

Glemsford Parish Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2015 @ 7.15 at Glemsford Village Hall

Present: Cllr Brown (Chair) D George (Clerk)
CCllr Kemp, DCllrs Thake and Young, 5 Parish Councillors, PC Gary Austin and 21 members of the public.

01.03 Chairman's announcements

Cllr Brown welcomed all to the meeting.

02.03 Apologies for Absence

Harriet North Glemsford Library, the Line Dancers, Glemsford Primary School

03.03 To adopt the minutes of the Parish Meeting 2014

The minutes were agreed.

04.03 Chairman's Report

During the year £26,000 has been reserved for the upgrading of street lights. Dog bins have been purchased, also a new safe for the office for the storing of official documents and repairs have been carried out on the village hall. Many 'walkabouts' with representatives from Suffolk County Council have taken place during the year resulting in a good success rate with regards repairs. The annual budget appears to be on track. Thanks were given to Tony Callender for all his work on the Parish Council website.

05.03 Police report

73 crimes had been carried out during the year. PC Austin and his colleagues continue to do many vehicle and foot patrols through the village. The community is encouraged to report anything suspicious. The Police will be working with the youth of the village to help refurbish the youth shelter on the playing field.

06.03 Reports from County and District Councillors

County Cllr Kemp gave his report which can be viewed on the website or at the clerk's office. An apology was given regarding closure of Woodlands. Although CCllr Kemp spoke out against this it was with great disappointment that this valuable provision will be lost. Thanks were given to the Parish Council, the clerk and the people of Glemsford. Pauline Currie gave thanks to CCllr Kemp for all his hard work.

District Cllr Thake reported. A copy of which can be viewed at the clerk's office. Planning is still experiencing difficulties. BDC and Mid-Suffolk are introducing housing zones which will enable Parish Councils to choose where they want houses. Government are making grants available to build council houses. There is no budget increase this year.

District Cllr Young reported on the committees he sits on; licensing, Suffolk flood protection and scrutiny committees. There are still issues trying to get hold of staff split between the two council offices. It is felt that the amalgamation is not going well. DCllr Young is looking into the flooding issues at the bottom of Skates Hill and Hobbs Lane, although it currently appears no funds have been allocated to address this problem.

07.03 Reports from village organisations

W.I. – Lesley Lagden reported. A varied programme of events were held throughout the year including topics covered whilst “going around the world on a container ship”. Many village events have been supported including judging at the primary school and helping with the Friday Café, Luncheon club, Angels events, sewing bee and litter pick. This year the WI celebrated its 100th birthday. The centenary baton came through the village in November, arriving by a Rolls Royce and leaving on a bedecked Dukw cheered on by the children from the school waving flags. Ten centenary roses have been planted near the village sign on the green in Brook Street to mark the occasion. A full programme of events is scheduled for the coming year.

Gardening Club – Loretta Edwards reported. There is now a new committee. A website, Facebook page and newsletter are in place. The club has been involved in many village activities throughout the year including Glorious Glemsford, the Christmas tree festival, attendance at the multi-agency forum meetings and planting beds at Drapery Common. Three trips have been arranged for the summer which are open to all. Meet the gardener sessions including skills from within the club, demonstrations and a garden design workshop have been arranged. Consideration is being given to an open gardens event in 2016.

Social Club – Hugh Norris reported. Another good year at the Social Club. Last year £7000 was repaid to members who helped pay off Greene King. Some refurbishment has taken place, including a boiler replacement. There has been various forms of entertainment including, music events, quizzes, bingo, open public events and charity events. It is hoped to smarten up the Club. Fund raising and donations have helped secure a fund to install disabled toilets. There are three places available on the committee. All members are welcome.

History Society – Patrick Currie reported. Eleven meetings/functions are held throughout the year. There are three major projects on the go at the moment. It is hoped to arrange a community dig, but this is an expensive project which would need lottery funding. A publication of ‘Voices of the village’; it is hoped to record the lives of people from the village covering different decades. Being archivists for historic items; many items are donated to the society which requires storage. It is hoped that the refurbishment of the village hall will allow for storage/display areas.

Friends of Glemsford Library – A report was read. The finances of the library are healthy with thanks to many organisations and individuals. FoGL have purchased a clock, printer and display board for the library. The key events during the year were the summer reading challenge and budding artists mythical maze morning, a fund raising lunch, the Piped Piper puppet show and the WWI poetry tea. A full report can be read on the website.

Friday Café – Anne Mallalieu reported. The café has now been running for two years by village ladies. On average 25 mums and children attend, but all are welcome. Help is given to run Totrock which will continue when Woodlands closes. The café continues to be very successful.

Playweek – Anne Mallalieu reported. This a free of charge event held for children during the summer holidays. It is hoped to change the format this year, running on different days on separate weeks rather than for one whole week.

Village of the year competition – Len Young reported. Glemsford are able to enter the village of the year competition this year. If the Parish Council decide to go ahead with this DCllr Young feels we could do very well. Clubs and Organisations would be approached to help put the application together. A committee would need to be formed.

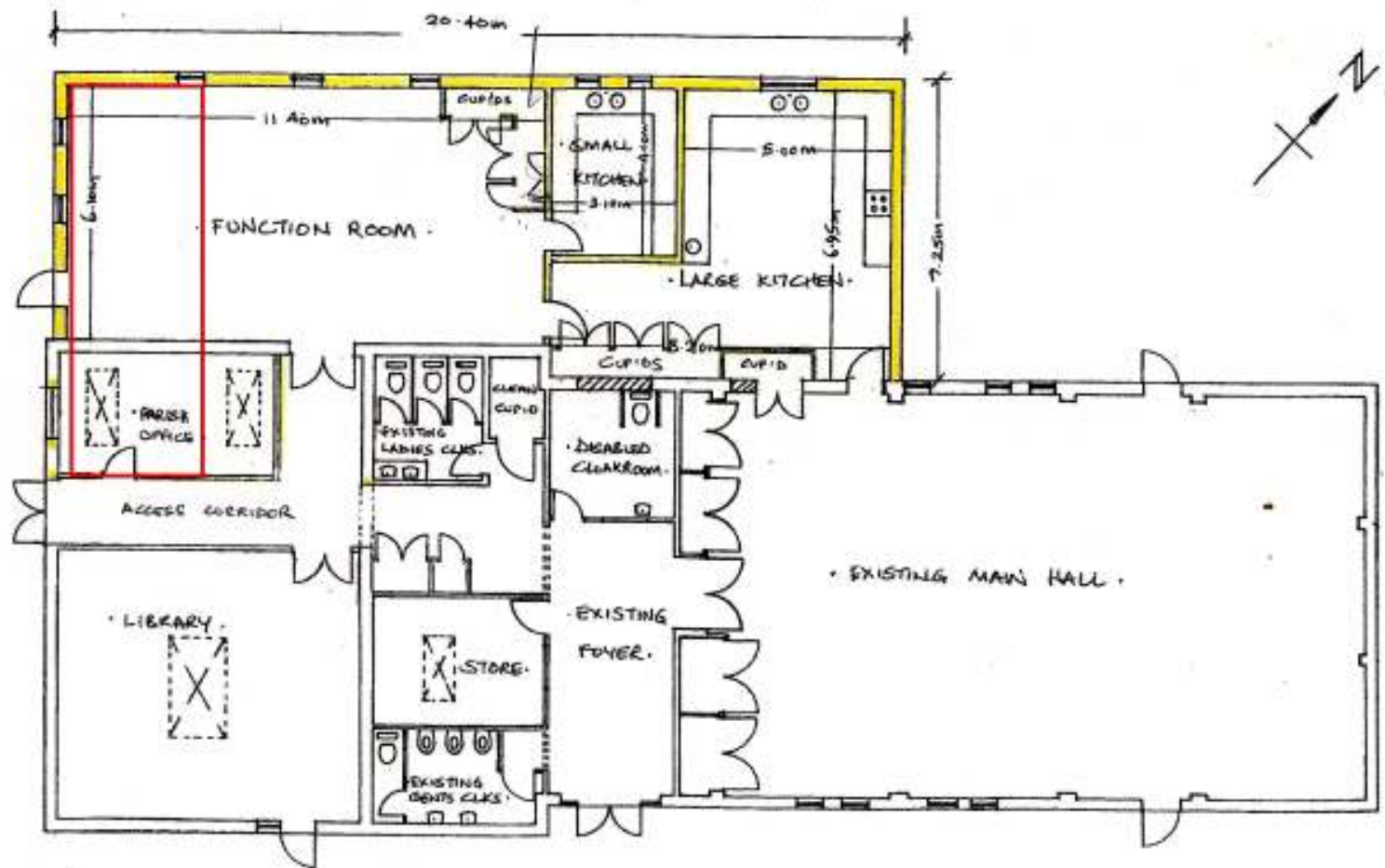
Glemsford Primary School – a report was received, however, it was not possible to read this at the meeting but a copy can be viewed on the website.

08.03 - Future of your village hall

The village hall plan needs to be agreed to be able to move forward. Consideration may be given to having two smaller meeting rooms rather than one big one. It is hoped to form a committee to finalise the village hall plan. Anyone with experience of village halls or entertainment venues would be very useful and any public opinions/ideas would be much appreciated. A copy of the current plan is to be placed on the website.

Meeting finished at 8.25pm

DRAFT



FLOOR PLAN AS PROPOSED
(AMENDED 12 JANUARY 2015)

Harcourt-Powell

Chartered Surveyors

9 Gainsborough Street

Sudbury, Suffolk

CO10 2EU

Tel: 01787 881177

Fax: 01787 881778

E-mail: info@harcourt-powell.co.uk

Web: www.harcourt-powell.co.uk

