



## **MINTING AND GAUTBY PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the

### **Minting and Gautby Parish Council**

Held on

Monday, 5 October 2015 at Gautby Village Hall at 19.30

#### **Present**

Chairman Cllr. J Heselwood, Cllr. J Laver, Cllr. J Stuchfield, Cllr. H Padfield and Cllr. G Bell.

**1. Chairman's Remarks.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Keys and Cllr William Gray, ELDC due to work commitments and PCSO Briggs as he is off duty.

**3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests under the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 made under the s.30 of the Localism Act 2011**

None. Cllr. Bell was given a new Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest form to complete following her co-option.

**4. Approval and Signing of Minutes.**

The Chair requested any corrections to the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting, held on July 21st, 2015. No corrections were required. It was proposed by Cllr. Stuchfield, seconded by Cllr. Laver and agreed by all that the minutes were a correct record of the July 21st, 2015 meeting. The Chair duly signed the Minutes as a true record.

**5. To receive reports from District and County Councillors and Police (if available)**

No reports received. However, Cllr. Padfield sought clarification regarding the use of the 101 telephone number as described by PCSO Briggs at the last meeting. Cllr Padfield had heard that there were problems with it and that residents had been advised not to use it. Clerk to make enquiries.

**6. Financial Matters**

**a) To approve payments to be made by the Parish Council.**

The Chair read out the list of receipts and expenditure since the July 21st meeting. It was proposed by Cllr. Stuchfield, seconded by Cllr. Laver and agreed by all to make the payments below:

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Voucher No</b>	<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Expend (inc VAT)</b>
05/10/2015	Mrs V Brown	Clerk's wages	V18	650	313.01
05/10/2015	Glendale Countryside	Minting Grass Cutting	V19	651	268.54

**b. To receive external auditors report on 2014-2015 financial year**

The Chair advised that the external auditors report for the 2014-2015 financial year has been received and read out their comments. She confirmed that there was no audit fee this year, as they had no queries. The Clerk confirmed that the relevant completion of audit notices had been posted on the village noticeboards and website regarding the audit and that the accounts are available for inspection by any resident upon request.

It was agreed by all to accept the auditors report.

**7. Planning Matters/ Built Environment/Tree Preservation**

**a) Application to extend garage, Plot 1, Grundy's Lane, Minting – S/122/01740/15**

Cllr. Laver took no part in the discussion and abstained from voting, as he is a near-neighbour of the applicant.

Councillors considered the application paperwork. It was proposed by Cllr. Bell, seconded by Cllr. Stuchfield and agreed by all that there were no objections to the application. Clerk to report this back to ELDC.

**b) To consider potential amendments to the current grass cutting regime**

The Chair reminded Councillors that currently the grass in the centre of Minting is being irregularly cut by Glendale; and the grass under the trim trail on the playing field is not being cut at all by them, since it was previously strimmed by a volunteer. There is a volunteer available to cut the grass in Gautby and some residents have suggested they would like a more local contractor to cut the grass in Minting. The local contractor currently used in Gautby is more expensive than Glendale, but does a good job and it would be good to get a similar standard in Minting. To keep within the budget, it is possible to use the volunteer to cut the grass in Gautby, (who would be covered by the parish council's insurance.) However, he will need to be supplied with PPE (personal protective equipment) and grass cutting warning signs. A maximum of £161 has been estimated as the cost for this, but it could be less as the volunteer may have some of the items himself. He will also need payment for fuel used. It was agreed by all that the Chair and Clerk continue to research the matter, carry out a risk assessment and bring further information to the budget setting meeting. Tenders will be advertised as usual, including a pricing on extra mowing at the village hall of the village hall's own "garden" area at the front. Clerk to ask Minting village hall committee if they would make a contribution for this mowing, which would take place when the playing field is mowed.

**8. To discuss review of East Lindsey Area Committees and agree feedback**

Councillors were given all the paperwork regarding the proposed changes to the ELDC area committees. It was agreed by all that these meetings are useful access to ELDC for the parish council. Meetings at least 4 times a year would be preferred though, as

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any less than this and actions required may not be followed up and momentum is lost.  
Clerk to feed this back to ELDC.

## **9. Ongoing Matters**

**a) Broadband update** Clerk reported on the last Area Committee meeting where an update was received from Steve Brookes of OnLincolnshire. She advised that the project is aware that most of Minting & Gautby are not able to receive superfast broadband, despite the enabling of the Wispington cabinet. More money will become available and new technology is being tried out which may help areas where the houses are far from the cabinet. Cllr. Bell was concerned to find out exactly how many people still have very slow broadband. It was agreed by all for the Clerk to contact Steve Brookes of OnLincolnshire to get more detail on the new technology and find out if it could help Minting & Gautby.

## **b) Highways**

There has been notification of a road closure in Gautby for 2 days from 12 October. This is to fix the water leak opposite the Poplars in Gautby, which should resolve the large water filled hole there. The Clerk advised that all pot-holes previously mentioned have been reported, but not all filled. Cllr. Bell requested that the hedge at Mince Pie corner be reported again, as it has not been cut and vision is very poor there and some people are avoiding turning at that corner because of the danger; also the dip which has appeared in the road between Minting and Gautby on the bridge over the culvert, which may be a problem with the bridge. The signs to Minting and Gautby on the Bardney Road are disappearing into the hedge and the right turn towards Waddingworth from Minting is increasingly difficult, as the acute angle of the hedge restricts the view so much. Clerk to report these items.

In addition, Cllr. Keys has raised the following points: Witham 3<sup>rd</sup> drainage board have not cleared all the vegetation from the becksides adjacent to his property; and there is some land slippage at the becksides in this area too. Clerk to raise these matters with drainage board. Also, the Minting village sign on the heritage green is obscured by trees. Cllr Laver to trim them.

## **c) Emergency Plan including defibrillator funding, detailed running costs, siting and CPR training.**

The Chair reported that a large community grant has been applied for from ELDC for the defibrillators, as suggested by Cllr. Gray. The deadline for this was 17 September and it will be mid-November before a decision is made. £2360 has been applied for. This will cover 2 defibrillators (AED's) and 2 boxes. The money applied for is only 50% of the costs of the project, as per the grant application rules; the Parish Council's 50% is £682 in donations, £200 grant from Cllr Hoyes, a fundraiser at Bardney Clays from which approximately £200 is expected. There is £190 left in the emergency fund budget, this can be used for the AED's. However, ELDC wanted further information on where exactly they would be sited. The Clerk has volunteered her house for the Minting one, as it is central and easily accessible, and the Gautby one will not now be sited in the heritage kiosk, as the electrical work required would be complicated. Instead it is proposed to put it on the side of Gautby Village Hall. The Chair gave Councillors a draft agreement between the Parish Council and the Clerk/Gautby Village Hall committee for the siting of the AED on their property. It was proposed by Cllr. Stuchfield, seconded by Cllr. Bell and agreed by all to site the AED's at Cornerways, Church Lane, Minting and Gautby Village hall; subject to the agreement of the council's insurers and completion of the agreements.

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The matter will be put before Gautby Village Hall at its AGM on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015. It was further agreed that CPR training for residents is vital and will be arranged once the grant is in place.

Sand – The sand bins are ready to be filled. It was agreed that Cllr Padfield would liaise with the Clerk regarding providing and delivering the sand.

The Chair advised that more work needs to be done on Emergency Planning, particularly with a view to the warnings of a very cold winter currently being made. It was agreed by all that a meeting should be arranged, particularly to include Cllr. Keys.

**d) Communications.**

The Chair asked for topics for inclusion in the next newsletter. It was agreed by all that winter preparedness should be featured, and residents reminded about the Emergency Plan and asked to contact the Parish Council if they have any concerns about managing over the winter. Results of the Best Kept Village also to be included as an item.

**e) Village Matters**

The Chair reported to Councillors that the Heritage Society's Season of Music and Theatre at The Venue at Minting Village Hall had produced 2 very successful evenings – the Baritone & Tenor Concert and rural touring theatre production of Instructions for US Servicemen. These had been very well attended and feedback excellent. However, it had been necessary to cancel the 2 filmed opera events, due to lack of ticket sales. Another rural touring show will be staged in January and some tickets for this have already been sold.

The bottlebanks have now been removed by East Lindsey from opposite Minting Village Hall. Unfortunately, they have also removed the waste bin which was also sited there; which may lead to an increase in litter. So far no bottles have been dumped.

Cllr. Bell requested that the village hall ensure all the outside lighting is working when events are on in the evening, as it has been poorly lit of late. Clerk to refer this to the village hall committee for action.

**f) Best Kept Village Results**

The villages got to the second round of this years' competition, and the feedback received from the judges was circulated and noted, it was the best score received so far.

**g) Fracking**

The Chair advised Councillors that she had received an email stating that licences for fracking were being considered now in the East Lindsey area and that there was only a very short amount of time for any resident to make their views known to the government on the subject. As the parish council has previously stated it's position to be against fracking, and with the tight timescale; a message was put on the parish council's website regarding the matter; as there was not time to discuss the issue at a council meeting before the deadline to respond.

**h) Training – Code of Conduct & Disposable Pecuniary Interest Training.**

The Chair advised that she and the Clerk will be attending this training run by East Lindsey the following day (6 October), and would report back at the next meeting.

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**9. To receive reports from the Clerk and Councillors on matters outstanding and not on the agenda.**

The Clerk advised that she had been made aware that Witham 3<sup>rd</sup> drainage board have a policy on riparian ownership of dykes and she will make this available to Councillors for their information.

**10. Correspondence as per list below:**

The Clerk Magazine	Sept 2015
Clerks & Councils Direct	Sept 2015
SLCC Notice of AGM	August 2015
LALC Annual report & Invitation to AGM	August 2015
LALC News	
Glasdon – leaflet for local councils	
Wicksteed playgrounds leaflet	
Broxap Litter bins leaflet	Autumn/Winter 2015
Horncastle Area Committee - minutes	Sept 2015

**11. To suggest agenda items for the next meeting on 17 November 2015 at Gautby Village Hall.**

None

**Meeting closed at 8.50pm**