

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Guilsborough Parish Council held in Guilsborough Village Hall, The Green, Guilsborough, NN6 8PT

Monday, 9 January 2023 at 7.15 pm

Present: Cllr A Hart (Chairman), Cllr D O'Neil, Cllr I Miller, Cllr G Metcalfe, Cllr S Caidwell, Cllr K Fulcher, Cllr L Phillips and Mrs C Holifield (Parish Clerk)

001.2023 Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

002.2023 Resolution to accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr S Harris and Unitary Cllr Morton.

003.2023 Declarations of interest for items on the agenda

None

004.2023 Resolution to consider written requests for dispensations on agenda items

None received

005.2023 Resolution to sign and approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on 12 December 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2022 were circulated prior to the meeting. The Chairman asked if there were any amendments required from those Councillors who had been present at the meeting. It was then resolved to approve the minutes which the Chairman of the meeting then signed.

006.2023 Matters arising (for information only)

006.2023/1 To note the funeral arrangements for Sarah Jaggard (former Cllr and past Chair of the Parish Council)

Cllr O'Neil stated that sadly Sarah Jaggard had passed away on Christmas Eve and that her funeral would be held on Friday, 20 January at 2.00 pm at St Ethereda's Church followed by a wake in the Village Hall.



007.2023 Village and Other Matters

007.2023/1 Consideration of location and possible purchase of new speed awareness device and 20 mph speed limit signs.

The Clerk stated that she had just received the amended S50 licence adding 8 new locations for a new mobile speed awareness device. The licence required signing and returning with a copy of the Council's insurance certificate to be valid. After discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk would look into the possibility of applying for a grant for a mobile speed awareness device from the Police and Fire Commissioner.

007.2023/2 Consideration of any support that the Parish Council can give to local organisations who are providing 'Warm Spaces' during the current cost of living crisis.

Cllr O'Neil stated that he had been in discussions with the landlord of the Witch and Sow who stated he would be able to host a coffee/tea session on a Tuesday/Wednesday should this be required. In addition, he had consulted with MMM who were already holding coffee mornings in the Village Hall. After discussion, it was agreed that a sum of up to £500 would be made available to ensure that these sessions could be held on a free of charge basis up to March 2023 to see if this encouraged more residents to attend.

007.2023/3 Update on any action being taken by Highways in respect of re-instatement of grass verge on West Haddon Road

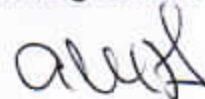
Cllr Phillips stated that she had raised the issue with Highways and was awaiting a response.

007.2023/4 Clerk's Annual Staff Appraisal Report

Cllr Fulcher stated that the relevant staff report and a letter confirming all changes to the Clerk's contract had been drafted and signed.

007.2023/5 Consideration of Parish Council's current policy on awarding donations to local organisations

Further to a discussion, it was resolved that the Council's current policy would remain unaltered but would be re-considered in October/November 2023 prior to setting the budget for 2024-25. The Council would continue to consider any requests on the grounds of financial hardship in the interim.



007.2023/6 Consideration of any action to be taken in respect of celebrations for the Coronation

Cllr Phillips stated that consideration was being given to lighting a beacon. After discussion, it was resolved that the Parish Council would book the Village Hall for Sunday, 7 May with the intention of co-ordinating with other groups in the Village to provide an afternoon tea and historical exhibition.

The Clerk stated that she would be able to obtain a portrait for the Village Hall should this be required after the Coronation. Cllr O'Neil to consult with Village Hall.

007.2023/7 Consideration of Council's response to Government proposal to house asylum seekers at Highgate House, Creaton

After discussion, it was resolved that the Council would object to the use of Highgate House on the grounds of the unsuitability of the rural location in a small village, the lack of local infrastructure to cope with a large influx of people, the lack of funding for local services to accommodate them and also to provide for both their safety and the safety of the local residents. Cllr O'Neil to draft a response to the consultation for Clerk to send.

008.2023 Planning

008.2023/1 New applications

None

008.2023/2 Completions

None

009.2023 Finance

009.2023/1 Receipts

The Clerk reported the receipt of bank interest of £11.54

009.2023/2 Payments

It was resolved to approve and sign off the following payments.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. H.', is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

Details	Invoice Number	Amount (£) including VAT where applicable	Payment Method
Clerk's January salary	n/a	551.68	Online
HMRC – PAYE on Clerk's salary	n/a	137.80	Online
Clerk's Office expenses	n/a	25.00	Online
Lowther Farms – Small Playing Field rent	n/a	500.00	Online
NCALC – Training Course fee	2583	52.80	Online
Guilsborough Village Hall – Room Hire (Dec 22)	739	20.00	Online
E-on – Street Light maintenance (Oct-Dec 22)	115823	174.90	Online
HSBC – Bank Charges (December 22)	n/a	5.00	DD
Npower – Street Light Electricity (Nov 22)	5579478	280.39	DD

009.2023/3 Bank reconciliation for period ended 31 December 2022

The Clerk had circulated the bank reconciliation for the period ended 31 December 2022 showing a balance at bank of £35,727.39 which was signed by the Chairman.

009.2023/4 Approval of adjusted draft Budget for 2023-24

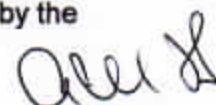
After discussion, it was resolved to approve the adjusted budget (based on a Precept of £32,225) which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. (Copy attached to these minutes)

010.2023 Playground Report and Update on Fund Raising Group

The Chairman provided copies of his latest reports to the Clerk with no changes reported. The Playground Fund Raising Group were reported to have a current balance of £13,000. It was reported that due to difficulties in getting grants piecemeal for individual items of new equipment it was decided to make grant applications for the complete project instead. A further meeting of the Group was planned for the end of January.

011.2023 Highways

Cllr Phillips stated that a meeting had been arranged by Highways for 2 February 2023 for all parties to attend to discuss the parking problems on the West Haddon Road by the Academy.



012.2023 Street Lights

The Clerk stated that she had reported street light number 10 in the High Street as not working. It was reported that street light number 19 on The Green was also not working. Clerk to report.

013.2023 Parish Assets Inspection Report

Cllr Miller stated he had nothing to report. The Clerk reported that the litter bins which had arrived damaged were being collected by Broxap and being replaced. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Russell Fox to see what the likely cost of replacing the Cob Barn roof would be in the future for reference purposes only.

014.2023 Village Trees

Cllr Metcalfe stated he had nothing to report. Clerk to ascertain from Lowther Estates why the hedgerow of the Playground and Youth Area had not been cut on the West Haddon Road.

015.2023 Footpath Warden Report

Cllr Metcalfe stated the overhanging branches by the footpath at McColls seemed to have been resolved, however, the footpath was still covered in leaves and slippery.

016.2023 Police Liaison Representative's Report

Cllr Caldwell stated that he had nothing to report.

017.2023 Items for Village Link

Cllr Fulcher stated that she would include details of the Speed Device, matters at Highgate House and the Coronation plans in the next edition.

018.2023 Correspondence received

- Various emails concerning the use of Highgate House to accommodate asylum seekers (see agenda item above)
- Email from GPFA re clarification of criteria used for Council donations to local organisations (see agenda item above)

019.2023 Items for next meeting – Monday, 6 February 2023 at 7.15 pm

- Resignation of Cllr Fulcher and Advertising Casual Vacancies
- Update on Grant application for Speed Awareness Device

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

*all ok
6th Feb '23*