

## Gawcott with Lenborough Parish Council

### The Minutes of the meeting of the Gawcott with Lenborough Parish Council held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7.30 pm at the Gawcott Village Hall.

**Present:** Parish Councillors: Mrs S Burgess, Mr T Dugher, Mr A Ulph and Mr A D White [Chairman] and Councillor C Cornell.

#### 1. Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 2. Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor Cornell

Councillor Cornell highlighted the severe weather issues and the Warm Spaces initiative, details of which are available via the Bucks website.

*Note: The Chairman has alerted the Chapel and Holy Trinity about potential grants for the provision of Warm Spaces.*

Residents are encouraged to check on the changes in refuse collections over the holiday period.

Residents are being encouraged to consider providing accommodation to refugees for which grants may be available.

Potential flooding in Gawcott remains high priority for affected residents. It appears that a schedule of repair and culvert enhancement works is planned for the new financial year. Meanwhile the Environment Agency is being chased to resolve the longstanding problem of foul water draining into the surface water culvert, ditches and the ponds in Preston Road.

Repairs and some resurfacing at Radclive Road have been carried out. Works to the damaged verge are already breaking down. The footpath damage by the school has been repaired.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Cornell for attending the meeting.

#### 3. Commencement of Parish Council business meeting

4. **Apologies** from Buckinghamshire Councillor Patrick Fealey and Councillors Bate and Gibbs. The Chairman confirmed that the statement from the Cricket Club will be heard at the January meeting due to illness.

#### 5. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022

The Minutes were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### 6. Matters arising: None

#### 7. Declarations of Interest: No declarations

#### 8. Finance

PC Balances	Deposit A/cc 00165984	£42,887.41
	Current A/cc 00152092	£2,716.05
	Current A/cc 00672967	£5,177.60

8.1. Councillors unanimously agreed to the payment of the following invoices: Pavilion Cleaning: Karen Richards: £200; Bulbs for Woodland - reimburse Mr Tom Goodman: £26.40; Electricity at the pavilion – reimburse the Clerk: £74.38; Water at the pavilion- reimburse the Clerk: £7.89; Independent Assessor's fee for audit – Mr B Ayres: £35; Shredding of Parish Council documents- reimburse the Clerk £314.93.

**8.2.** The Chairman suggested that Councillors might wish to consider no increase in the present precept of £20,000. Councillor Ulph suggested that a statement on PC finances should appear in an upcoming Newsletter and on the website. This was agreed. A decision on the precept will be made at the January meeting.

**8.3.** Councillors unanimously agreed to the grant of £250 to Holy Trinity Church to assist with the maintenance of the churchyard and £200 to the Chapel to assist with their community-focused work as well as the cost of providing electricity for the Christmas decorations.

## **9. Highways and Transport**

### **9.1. HS2 Road Safety Grant Fund - Traffic Management and Speed Reduction Plan**

The Chairman reported that only the signage elements of the PC plan will be agreed from the Grant submission. Details are awaited but delays are inevitable as Buckinghamshire are changing highway contractors in April 2023.

**9.2. The Radclive Road verge works** and resurfacing. The resurfacing is a great improvement. However, the verge works are already breaking down.

**9.3. Incorrect HS2 HGV routing** continues. Councillor Cornell will inform Councillor Fealey that despite contacts made with Chris James at HS2, there has been no response to the Chairman's complaints and suggestions to improve the 'policing' of contractors taking no notice of the routing agreements.

EWR has erected HGV no access signage around the Parish despite HS2's contention that Bucks Council will not allow similar HS2-related signage.

**9.4. Highways and Lighting maintenance.** The Chairman reported that some of the Buckingham Road lamps which were erected four years ago have finally been connected. The original intention was then to remove overhead electric distribution cables but these works are unlikely to take place in the short term.

**9.5. Radclive Road speed reduction petition.** The Chairman provided a draft petition document for consideration by Councillors. This was unanimously approved and copies will be supplied to Mr Lewis, the owner of Repro Plastics who will arrange for signature by Radclive Road businesses. It was also suggested that an employee petition might be supplied and this will be followed up.

A Lenborough Road petition will be considered when the results of the Radclive Road petition become clear.

**9.6. Traffic Data.** Excellent analysis of the data from the Hillesden Road speed sign is being provided by Councillor Bate. This will create a very useful databank to assist with future applications for traffic speed reduction schemes. Detailed attention needs to be paid to statistics over the Christmas and New Year period. It was suggested a one sheet traffic data report should appear on the website and in the Newsletter.

## **10. Planning**

### **10.1. Applications reported**

- 22/03596/APP. 8 Leyland Close Gawcott. Single storey side extension.
- 22/03927/APP. Building renovations at Manor Farm Hillesden Road Gawcott.
- 22/03945/ALB. Listed building application for proposed detached double garage and associated hard standing, fencing, 1.8m high brick wall, and landscaping at Manor Farm Hillesden Road Gawcott

Councillors had no observations to make on these applications.

## 10.2. Decisions communicated

- 07/A1931/DIS. Manitowoc House Network 421 Radcliffe Road Gawcott. Application for approval of condition in original planning consent for a permanent crane tower. APPROVED.
- 22/03428/ATC. Churn Owl Cottage Main Street Gawcott. Application to reduce the size of three trees and remove an overgrown silver birch. APPROVED.
- 22/03223/CPL. Stable Barn Lenborough Road Gawcott. Application to install 18 solar roof panels. APPROVED.

**10.3. Application awaiting a decision:** 22/00883/APP. Manor Farm Hillesden Road Gawcott.

## 10.4. Other planning issues

- 10.4.1.** Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan. The Chairman will meet with Buckingham Town Council officers in due course.
- 10.4.2.** Grendon Prison planning appeal. The Chairman confirmed that appropriate representations have been made to Mr Greg Smith MP and to the Planning Inspectorate. The appeal hearing is scheduled to commence on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023.
- 10.4.3.** Use issues: Travellers, Radcliffe Road paddock – no report.

## 11. Environment

- 11.1. Flooding.** The PC is to prepare an Emergency Flood Plan. In the meantime, previously affected residents have registered their concern about the lack of progress of remedial measures. A report on the proposed initial works to be commencing after April 2023 has been received from Buckinghamshire Council.
- 11.2. Hodding Wood.** The woodland management works continue.

## 12. Leisure

### 12.1. Pavilion.

Councillor Ulph reported on the receipt of an estimate for replacing windows and doors at the pavilion with PVC frames. A second estimate will be sought and thereafter a decision made with a view to progressing these works in the spring. Consideration also needs to be given to improving the energy efficiency of the pavilion and pitch lighting. These may be the subject of a Solar Farm grant application.

Councillors agreed to alter the regulation about dogs on the Field to allow dogs on leads rather than the outright banning of dogs. The Clerk was asked to acquire appropriate signage.

A defect has been found in the sub-base of a section of the All Weather Pitch. This will need repair as early as possible in the New Year.

*Note: An estimate of £595 has been accepted and it is hoped that the repair can be carried out during the February school half term.*

**12.2. The ROSPA** inspection of the Play Area will take place in the New Year.

## 13. Community

- 13.1. Community Group.** The Group Christmas Tree lighting event at the Green on 3<sup>rd</sup> December was well supported. The next meeting of the Group will consider the scale of Coronation celebrations. The Village Fete on the Green is planned for 17<sup>th</sup> June.
- 13.2. Village Hall.** An energy efficiency plan for the Hall is required, in particular for providing ceiling/roof insulation. It is hoped that this project could attract a Solar Farm grant.
- 13.3. Solar Farm.** Councillor Ulph reconfirmed that funds are available for grants associated with energy saving and efficiency and with grants for local residents who are suffering because of the cost of energy.

**14. Administration**

Councillor Ulph reported that he continues to investigate a possible option for filling the Clerk vacancy.

It was unanimously agreed to provide the WI with a £40 grant to replace the library key-box.

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

Councillors requested an investigation into the cost of three new speed signs, two for Hillesden Road [one to replace the existing sign] and one for Preston Road. Solar power for these should be a key feature to reduce management time in battery changes.

**17. Next Meeting: The Parish Council will meet on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at the Gawcott Village Hall Buckingham Road Gawcott, starting at 7.30 pm.****18. Closure of Meeting.** The business meeting concluded at 8.45pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

**Alan D White. Parish Clerk1.**

**22.12.2022**