



## **MINTING AND GAUTBY PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of the

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

Held on

Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at Minting Village Hall at 19.30

#### **Present**

Chairman Cllr. J Heselwood, Cllr. J Stuchfield, Cllr. H Padfield, Cllr. G Bell, Cllr. E Brown, PCSO Mohammed and 20 members of the public

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#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited the public to raise any issues. Mr Sutton (Gautby resident) advised that he would like to give his full support to the planning application of Mr & Mrs Sharpe at agenda item 9a. He believes the plans are well-considered and a sensitive design. The existing building is dangerous, the plans are for a 21<sup>st</sup> century building which is in keeping with other local properties and the church. It will be an addition to the area and includes landscaping, ponds and lawns. Mr Winn (Gautby resident) wished to second this statement. Mr Sutton further added that he and his wife wished to support the planning application at item 9b(i) for corporate activity centre, as it will be good for business at their Bed & Breakfast. Mr Heselwood wished to state his support for Bardney Clays as a customer. He advised that they had made lots of efforts to cut down the noise impact of the shooting including earthworks – that they were being good neighbours. Mr Reed advised that he would like clarification of the role of the Parish Council and the Heritage Society in the Sebastopol community pub bid. The Chair advised that this matter will be covered at item 10 on the agenda. The Chair thanked residents for their comments.

#### **1. Chairman's remarks - Welcome Members of the Public**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **2. Apologies for absence and reasons given**

Cllr Laver due to moving, Cllr Keys due to work commitments. It was agreed to accept their reasons for absence.

#### **3. Co-option of Councillor**

None. It was noted that 2 councillors are required.

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

Cllr Heselwood declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9a as the applicant is a close neighbour, friend and paid contractor to her. It was agreed by all that she leave the meeting during this item and take no part in the discussion or vote. Cllr Bell to chair the meeting for this item.

#### **5. To confirm or amend, and sign the minutes of the meeting held on October 4th, 2016**

These notes are a draft and become official minutes only after approval at the next parish council meeting.

- a. The Chair requested any corrections to the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting, held on 4 October 2016. Two typographical errors were noted, at item 8a, the text should read “..churches and village halls”, and item 8c: “..advise the Chair of this.”. It was proposed by Cllr Stuchfield, seconded by Cllr. Bell and agreed by all that the minutes as amended were a correct record of the meeting on October 4th 2016. The Chair duly amended and signed the Minutes as a true record.

## 6. Financial Matters.

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

It was proposed by Cllr. Stuchfield, seconded by Cllr. Padfield and agreed by all to make the payments listed below:

| Date       | Payee       | Details                | Voucher No | Cheque No | Expend (inc VAT) |
|------------|-------------|------------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| 15/11/2016 | Mrs V Brown | Clerk's wages, Oct/Nov | V18        | 688       | 322.36           |
| 15/11/2016 | Mrs V Brown | Stationery             | V19        | 689       | 14.49            |
| 15/11/2016 | Mrs V Brown | Stamps                 | V20        | 689       | 3.84             |
| 15/11/2016 | Mrs V Brown | I.T.                   | V21        | 689       | 64.99            |
| 15/11/2016 | EKM Ltd     | Grass Cutting          | V22        | 690       | 264              |

- b. **Precept - To discuss expected year-end expenditure against budget for FY 2016-17, consider a draft Budget for FY 2017-18 and agree provisional precept request pending finalisation at January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting**

Councillors were given a copy of expected expenditure against budget and a draft budget proposal. As the decision does not need to be made until January, it was proposed by Cllr. Stuchfield, seconded by Cllr. Brown and agreed by all to defer a decision on this until the January meeting.

- c. **To vire monies between internal budgets as required**

As per the previous item, it was proposed by Cllr. Stuchfield, seconded by Cllr. Brown and agreed by all to defer a decision on this until the January meeting.

## 7. Broadband

To hear from Mr Paul Bimson, BT Regional Partnership Director, East Midlands regarding our options for the future of superfast broadband provision in our villages

The Chair introduced Paul Bimson, explaining to him the background to the broadband issues in Minting and Gautby; that following advice from the OnLincolnshire project, the council had established that over 85% of residents wanted superfast broadband, but despite that, most people in our communities are still have not able to receive superfast broadband. Other providers such as Quickline have been tried, but they were unable to assist. AB Internet had been able to provide a very limited number of properties with broadband, but as this is by line of sight, due to trees and the lie of the land this has also been problematic. A resident explained how only the first 5/6 properties at the top end of Silver Street in Minting could receive superfast broadband since the cabinet was enabled, everyone else was too far away and his connection speed had actually decreased since the fibre to cabinet had been enabled. He had been further advised that Minting and Gautby are not part of contract 2.

Paul Bimson advised that he wanted to understand the issues in the villages. More than £2.5 billion has been made available to install the technology required to meet the government's target of 24mB which is their definition of superfast broadband, and additional money has been provided to fund

infrastructure in “challenging return on investment areas”. BT completed its contract with Lincolnshire County Council to provide superfast broadband to 90% of the county by the end of 2015 and has now started contract 2 to cover at least 95% of premises in the county by the end of 2017. The bottom line is that the majority of the people in our communities are likely to be in the last 5% of households, for which there is currently no fixed plan, as the distance between the cabinet and the two villages is so large and speed is determined by distance from the exchange and cabinet. A solution would seem to be to put in additional infrastructure between the two villages. Although Minting and Gautby were not included in the original contract 2 roll-out plan, more money has become available, due to efficiency savings, the county council is now undertaking the planning work to see if they can help more communities and Minting and Gautby have now been included in these plans. Mr Bimson advised that BT Openreach will begin by surveying for the best possible location in the area to give as many people as possible speeds of up to 25mB. A number of different technologies are being trialled and depending on where people are situated, they may have different technology to other residents. He was not able to say when superfast will become available, but it should be by the end of 2017. When it does arrive, residents will have a larger choice of providers, which should reduce bills. He also explained about a grant which may help those whose broadband speeds are below 2mB. Residents can apply for up to £350-£400 payable as a voucher to help install satellite or fibre broadband. Some communities have banded together and used their vouchers combined to fund, or part-fund community broadband schemes. If the villages are interested in this, an application for a free, no-obligation quote can be made to BT OpenReach Community Fibre Partnership online. They would survey what work needs to be carried out and give the community a price for doing it. He further advised that mobile broadband may be an option to pursue for some households and that 4G mobile phone coverage should reach 95% of the country by 2020. The chair thanked Mr Bimson for his attendance and he left the meeting.

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

PCSO Mohammed introduced himself, he has been covering the area from Hagworthingham to Wragby since February and PCSO Briggs has now retired. He advised that he does patrol through Minting and the area is relatively crime-free, with just one report over the last 3 months. He advised residents that there are reports of deer poaching locally and hare coursing has been taking place around Horncastle and Coningsby. He urged anyone who sees anything suspicious to contact the police via the 101 number. He left contact cards with the Clerk. The Chair thanked him for his report and PCSO Mohammed left the meeting.

District Councillor Gray sent his apologies, he was unable to attend the meeting due to family commitments.

**9. Planning Matters**

**a. CHURCH FARM, GAUTBY - To consider a planning application for the erection of a new dwelling at Church Farm, Gautby, LN8 5JP reference S/057/02095/16**

Cllr. Heselwood left the room, and Cllr Bell to chair of the meeting as per agenda item 4.

Councillors had copies of the plans for the application and the applicants, Mr & Mrs Sharpe were in attendance. Cllr. Bell explained that this application was to replace an old (but not listed) farmhouse – Church Farm in Gautby, which has fallen into a bad state of repair. The meeting was opened for members of the public to make comments to make on the application, in addition to those who had already spoken during the public session. One more resident and neighbour spoke in full support. The Clerk advised that another neighbour, who was unable to attend the meeting, had sent an email; in support of the application; but stating that he would request the building be moved a greater distance from the boundary of his property and suggesting the bay windows be replaced with sash ones. Mr Sharpe confirmed that he had had a discussion with the

neighbour, and that the siting of the building was at the request of the ELDC planning office and the design was suggested by the architect to give more character to the building; and the doors will be located away from the neighbour's property. However, they remain flexible about these matters.

Cllr. Bell enquired about trees and hedges on the site, as the application states that some branches will need to be removed. Mr Sharpe confirmed that it will be necessary to remove some branches for structural reasons, but that they are keeping the existing trees and hedge and will be planting more.

It was proposed by Cllr. Stuchfield, seconded by Cllr. Brown and agreed by all for the Clerk to write to ELDC in support of the application. Cllr. Heselwood returned to the meeting.

#### **b. BARDNEY CLAYS AT BARDNEY AIRFIELD**

The Chair suggested that it made more sense to consider the next two items, regarding planning applications for land at Bardney airfield, to be discussed in reverse order, taking the original item 9 b ii) first. This was agreed by all.

- i. Update to planning application, West Lindsey District Council ref **134453**, concerning change of use of land from agricultural land to clay pigeon shooting club and other outside activities at Bardney Airfield, Gautby Road, Bardney LN8 5JN

The Chair reminded Councillors of their decision in June regarding the above planning application. From the June minutes, the decision read: "In its current form, the parish council has concerns about the application as the information provided is not as comprehensive as it should be and noise caused by shooting is the main concern to our residents. However, we understand that the applicant is considering changing the business model to an outdoor activity centre, which would greatly reduce noise impact, with far less clay pigeon shooting, as the emphasis would be on other outdoor activities such as archery, axe throwing and air rifle shooting. The Parish Council would support such a revised application, as long as the maximum noise impact levels were between the NOEL and LOAEL levels of the DEFRA noise policy statement for England, dated March 2010." The Chair also reminded Councillors that the application was subsequently refused by West Lindsey and the applicants have appealed, the process of which is still ongoing. Subsequently, a new application has now been made to East Lindsey District Council to run corporate events and this is the application to be considered as original agenda item 9 b i) below.

- ii. To consider planning application East Lindsey District Council reference **S/190/01957/16** for change of use of agricultural land at Bardney Airfield, Lowfields, Henry Lane, Tupholme, LN3 5TP to corporate events centre including archery, shooting, axe-throwing and zombie survival training

Councillors considered copies of the plans for this application, which is in the area of Bardney airfield which comes under East Lindsey. The Chair advised that as with the earlier application, there are quite a few objections to the plans; specifically regarding potential noise from pump-action shot guns. The Chair confirmed that the use of these is advertised on the marketing website for the site, but that the ELDC planning officer had specifically stated that the application "does not include shooting any shotguns. The agent has confirmed that this is not part of this current application and it is not included in the application description." The meeting was opened to a member of the public, who advised that pump-action shot guns are illegal in the UK so the applicants would not be allowed to use them. Cllr. Padfield confirmed that it would be legal if a customer had the correct firearms licence.

Councillors further expressed concern about the potentially long opening hours, particularly about what “occasional corporate days” means in practice; and whether any noise would occur over a greater number of hours than now. The application clearly includes shooting, but it is not specific about the type and some, such as air rifle or paintballing is quieter than other types like shotgun; it was agreed that greater clarity was needed on the application. It was proposed by Cllr. Stuchfield, seconded by Cllr. Brown and agreed by all that the Clerk respond to ELDC, restating the decision made regarding the application to West Lindsey in June, seeking clarification as to whether this application is to be in addition to the Clay Pigeon shooting ground application currently in the appeal process; and to specify set hours and days; what type of shooting will be involved so that the maximum noise impact levels fall between the NOEL and LOAEL levels of the DEFRA noise policy statement for England, dated March 2010.

## 10. Sebastopol Inn

### a. To receive an update regarding the Sebastopol Inn Community Bid

The Chair advised that as there is to be a public meeting to decide whether to make a community bid in 2 days’ time, this agenda item has been included should it be necessary to discuss anything before this meeting.

The Chair answered Mr Reed’s question from the public forum, on the role of the Parish Council and the Heritage Society in the community bid process. She confirmed that the Parish Council’s role is only to help as necessary, if requested to do so by the bid working party; just as the council would offer assistance to other local organisations such as the village halls if they requested such. The Heritage Society’s role is to assist the bid working party obtain funding, as at this stage it has no bank account and the Plunkett Society who provided a grant, do not pay funds into parish council bank accounts. The Heritage Society’s account therefore received the grant on behalf of the community bid working party; which is permitted under both Plunkett’s rules and the Heritage Society’s constitution. The Chair confirmed that at this stage the community bid working party is a sub-division of the Heritage Society and that the Parish Council has a watching brief. The meeting was then opened for Sarah Smith from the community bid working party to explain what the Plunkett Foundation is and how it works to help support community projects in rural areas. She advised that she would not discuss further issues in respect of the proposed bid until the public meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November, to which all interested parties were invited. Mr and Mrs Reed left the meeting.

## 11. To consider Lincolnshire County Council consultation on Mineral Extraction and Waste Local Plan site locations

The Chair advised that she and the Clerk had read through the consultation on Mineral Extraction and Waste Local Plan site locations and it related to sites for recycling and that there did not appear to be any need for the parish council to respond to this matter. This was agreed by all.

## 12. To consider Lincolnshire County Council consultation on Schools Admissions Policy

The Chair advised that as there are no schools in the nearby area, there is no need for the parish council to respond, but councillors should make individual responses if they wish to. This was agreed by all.

## 13. Ongoing Matters

### a. Recruiting new Councillors

The Chair advised that Councillor Laver has now moved to Ravenscar, but he is permitted to remain a Councillor for the next 6 months. He will attend meetings if he is able to in the meantime. There are 2 vacancies from the 8 seats and the Chair encouraged any resident

who is interested in becoming a Councillor to contact the Clerk for more information. She advised that the council is currently working on broadband provision and emergency planning and that volunteers can assist the council even if they are not going to stand as a Councillor.

**b. Broadband update**

The Chair stated that what had been discussed with Paul Bimson was good news, but it makes sense to enquire about the Community Fibre Partnership and it should be pursued quickly before the deadline expires. There was concern that enquiring about this might slow progress on BT's work in the villages in 2017. Cllr. Padfield requested that Victoria Atkins be approached for more assistance, as his property is unlikely to benefit and yet he is obliged by the government to carry out various tasks online. Ms Storer advised that Councillors will be invited to a broadband summit in January 2017. She felt that it would not be harmful to make enquiries about the Community Fibre Partnership. It was agreed by all for the Clerk to complete the BT application for this.

**c. Highways**

The Clerk advised that Cllr. Davies of Highways could not make the meeting tonight and the Clerk is working to make a date for Mr Davies to attend in daylight to see the problems.

**d. Emergency Planning – Proposal to purchase portable gas heaters**

The Chair reminded councillors that it has been previously agreed and budgeted to buy gas space heaters for Minting Village Hall in case of power cuts when the hall is in use as a refuge. It was agreed to purchase 2, and 3 gas bottles for them. The Clerk advised that the village hall committee agrees to house them in their outside cupboard if the Gautby Fete tables can be removed to make room.

The Chair advised that the number one risk is considered to be a pandemic. It was agreed by all to ask Cllr. Keys if he could make suggestions as to what equipment might be necessary in this case.

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

The Clerk advised that BT and ELDC are consulting on the removal of phone boxes which are not used. They have indicated Minting is to be one of these. It was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr. Bell and agreed by all to support the removal.

**15. Correspondence as per list below.**

Correspondence below was passed to councillors for their information.

| Item                          | Date     |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| The Clerk Magazine            | Nov 2016 |
| Clerks & Councils Direct      | Nov 2016 |
| Wicksteed Playgrounds leaflet |          |
| Sovereign Playground leaflet  |          |

**16. To suggest agenda items for the next meeting on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 at Minting Village Hall**

Budget, Meeting Ended 9.30pm

These notes are a draft and become official minutes only after approval at the next parish council meeting.