

MINUTES OF GISBURN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 21 JUNE 2018
AT 7.30 PM

Present: John Falshaw (Chair), Colin Corlett, Darren Jackson, Melanie Riding, Dave Waters, Clerk, Borough Cllr Richard Sherras and two members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 17 MAY 2018

The Minutes of the meeting of 17 May 2018 were accepted as a true record of proceedings at that meeting and duly signed.

ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Clerk advised that there had only been one official nomination for the vacant position on the Parish Council and that Melanie Riding had therefore been duly appointed to the Council following an uncontested election. The Clerk further explained that the appropriate Acceptance of Office and Register of Interest forms had been completed by Melanie Riding and would be returned to RVBC following the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Current Account	£5,434
Deposit Account	£1,206

ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

Mrs C A Holmes	£360
HMRC	£90
John Cornthwaite	£265

YEAR END MATTERS 2017/18

The meeting considered the Annual Governance Statement and agreed that the following summarised matters could all be answered in the affirmative for the year under review, namely

1. the statement of accounts was prepared in accordance with appropriate regulations
2. an adequate system of internal control was maintained

3. there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance which could have a significant effect on the ability of the council to conduct its affairs
4. there was proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights under appropriate regulations
5. a risk assessment has been undertaken
6. an adequate system of internal audit of the council's records was maintained
7. appropriate action has been taken on matters raised in internal and external audit reports
8. the council has considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments could have a financial impact on the council

The Annual Governance Statement was accordingly approved by the meeting and John Falshaw and Cathy Holmes proceeded to sign the Statement as Chair and Clerk respectively.

The Clerk advised that it was necessary for the meeting to approve the accounts for the period ended 31 March 2018. The accounts were duly approved and signed by John Falshaw and Cathy Holmes as Chairman and Clerk respectively. The Clerk confirmed that the accounts and supporting paperwork had been subject to an internal audit and that the internal auditor had not found any issues to report.

The Clerk explained that Parish Councils where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure was £25,000 or less and met qualifying criteria could certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review. It was explained that Gisburn PC could qualify for such an exemption and it was accordingly agreed that the appropriate exemption certificate be signed and returned to the external auditors.

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND, BURNLEY ROAD

Darren Jackson advised that the playground was fully operational. It had been noticed that dog fouling was an issue and that dogs were actually banned from the park but certain people, including residents, ignored the prohibition and took their dogs in regardless. Cllr Sherras offered to enquire at RVBC whether the playground had been formally included in the Dog Exclusion Orders. It was hoped to be able to site a CCTV camera on the new summer house on the playground.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MATTERS

3/2018/0476 Deepdale, Crow Park Lane

There were no objections to this application.

HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

The Clerk advised that she had heard nothing further from County Cllr Atkinson following an invitation to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council; Dave Waters offered to make further contact with County Cllr Atkinson's office to try and elicit a response.

PARISH LENGTHSMAN

The Clerk advised of the work carried out by the lengthsman in May 2018 noting that the work included strimming, weed spraying and maintenance of the Cenotaph area. The Clerk confirmed that the lengthsman had reduced his invoice by £105 as this amount, for a new gate post, had erroneously been charged twice to the Parish Council on a previous occasion.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Cllr Sherras updated the meeting on matters pertaining to police response in rural areas and the number of prosecutions brought by RVBC for dog fouling offences.

CORRESPONDENCE

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Melanie Riding agreed to become the Parish Council representative on the Festival Hall Committee.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 19 July 2018 at 7.30 pm

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved: That by virtue of the following item of business being information covered under section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

RECREATION GROUND LEASES

A document regarding the renewal of the recreation ground leases prepared by Dave Waters had been previously circulated and was discussed at length, together with matters regarding the proposed length of the leases, the repairing responsibilities of the Parish Council as tenant and the future of the trees on the site. It was agreed that a meeting be arranged to discuss the renewal of the lease with the landlord and to see if there could be more flexibility in some of the terms proposed. John Falshaw and Colin Corlett agreed to meet with the landlord and report back to the next meeting. Borough Cllr Richard Sherras agreed to ascertain the position regarding any other possible uses of the Recreation Ground if the lease were not renewed.

