

Gawcott with Lenborough Parish Council

The Minutes of the meeting of the Gawcott with Lenborough Parish Council held on Thursday 12th January 2023 at 7.30 pm at the Gawcott Village Hall.

Present: Parish Councillors: Mrs R Bate, Mrs S Burgess, Mr T Dugher, Mr R Gibbs, Mr A Ulph and Mr A D White [Chairman] and Councillor R Stuchbury.

1. Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor Stuchbury:

Councillor Stuchbury mentioned the following points:

- Buckinghamshire Council Tax is likely to increase by 2.99%, not including a social/welfare account uplift of 2%.
- Questions have been raised about the traffic generation effect of a proposed industrial unit at Osier Way and the effect on the safety of road users and pedestrians from the consented residential development opposite.
- The adequacy of the water treatment works in Buckingham is being questioned given the developments already constructed and occupied. Doubts have been raised about the capacity of the existing infrastructure to deal with the 420 Osier Way homes.
- The new highway maintenance subcontract granted to Atkins becomes operational from April. It is expected that the efficiency of highway and street lighting repairs will improve, including the timely repair of potholes.
- It seems that work is proceeding on the draft Buckinghamshire Plan without consultation with Buckinghamshire Councillors or, particularly, with Parish Councils.
- There is a possibility of a fire brigade strike over pay.
- The study on an upgrade/rerouting of the A421 through/around Buckingham is due for publication shortly.
- The Buckingham Town Plan is in preparation. *Note: The Chairman plans to meet with the Town Plan Officer to discuss matters of mutual interest.*

The Chairman thanked Councillor Stuchbury for attending the meeting.

3. Commencement of Parish Council business meeting

4. Apologies from Buckinghamshire Councillors Cornell and Fealey.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2022

The Minutes were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. Matters arising:

The Chairman noted that a figure of £314.93 at para 8.1 of the December Minutes should read £313.93.

7. Declarations of Interest: No declarations

8. Finance

8.1. Current balances are as follows:

Bank Account	Balance	As At Date
Current A/C-00152092	£2,087.75	01/01/2023
Playing Field, A/C-00672967	£5,150.45	01/01/2023
Deposit A/C-00165984	£43,153.86	01/01/2023
Total Cash Held	£50,392.06	01/01/2023

Councillors agreed to the payment of the following invoices:

E On	Pavilion electricity	£462.55
Cartwright	Field cutting contract 2022	£5,058.00
Karen Richards	Pavilion cleaning plus cleaning materials	£165.00
Jennie Smith	For Gawcott WI. Replacement key box for library	£34.96
Gawcott V Hall	Rent for PC meetings	£72.00
Replay	Repair of subbase of All Weather Pitch	£714.00

8.2. Precept for 2023-2024

Councillors unanimously agreed to no increase in the precept given the economic pressures on residents. The Chairman was requested to set out the reasoning for this decision in the Newsletter with a warning that subsequent precept increases may well be above the then current rate of inflation, dependent upon calls on the Parish Council's finances at the time.

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 speed limit reduction petition

Mr Ben Lewis, who runs Repro Plastics, is canvassing Radclive Road businesses about support for the petition. Hartridge and Manitowoc are said to be supportive. A form of petition wording is being drawn up with a separate petition for employees to register support.

9.3. Routing HS2 HGVs

No progress as there is silence from HS2. Councillor Fealey is to be asked to follow up the outstanding issues.

9.4. Highways and Lighting maintenance

Limited street lamp repairs seem to have taken place. Buckingham Road lighting remains outstanding.

9.5. Traffic data

Councillor Bate will investigate if a brief quarterly report on speed/traffic data can be produced for the Newsletter. A report on the progress of the Speedwatch Group is also suggested.

9.6. Digital speed signage

A plan to acquire two solar powered digital speed signs for Hillesden Road [the existing sign to be replaced] and a new sign for Preston Road is being developed. The latter should be financed by a grant from the Buckingham and Villages Community Board although this was agreed in 2020 and may now be time-expired. Councillor Fealey will be asked to investigate.

10. Planning

Applications approved:

- 22/03596/APP. 8 Leyland Close Gawcott. Single storey side extension.
- 22/03927/APP. Building renovations at Manor Farm Hillesden Road Gawcott.

Applications awaiting a decision:

- 22/03945/ALB. Manor Farm Hillesden Road Gawcott. Listed building application for proposed detached double garage and associated hard standing, fencing, 1.8m high brick wall, and landscaping.

- 22/04296/CPL. External and internal repairs and maintenance Lenborough Manor Farmhouse Lenborough Road Gawcott.

Both applications were considered by Councillors whose unanimous support is given to the works to bring important listed buildings back into use, consistent with the need to preserve the historic heritage of each property. The Manor Farm Gawcott garage, garden wall and fencing proposal appears sympathetic to the close proximity to the listed building and therefore should be supported.

- 22/04113/ATC. Wescott House Main Street Gawcott. Removal of young garden trees to create more light for others.

No objections registered to thinning out these trees.

- 23/00050/APP. Proposed agricultural storage building | Primrose Hill Farm Tingewick Road Gawcott.

Councillors considered this application to be vexatious given the recent consents to convert other agricultural buildings at the farm to residential use. It was also noted that an existing large agricultural building is not shown on the application plans.

10.1. Travellers Radclive Road. Nothing further to report.

10.2. Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan. The Chairman will meet with the Buckingham Town Plan officer in due course.

10.3. Grendon Prison planning appeal. The MoJ appeal hearing is scheduled to commence on 24th January 2023.

11. Environment

Flooding. The PC is to prepare an Emergency Flood Plan. In the meantime, Buckinghamshire Council is planning to replace the western end of the culvert which presently has a restricted capacity. The works should commence after April 2023.

12. Leisure

12.1. Pavilion and Field Councillor Ulph is 'refining' an estimate for the replacement of doors and windows. Thereafter, Members will be asked for a decision on placing the contract.

The Chairman has been asked to procure 'dogs must be kept on a lead' signage for the Field and to investigate the refurbishment of the Pavilion showers.

The defect in the sub-base of the All-Weather Pitch has been repaired.

12.2. The ROSPA inspection of the Play Area will take place in the spring.

12.3. A development plan for the Field will be drawn up with a view to confirming the investment strategy for the s106 monies from the Osier Way development. This may include an extension of the field if the Faccenda family are prepared to donate additional land to the Parish. The area could be developed as a community wood. A further car park extension would also be considered as well as a fitness trail with adult keep fit equipment.

12.4. A further investment of s106 monies would be directed to the purchase of the freehold of the Wood or organising its 'release' from the Buckingham Alms Houses and Welfare Charity. It will be recalled that the woodland was originally gifted to the residents of Gawcott in the seventeenth century.

13. Community

13.1. Welcoming Warm Places. The two churches are already providing community sessions two or three lunchtimes a week and 'people' resources are not available to extend these sessions.

13.2. Village Hall. Presently running satisfactorily.

13.3. Solar Farm. Councillor Ulph reported further outreach work with schools and village halls within a five mile radius. Assistance to vulnerable children and families is also available via a hardship fund.

13.4. Community Group. The future programme is limited by restricted volunteer numbers. However, coronation celebrations are planned and the Village Fete is provisionally set for 17th June. It is suggested that Members may wish to consider financial assistance to the Community Group with the coronation plans.

14. Administration

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

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

The Chairman reported some problems with the All-Weather Pitch lighting. The replacement with energy efficient lamps will be investigated – this may attract a Solar Farm grant.

Further advice on the solar panels suggests that cleaning is unnecessary.

TVP are running a cycle marking session at the Buckingham Community Centre on the 17th January. Roundwood School has been advised and notices posted around the Village.

17. Next Meeting: The Parish Council will meet on Thursday 9th February 2023 at the Gawcott Village Hall Buckingham Road Gawcott, starting at 7.30 pm.**18. Closure of Meeting.** The business meeting concluded at 9.15pm..

Signed.....

Date.....

Alan D White. Parish Clerk.

15.01.2023