

Minutes of a meeting of the Gaydon Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at the Village Hall, Gaydon at 7.30pm

Present : Parish Councillors Ian Helps (Chairman), Adrian Claxton, John Davies, Corinne Hill, Deborah Price

District councillor Chris Mills, Warwickshire County Council, arrived during meeting at 8.46pm

Angela Clarke (Parish Clerk)

There were 9 members of the public in attendance.

1. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mirrin Lewis.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of Gaydon Parish Council held on 7th February 2023, having been circulated.

Julian Hardwick referenced the minutes from 7th February 2023 and planning application 21/03858/FUL with the attendance of Cllr Claxton at planning committee on 22nd February 2023. He commented that the minutes differed from what Cllr Claxton had said at the planning committee meeting on 22nd February 2023. Cllr Claxton advised what he had said at the meeting which was to support the application. In the minutes GPC resolved to take no further action as their support had already been submitted 17th January 2023, hence no further action required.

The minutes were approved and signed as a correct record.

3. Declarations of interest

None declared.

4. Dispensations

None requested.

5. Open forum

The following matters were raised by members of the public in attendance:

Cllr Claxton advised that the Gaydon Inn were awaiting an archaeology report on the chimney and work had started on the roof.

A resident raised their concerns about the state of the cemetery and the proposals concerning the cemetery with specific reference to a pond. Cllr Davies confirmed there are 13 War graves commission graves which are looked after separately.

Cllr Helps committed to a wide consultation before anything happens, acknowledging it would be a slow way to proceed but any decision would be made in conjunction with the villagers. Definition was provided with the cemetery being where the burial plots are and

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....

the rest of the field is not consecrated ground. Cllr Price commented on how wonderful the space looks with cowslips and butterflies thriving and there is a peaceful atmosphere. Resolved to split the works in the cemetery in to 2 categories, 1st being the functioning cemetery and the 2nd being biodiversity. Works to keep the cemetery functioning and safe are to be outside of a wider consultation.

A resident asked about the levelling pond on the Banbury Road and advised that trees had been removed. The planning permission is believed to include a stipulation regarding the pond and what was to happen. **Cllr Davies** to provide the planning application reference to the Clerk for clarification of the content.

A resident commented on the grass outside the garage is an eyesore after being churned up. There is mud on the highway and there is a safety issue with pedestrians crossing this area to access the footpath. **Clerk** to advise Jeffrey Hobday at WCC.

A resident advised that the ditch at the back of the flats was full of water, the pipe was blocked and needed clearing. Mr Haywood confirmed he had checked the manhole on his land and this was clear. Cllr Claxton said this was the way it was designed with the pipe being higher so the ditch would fill first before the water soaked away.

A resident said the 2 pipes under the Kineton road were flooding the road. **Clerk** to advise Jeffrey Hobday at WCC.

With reference to Gaydon Farm Barns planning application 22/03574/OUT a resident complained that Cllr Kettle was not responding to emails. The planning officer was not available to talk to and had not visited site to talk to local residents. Resident advised to call Cllr Kettle on his mobile. **Clerk to write to head of SDC planning to advise of the above.**

Cllr Mills was thanked by a member of the public for getting the layby cleared and re-opened.

An incident of fly tipping was reported. A local resident had taken it upon themselves to clear the area and take what had been fly tipped to the recycling centre. Cllr Claxton confirmed he had reported this via street scene.

With reference to the electrical cabling work being taken in the village, the question was asked about what is the expectation of making good ? Cllr Helps reported his conversation with the contractors on site that day, this being they are duty bound to put back as it was with grass seed being used rather than turf. RCE is the contractor being used for tarmacking. Residents reported there were gaps between the old and new tarmac which needed sealing. Residents are asked to email photographic evidence to the clerk at clerk@gaydonparishcouncil.org.uk

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....

6. Matters arising –

The clerk reported that Highways had been contacted and review of road requested on Kineton Road. (B4155) specifically between Chadshunt and Kineton. The WCC reference is 487094098.

South Warwickshire Local Plan response on behalf of the parish council had been submitted by the deadline. This was ratified by the council.

7. District Councillor and County Councillor Reports -Cllr C. Mills & Cllr C. Kettle

County Councillor Chris Mills arrived at 8.46pm. His monthly Report is enclosed at Appendix B to these Minutes. Cllr Mills was thanked by the parish council for his ability to get things done and making things happen in the village.

8. Planning

23/00404/FUL Tollgate Cottage Kineton Road Gaydon Warwickshire CV35
OEPRemove existing conservatory and porch, new two storey extension, single storey extension and higher roof over existing bedroom

RESOLVED: No representations to be made

9. Insurance renewal

Insurance is to be renewed from April 2023

RESOLVED: Accept renewal and continue with existing provider.

10. St Giles Church War Memorial

Cllr Davies reported that following a review by the diocese, St Giles church is no longer viable and will close as a building and an active church. The church parish of Gaydon will be merged with others, where is yet to be decided. There will no longer be a vicar from May 2023. The building is in a dangerous state and this will become the responsibility of the diocese. Access to the clock and war memorial will no longer be possible in the future. It was widely acknowledged that the Parish council (GPC) and the Parochial church council (PCC) have always worked well together and this is the beginning of a long term process. Decisions about the hosting, winding and maintenance of the clock and war memorial will need to be documented in the future if they are re-sited. The current clock arrangements are well established with a long precedent. Raising awareness was the aim at this stage.

11. Coronation celebrations

Cllr Price confirmed that a Big Lunch is being planned in the village hall for Sunday 7th May 2023

12. Playground repairs

Cllr Claxton confirmed he was able to undertake some of the work required. The zip wire may be under warranty and can be fixed this way. **Clerk to investigate.**

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....

13. Cemetery works

Work to relay the path and get vehicle access to be undertaken. Cllr Davies to get advice and quotes from companies so that a decision can be taken at a future Parish council meeting.

14. Finance

Following consideration of the Finance Report it was **RESOLVED** that the following payments are approved:

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Gross £</u>	<u>VAT £</u>	<u>Net £</u>
March_23_1	Yu Energy- Street Lighting – January	£17.29	£0.82	£16.47
March_23_2	Yu Energy- Street Lighting – January	£203.41	£9.69	£193.72
March_23_3	Clerk’s salary – A. Clarke	£369.66	£0.00	£369.66
March_23_4	Annual Street Lighting Maintenance Recharge 2022-2023	£280.52	£46.76	£233.76
March_23_5	The Cumbria Clock Company	£222.00	£37.00	£185.00
	<u>Totals</u>			
	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>£1092.88</u>	<u>£94.27</u>	<u>£998.61</u>
	<u>Income</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0</u>	<u>£0.00</u>

See Appendix A for February 2023 bank reconciliation.

15. Updates

Roads, Community Safety, Drains, Street lighting and Street furniture

Cllr Claxton has requested quotes for streetlighting repairs for the phone box, end of Church lane and St Marks. Cllr Davies to share with Cllr Claxton details of solar and movement operated lighting options. Cllr Price commented that LED lighting is not good for insect or human life. A resident advised that the Starlight express is lit till midnight Sunday – Thursday and till 1am Friday and Saturday.

Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr Helps confirmed there is a draft neighbourhood plan.

The Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....

APPENDIX A

Bank Reconciliation - 25th February 2023

		£	£	£
Unity Trust Current account				
Opening Balance 31st January 2023				42639.24
Less payments				
Yu Energy	Street Lighting Supply	17.29		
Yu Energy	Street Lighting Supply	203.41		
A. Clarke	Clerk's salary	267.8		
HMRC	Tax Deduction- Clerk's salary	67		
WALC	Election training	36		
R. Nash	Clerk Expenses	340		
Parish Online	Digital mapping	186		
Play Inspection company	2022 Inspection	54		
			1171.50	
Add income received				
None	None	0.00	0.00	
Cashbook at 31st January				41467.74
Less payments outstanding				
Closing Balance at 25.02.23		0.00	0.00	41467.74

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....

APPENDIX B

County Councillor Report Gaydon Parish Council Meeting 14th March 2023

New Fund Launched to give Warwickshire Economy a £40m Boost

Businesses looking to grow in, or relocate to, Warwickshire now have access to £40m of financial support as the latest pillar of a major economy-boosting initiative goes live. The Property and Infrastructure Fund is the third and final strand of the Warwickshire Recovery Fund. This major £100 initiative was launched to provide access to debt finance and safeguard business in, or those expanding to, Warwickshire from any of the adverse economic effects caused by the pandemic.

Council Tax / Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner/Parish Councils

The total Band D Council Tax will be as follows: 2022/23 2023/24

Stratford-on-Avon District Council 2022/2023 £154.12

2023/2024 £159.12. Increase 3.24%

Warwickshire County Council 2022/2023 £1,590.93

2023/2024 £1,653.57 Increase 3.94%

Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner 2022/2023 £262.71

2023/2024 £276.71 Increase 5.33%

Town and Parish Councils (average) 2022/2023 £66.08

2023/2024 £69.26 Increase 4.81%

Council Tax Elsewhere in Warwickshire

The levels of Council Tax to be charged by the other Borough/District Councils in the county for a Band D property in 2023/24 are:

	2022/23	2023/24	Increase	%
North Warwickshire	£222.30	£228.86	£6.56	2.95
Nuneaton and Bedworth	£248.51	£255.94	£7.43	2.99
Rugby	£204.72	£210.84	£6.12	2.99
Stratford	£154.12	£159.12	£5.00	3.24
Warwick	£176.86	£176.86	Nil	Nil

Other than Warwick DC, all district and borough councils chose to increase their Council Tax rates by the maximum permitted without triggering a referendum. Despite WDC not increasing its Council Tax, SDC remains the district in Warwickshire with the lowest level of Council Tax.

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....

Voter ID.

legislation has changed in that everyone wishing to vote at polling stations from 4th May 2023, must show an accepted form of photo ID such as a passport, photo driving licence or bus pass (the full list of documents is on the SDC website).

On 16th January, the Government portal went live so that anyone without photo ID could apply for a Voter Authority Certificate. People wishing to vote on 4th May have until 5pm on 25th April to apply for one of these Certificates whether on-line, by paper application or in person at the SDC offices. Those electors that have photo ID or a postal vote, do not need to apply.

Stratford District Council have commenced a publicity campaign to get the message across to a wide range of people via different media and we will continue with this until 25th April. The two initiatives with the greatest coverage are:

1. A leaflet to go out with every Council Tax bill
2. An e-mail to every elector where SDC have an e-mail address (approx. 30,000 electors)
3. See attached a copy of the Voter ID FAQ for your information.

Warwickshire Supported Employment Service

Recent launch of Warwickshire Supported Employment Service, the latest evolution of the council's longstanding commitment to inclusive employment, supporting young people with learning disabilities and autism. Aims to help 400+ per year into work.

Household Support Scheme

The Government has recently announced details of the Household Support Scheme for 2023-24. Warwickshire will receive £6.9m.

A county wide utilities voucher campaign was launched on Monday 6th March. Short-term financial assistance in the form of a one-off voucher payment will be available to help those who are struggling to afford energy and water bills. This will supplement ongoing emergency support from the Local Welfare Scheme for residents in financial crisis. All applications for the payment must be made by 24 March 2023. Anyone entitled to benefits and eligible for free school meals have already received this support. For more information: www.warwickshire.gov.uk

Warwickshire welcomes extension to £2 bus fare cap

Warwickshire County Council has welcomed news, released by the Government, that bus fares will continue to be capped at £2 for a further 3 months.

Read more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3964/-2-bus-fare-cap-to-be-extended-in-warwickshire

Chris Mills

Kineton and Red Horse

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....