress with appointing The DPO Centre Ltd to fulfil new data protection laws. It is anticipated this will cost between £2120-£220pa decreasing the following year.

22.03 Glemsford Parish Council and Glemsford Matters websites – new administrator required

Volunteers are needed to operate the websites as Tony Callender who has kindly done this job in the past is no longer going to be available. The Parish Council website is more formal where as Glemsford Matters is a village based facility.

23.03 Clerks Office – New chair, laptop stand and remote keyboard

It was resolved that the clerk obtains the items above

24.03 Risk Assessments - to agree

It was resolved to agree the risk assessments

25.03 Village Hall – decorating

26.03 Village Hall – new window blinds

27.03 Village Hall – to install matching light fittings

It was resolved to obtain separate quotes for all three items above.

28.03 Village Hall – installation of replacement CCTV system

The previous CCTV system needs replacing due to vandalism. One quote had been received. Further quotes are to be obtained.

29.03 Village Hall – to install heating timer

It was resolved to put a timer on the heating system at a cost of £95+VAT.

30.03 Correspondence

As per DCllr Holt's information, recommendations for the electoral review of BDC can be made on <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

Suffolk Constabulary has asked the Parish Council if they are interested in a community speed watch incentive. They will attend a Parish Council meeting to give a presentation and answer questions.

James Cartlidge MP will hold a surgery in Hartest on Friday 23rd March. Appointment only. Please contact ian.stephens@parliament.uk or call 020 7219 2081

A request from The West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group has been received asking if a GP and the Practice Business Manager can attend the May Parish Council meeting to speak about the future of Glemsford Surgery.

DCllr Plumb had received correspondence from SCC stating repairs are scheduled for Bells Lane.

31.03 Date of next meeting

10th April 2018 (Annual Parish Meeting followed by Parish Council Meeting)

Meeting finished @ 8.30pm