

MAIN MINUTES FEBRUARY, 2010

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GOTHAM PARISH COUNCIL 2nd February, 2010, held in the Memorial Hall Weldon Room, COMMENCING AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: T.Vennett-Smith, (Chairman), J.M.F.Royce, B.J.Walker, M.Frankish, J.P.Anderson, P.R.Dines, R.Muir, E.Padden, G.Clark, D.Bexon.
In attendance: County Councillor L.Sykes.

The Chairman welcomed County Councillor Lynn Sykes to the meeting.

10/17: Apologies: G.Trickett, (Vice-Chairman), S.Hall, P. Dainty.

10/18: Acceptance of Apologies:

PROPOSED: J.P.Anderson SECONDED: M.Frankish All in favour.

10/19: Declaration of Interest:

B.J.Walker and P.R.Dines as Trustees, declared an interest in any discussion that involved the Memorial Hall.

The Chairman invited County Councillor L. Sykes to give a short report and an update on the latest news from Notts. County Council.

County Councillor L.Sykes commented on the following items of news:

The Electoral Division Initiative fund had been raised to £10,000. There were remaining monies unclaimed for this financial year. The name of the fund had altered to 'Councillor's Divisional Fund'. The fund had already benefitted the Gotham Memorial Hall refurbishment by £3,000. Other village organisations had benefitted over the years. Five bags of grit/sand were available for collection by GPC in the event of icy road conditions.

Notts County Council was responsible for highways, children's services, education, community safety, recycling and social services. Many more roads in the county had been resurfaced during the Council's tenure. The Building Better Communities Grant was available for the current year.

A new scheme entitled the 'Pocket Park and Ride' was in talks with the Royal British Legion re the use of designated car park spaces for commuters who would continue their journey by bus. The British Legion would receive a fee for the service. A meeting for further discussion on the scheme was due to take place on the 4th February, 2010 when County Councillor L. Sykes would have further information for GPC.

B.J.Walker questioned the Councillor re the Nottinghamshire Constabulary's recent check by the Police Authority, brought about by disappointing crime detection. The County Councillor confirmed there were problems with Policing in the County at the present time.

10/20: Minutes of the previous meeting:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 5th January, 2009 as circulated, be signed as a true record of the business transacted, with the following amendment: **10/15: Matters to Report:** Final sentence 'alter word 'collection' to 'distribution'.

PROPOSED: P.R.Dines SECONDED: J.M.F.Royce. Vote: All in favour.

Progress arising from the Minutes:

10/7: Gotham News: The Clerk had sent a letter of thanks to G.R.Plant for his work on Gotham News.

10/14: Clerk's Report: J.M.F.Royce had collected the defunct National Grid signpost abandoned outside the Cemetery.

The Chairman asked that Agenda item 7 be discussed next to accommodate the County Councillor.

10/21: Report by Chairman of Planning and Development Committee (J.P.Anderson)

J.P.Anderson reported a further consultation on the Core Strategy, produced by Greater Nottingham Council, had been delayed until a decision had been made by Broxtowe Council. An intensive consultation period would begin and last until the 12th April, 2010. A house to house leaflet would be undertaken and a visit from an RBC representative re RBC's Local Development Framework. had been booked for the next GPC main meeting due to be held on the 2nd March, 2010. T.Vennett-Smith thought a Public Meeting should take place for easier communication with parishioners to emphasise the importance of their full understanding of the situation and to gain support for another letter-writing campaign. L.Sykes confirmed the County Council had objected to the development of Barratt's houses on Clifton Pastures in September, 2009. The number of potential houses had dropped from 5,500 to 4,200. She offered to contact Sally Gill at County Hall who might have further information re the Local Development Framework.

Their application could precede the LDF. J.P.Anderson, P.R.Dines and E.Padden had met at the home of B.J.Walker to study the Core Strategy. Their reply had been hampered by not having knowledge of the LDF format. T.Vennett-Smith suggested a letter to the Borough with a request that adequate time be allowed for preparation for the consultation. J.P.Anderson reported Barratt's were working on their planning application and traffic model by using the Highways Traffic Model for the A453. It should be ready by March, 2010. GPC could work out their own traffic model for Gotham should a large development of houses be built at Clifton, with help from Planning Aid. J.M.F.Royce reminded Council that the loss of Grade 2 agricultural land was an important factor in the fight to save Clifton Pastures. The letter drafted by J.P.Anderson, registering GPC's interest in Section 106 had not been submitted as an early submission might be misconstrued as acceptance of a development at Clifton, this was despite RBC and Planning Aids advise for early submission. It was uncertain how Gotham would fare for Section 106 as all the land due for development fell in the Parish of Barton in Fabis but Gotham would suffer significantly from increased traffic flow.

PROPOSAL: To hold the letter applying for registration for Section 106 for a fortnight and hold fortnightly assessments of the situation, or until the LDF had been received and studied.

PROPOSED: J.M.F.Royce SECONDED: J.P.Anderson. Vote: All in favour.

Affordable Houses: J.P.Anderson reported George Machin of Savills had cancelled his meeting with the Planning Committee at their meeting held on the 19th January, 2010. Some sketches of the type of housing envisaged had been received by the Clerk, with the suggestion that GPC discuss the project for eighteen affordable houses on land behind the Gotham News shop and houses numbers eleven to thirteen Nottingham Road. Some of the area shown was unavailable for building as it was not in Mr. Lowe's ownership. Mr. Machin had been asked to approach GPC only when formal plans had been submitted to RBC. T.Vennett-Smith had spoken to Mr. Machin who had confirmed that the housing could be built elsewhere should GPC be opposed to the plans.

ELF Meeting on 24/2/2010 at 6.45 p.m. at County Hall: (Environmental Law Foundation).

B.J.Walker and J.P.Anderson offered to attend the meeting.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor L.Sykes for her attendance. She left the meeting at 8.15 p.m.

10/22: Planning Decisions Received:

10/1 (ref: 09/02175/FUL – 4 Hall Drive – Conservatory to side. - GRANTED

10/23: Planning Applications Received:

10/02 (ref: 10/00098/FUL) 14 a Curzon Street – Construction of house with detached garage.

PROPOSAL: NO OBJECTION

PROPOSED: J.P.Anderson SECONDED: R.Muir Vote: all in favour.

Comments: 'We draw planners' attention to the statements on traffic levels entering and leaving the site. We believe these to be untrue as the traffic use in its present capacity as a Scout hut is negligible. We expect the traffic authorities to make the appropriate decision based on the true figures. We regret the loss of the amenity to Gotham Scouts which will be difficult to replace'.

10/3 (ref:10/00085/FUL) Primary School, Kegworth Road – Change of use, extension and alteration of school annexe to form dwelling. Revised scheme to include two rooflights to first floor bedroom, reinstatement of two chimneys and removal of one - two metal flues to rear elevation.

PROPOSAL: NO OBJECTION

PROPOSED: J.P.Anderson SECONDED: R.Muir Vote: all in favour.

10/4 (ref: 10/00097/FUL) 41 Nottingham Road – Single storey side/rear extension.

PROPOSAL: NO OBJECTION

PROPOSED: J.P.Anderson SECONDED: M.Frankish Vote: all in favour.

10/24: Finance Monthly Payments and Receipts:

Receipts and Payments: RESOLVED: That the receipts, since the last meeting, are noted and the Accounts in Appendix F1 be confirmed and authorised for payment.

PROPOSED: J.P.Anderson SECONDED: J.M.F.Royce Vote: All in favour.

Recommendation from Finance Committee to adopt financial regulations (as per NALC template) as agreed at Finance Meeting held on the 26th January, 2010

PROPOSAL: Adoption of the Finance Regulations (template by NALC) in principle with amendments recommended by the Finance Committee.

PROPOSED: P.R.Dines SECONDED: E.Padden Vote: all in favour.

NALC salary award for 2009/10 for Clerk:

The Clerk had not yet received a response from L.Ogilvie of NALC re the salary award for 2009/10 and the correct procedure for spinal column promotion. (Agenda item for March 2010)

Sponsorship of Horse Race at Memorial Hall Fundraiser.

J.M.F.Royce sought approval for the decision made at the Finance Meeting held on the 26th January, 2010 to sponsor a horserace at the Memorial Hall Fundraiser at a cost of £25. PROPOSED: M.Frankish SECONDED: J.P.Anderson. Vote: eight in favour, two abstentions.

Cemetery: J.P.Anderson queried the decision made at the Finance Committee meeting to seek burial funds held by the PCC for use by GPC for Cemetery maintenance. The PCC/GPC agreement for official handover of Cemetery duties had not yet been signed. He had apologised to the PCC for the untimely letter. J.M.F.Royce, Chairman of the Finance Committee, said he had assumed the formal arrangements had been finalised when the Chancellor of the Diocese had submitted her decision re headstone removal. He was under the impression the burial funds had already been promised to GPC without need for further paperwork. As the Cemetery was soon to be re-used, work on tree and headstone removal would incur costs which he thought should be in place, as soon as possible. It was considered unfortunate that the letter sending a £500 donation to the church for roof repairs had also included the demand for the burial funds held by the PCC.

J.P.Anderson asked the Chairman of Finance for his assurance no further applications should be made to the PCC re Cemetery matters without his prior knowledge.

10/25: Gotham News:

R.Muir had produced a draft copy of the next edition of Gotham News in part colour with improved layout. Advertising revenue received to date was £645. The Chairman thanked R.Muir for her hard work and E.Padden for proof reading. It was agreed, advertisers' bills would be prepared and dispatched by R.Muir. The Clerk would receive payment and bank the cheques/cash.

10/26: Chairman's Report: Environment Committee: (Chairman: M.Frankish)

Nil to report.

10/27: Date for Annual Parish Meeting:

The Village Meeting would be held on Tuesday, 27th April, 2010. Councillors were invited to suggest ideas for the agenda.

10/28: Policing Matters/Vandalism:

B.J.Walker had not received the month's crime figures. Barton in Fabis had undergone a spate of criminality including drug related events, car theft from Barton Lane. P.C.K. Warwick had responded to the Chairman of the Memorial Hall's request for police assistance with minor vandalism to the Hall. A.Vickers had also offered to stand up in court and give evidence if the culprit was apprehended.

R.Muir would attend a Police Priority Setting Meeting on the 3rd February 2010 at 2pm at British Gypsum.

10/29: Email Protocol: (G.Trickett – Dec.main meeting) defer until March meeting.

10/30: Chairman's Report:

The Chairman announced the following items:

The Chairman had reported the University of Nottingham bus to the University Transport Department for travelling at 45 m.p.h. through Gotham at 9.35.p.m. on the 1st February.

The Chairman's Fuddle would be held in April at the Royal British Legion.

A thank you letter had been received from the Royal British Legion for the donation of £250 from GPC, in aid of the Poppy Appeal. A total of £4,713 had been collected.

Notts County Council Long Term Transport Strategy survey – passed to M.Frankish.

RBC meeting at Cotgrave Place Golf Club on the 20th April, 2010 at 10.30 a.m. G.S.Hind and L.Ogilvie guest speakers. T.Vennett-Smith and the Clerk would attend.

A bogus account for £479.75 had been received from the European Institute for Economy and Commerce for the Copyright 'Village of Legends'. The Clerk would forward it to Trading Standards.

10/31: Clerk's Report:

The Clerk read out a letter of thanks received from Mr and Mrs Dolman of The Ridgeway for the GPC help with the T.M.Logistics application for removal of restrictions on lorry movements from St.Gobain Isover. Clerk would thank them for their letter.

10/32: Matters to Report:

The Chairman recorded thanks to web master Steve Butler for his excellent work. The Clerk would invite S.Butler to attend a future GPC meeting.

10/33: Date and Time of Next Meeting: 2nd March, 2010 to be held in the Weldon Room in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m. The Chairman urged all Councillors to attend if possible. Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

