

**Minutes of a meeting of the Gaydon Parish Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at the Village Hall,  
Gaydon at 7.30pm**

**Present** : Parish Councillors Adrian Claxton - Chair, John Davies – Vice chair, Mark Ashton, Maria Carr, Stuart Richardson, Karen Ward

Councillor Chris Mills, Warwickshire County Council

Angela Clarke (Parish Clerk)

There were 7 members of the public in attendance.

**1. Apologies**

None received.

**2. Minutes of the Parish council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

Minutes accepted as a fair record.

**3. Declarations of interest**

None made.

**4. Dispensations**

None received.

**5. Matters arising**

Code of conduct has been amended and updated on the website.

**6. District Councillor and County Councillor Reports -Cllr Alan Scorer & Cllr C. Mills**

County Councillor Chris Mills' monthly report is enclosed at Appendix A to these Minutes.

Stratford District Councillor Alan Scorer's report is enclosed at Appendix B to these Minutes.

**7. Updates**

(i) Community Spaces

**Cllr Ashton**

Advised the green area previously dug and reseeded by Severn Trent up is slowly grassing over.

(ii) Roads, Community Safety, Street lighting

**Cllr Claxton**

The footpath across the field has been attended to, the style still needs clearing

(iii) Drains

**Cllr Richardson**

No update

(iv) Community Forum

**Cllr Claxton/Cllr Davies**

Next meeting is 17<sup>th</sup> July

(v) Street furniture

**Cllr Carr**

No update

(vi) Neighbourhood Planning

**Cllr Ward**

Cllr Ward has a copy of the draft plan so far and has met with Ian Helps and will meet again with him to discuss the updated draft plan once received.

Clerk updated that the report had been completed for Groundwork UK for the grant monies for the Neighbourhood plan. Not all of the grant has been spent in the timeframe so £1440.00 reference NPG 13130 has to be repaid before any other grant applications will be considered. Resolved to repay the unspent grant monies asap.

(vii) Website

**Cllr Richardson**

Cllr Richardson confirmed he has access to amend and update the Gaydon parish council website [www.gaydonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.gaydonparishcouncil.org.uk)

Request for photos and phone number from councillors to be sent to Cllr Richardson so the website can be updated.

Website address to be published on Gaydon facebook page - **Cllr Claxton** to action.

Village news items to be updated, suggested any events at the Motor museum be included and the date of the next community forum meeting.

**8. 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>
July_23_1	Yu Energy- Street Lighting – January	£156.47	£7.45	£149.02
July_23_2	Yu Energy- Street Lighting – January	£16.60	£0.79	£15.81
July_23_3	Clerk’s salary – A. Clarke	£363.66	£0.00	£363.66
July_23_4	Benchmark May 2023 grounds maintenance	£633.25	£105.54	£527.71
July_23_5	Website and email hosting for 10.07.23-9.07.24	£273.60	£45.60	£228.00
	<b><u>Totals Expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>£1443.58</u></b>	<b><u>£159.38</u></b>	<b><u>£1284.20</u></b>
	<b><u>Income Total</u></b>	<b><u>£0.00</u></b>	<b><u>£0.00</u></b>	<b><u>£0.00</u></b>

In addition to the above payments it was resolved to repay Groundwork UK £1440.00, in reference to grant NPG 13130 which has not been spent. Clerk to include this in the next meeting payment schedule for ratification

See Appendix C for June 2023 bank reconciliation

**9. Bank signatories**

Agreed to update the current signatories / people who can authorise payments with additional councillors and remove anyone else who is no longer on the parish council or associated with it.

Clerk to contact 4 councillors for details required. Clerk to remove 6 people from the Parish council online banking access. Cllr Claxton to have input access added to his profile – Clerk to action. Cllrs Davies to retain his current access.

**10. Open Forum**

Clerk shared the posters sent from Warwickshire county council promoting recycling – left with Cllr Claxton.

Clerk advised a local resident had phoned regarding the access and visibility for drivers at St Giles – Council is not able to take any further action.

**11. Standing orders to review**

Clerk to update standing orders with changes which are addition of a maximum meeting time of 2 hours with a 30 minute extension to be allowed, following mutual Councillor agreement, within the council meeting.

Clerk to circulate amended Standing orders.

Decision deferred until next meeting to allow all councillors to read the Standing orders.

**12. Planning applications**

23/01054/OUT Land To The South Of Junction 12 Of The M40

Hybrid Planning Application comprising: a) FULL application for the construction of commercial development comprising a site access from the B4100 together with a maintenance access off Pimple Lane, internal access roads and footpaths/cycleways; associated strategic landscape treatment (including new earth bunding); the creation of earthwork building platforms and construction of three commercial buildings (Units 4 (a-e), 5 and 6 (Flexible Use Class B2 (General Industrial), B8 (storage or distribution ) & E(g)(ii) research and development & E(g)(iii) -industrial processes) including ancillary office accommodation, gatehouses, associated parking provision, retaining structures, landscaping and drainage infrastructure and all other associated ancillary works within Zone A (as shown on the Phasing Plan); and b) OUTLINE application (all other matters reserved relating to internal site access, landscaping, appearance, layout and scale) for the construction of commercial buildings (Flexible Use Class B2 (general industrial), B8 (storage or distribution) E(g)(ii) - research and development & E(g)(iii) industrial processes) and all associated ancillary works including earthwork building platforms within Zones B1 and B2 (as shown on the Phasing Plan)

Council unanimously objected to this application. Please see APPENDIX D for the full response posted on Stratford district council planning website.

Cllr Davies reminded everyone present that the Parish council has to remain separate to any actions or groups that the village may decide to take regarding this planning application.

**13. Cemetery Works**

None of the quotes include a price for kerbing. Company A quoted £10,000 for kerbing and the cost of a bonded surface for the foot path is £6,900.

Cllr Davies asked to find details of a local site using the bonded surface so this could be visited and to circulate photographs of the materials used.

Agreed the work needs to be done, discussion to continue at the next meeting

**Next Parish council meeting is Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 at 7.30pm**

The Meeting closed at 9.10pm

**APPENDIX A**

**County Councillor report Gaydon Parish Council Meeting 4th July 2023**

**Household Support Fund**

Central Government recently extended the Household Support Fund grant to support those most in need to help with global inflationary challenges and significantly rising living costs specifically food, energy, and linked essentials. Warwickshire’s allocation is £6.945million to cover the period 1 April 2023 up to 31 March 2024.

Warwickshire County Council is continuing to distribute its Household Support Fund grant allocation via the Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme (WLWS). This includes an extended welfare offer, countywide utility voucher campaigns, cost of living support for families/carers of children eligible for benefits related free school meals, a further grant to Act on Energy, and welfare grants for community-led groups and initiatives, including schemes led by district and borough councils that meet the funding criteria.

Every application will be considered on its own merits, however funding is limited and awarding of the grant will depend on the number of applications received and the impact of the project on vulnerable people e.g. number of vulnerable people helped or supporting a particularly hard to reach vulnerable group. For information, in previous funding rounds the average amount awarded has been between £2,800 and £5,700.

As with all central government funding streams we will need to provide the justification, audit trail etc. to the DWP to receive the funding. Please find attached a grant application form that needs to be returned to [localwelfarescheme@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:localwelfarescheme@warwickshire.gov.uk) by **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023**.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us by email [localwelfarescheme@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:localwelfarescheme@warwickshire.gov.uk) and one of the team will get back to you.

**Warwickshire County Council launches a Social Fabric Fund**

An innovative new fund that will invest in the power of communities has been given the green light by Warwickshire County Council.

The £2.5m Warwickshire Social Fabric Fund will provide a route to explore the development of local projects and initiatives that will have a positive impact on communities. The fund will look to allocate resources across the county to areas where they can have the most impact and will empower communities to be part of the solution; focusing primarily on the 22 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) identified in the [Countywide Approach to Levelling Up](#).

The fund will be complemented by dedicated community workers, provided by [Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action](#) (WCAVA) who will work proactively within neighbourhoods to provide support with their funding proposals.

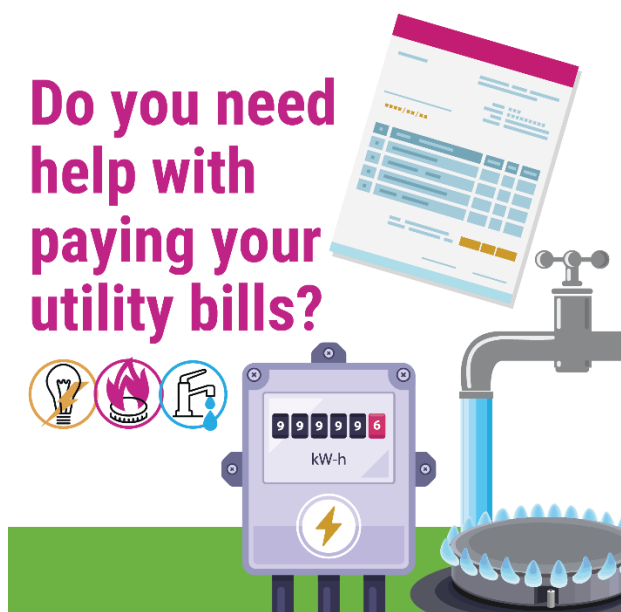
The Social Fabric Fund has a total value of £2.5million with an indicative split of 40% revenue and 60% capital funding and will run over two years up to 31 March 2025. This new fund will help tackle inequalities across the county.

More information about the Social Fabric Fund is available on the Heart of England Community Foundation website: [www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/warwickshire-county-council-social-fabric-fund/](http://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/warwickshire-county-council-social-fabric-fund/)

**Utility bill support**

Warwickshire residents struggling to pay their utility bills can look to the county council for support.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4248/utility-bill-support-from-warwickshire-county-council>



**Do you need help with paying your utility bills?**

**This July, embrace sustainability and be a part of the movement to reduce single use plastics**

Residents are urged to ditch the single-use plastic with a series of helpful tips as part of Warwickshire County Council’s support for the Plastic Free July campaign.

Plastic pollution is a real problem that affects our environment, our health and wellbeing and contributes to carbon emissions:

Over 2 million plastic bags are used every minute worldwide and the average time that a plastic bag is used in its lifetime before being discarded is 12 minutes; One million plastic bottles are bought every minute worldwide; 32% of all plastic packaging produced finds its way to our oceans every year; You will ingest an average of 70,000 microplastics each year!



Given the scale of the problem, Warwickshire County Council is asking residents to consider how they might reduce the amount of single use plastics. To help, the Council will share a daily tip for each of the 31 days of the month across its social media channels and website.

Find out more about plastic-free July 2023 on the Plastic Free Foundation website: <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>

For more information about how Warwickshire County Council is facing the challenges of the climate change emergency, visit: <https://www.warwickshireclimateemergency.org.uk/>

**Applying to change schools in September**

Warwickshire families who want their child to start a new school this September are being encouraged to apply now.

Find out how to apply: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4237/now-is-the-time-to-apply-to-change-schools-in-september>

**Mental Health Wellbeing Counselling and Support**

If you are struggling with your mental health, there is support available for you. Visit [www.wellbeingforwarwickshire.org.uk](http://www.wellbeingforwarwickshire.org.uk) or call 0800 616171 for free, safe and anonymous mental wellbeing counselling and support.

**New Community Autism Support Service**

Autistic people in Coventry and Warwickshire, or those awaiting a diagnosis, are now able to access improved support through the all-age autism support service. Read more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4231/new-community-autism-support-service-launches-to-support-people-across-coventry-and-warwickshire>

Chris Mills  
Kineton and Red Horse

**APPENDIX B**

**District Councillor report Gaydon Parish Council 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**New Cabinet**

Leader- Strategic Leadership Cllr Susan Juned, Deputy Leader Cllr Nigel Rock, Law and Governance Portfolio Cllr Natalie Gist, Environmental and Neighbourhood Service Portfolio Cllr Lorraine Grocott, Development Portfolio Cllr George Cowcher, Resources Portfolio Cllr David Curtis, Housing and Customer Services Portfolio Cllr Liz Coles and Cllr Susan Juned, Leader of Stratford-on-Avon.

**Changes at Stratford District Council**

As well as changes in the political side, there are also some changes to report on the District Council's Management Team. Phil Grafton who is the District Council's Head of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer is retiring as is David Platts who is the District Council's Head of Housing and Customer Services. Phil is leaving the District Council after over a decade, and he is being replaced by Marcia Eccleston in early August. Marcia is currently the Head of Legal and Deputy Monitoring Officer at Oxford City Council. Marcia is very experienced and has previously held the role of Head of Service – Legal, Governance and risk for the collaboration between West Mercia and Warwickshire Police.

David has been with the District Council for over seven years, and he is being replaced by Annette Homer in early July. Annette is currently the Head of Governance at the Extracare Charitable Trust. Annette has previously held the role of the Executive Director for Bournville Village trust, and before that worked for Bromford Housing, Redditch Borough Council and Wyre Forest District Council.

**Changes to Political Control**

Out of the 41 Councillors elected, 21 were not of the Council prior to the elections. The District Council has moved from Conservative control to Liberal Democrat taking the District Council. Whilst the Lib Dems have run the District Council in the past this was in a coalition, this is the first time in the history of the District Council that they have had an outright majority. The result of the election was as follows: Liberal Democrats: 25 Councillors Conservatives: 12 Councillors Green Party: 3 Councillors Independent: 1 Councillor.

**UK Shared Prosperity Fund**

Applications open for UK Shared Prosperity Funding and Rural England Prosperity Funding Businesses and communities in Stratford-on-Avon District are set to benefit again from funding secured by Stratford-on-Avon District Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF).

Stratford-on-Avon District Council The deadline for this round of applications is 5pm on Friday 14 July Applications are expected to come from statutory infrastructure providers and not-for-profit organisations such as state schools, community groups and registered charities for projects that demonstrate a wider community benefit.

Documentation and guidance required to complete the application can be found at: [UK Prosperity Fund \(UKSPF\) Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

**Free Seated Exercise Sessions across Stratford-on-Avon District described as "Irreplaceable".**



Free activities across Stratford-on-Avon District to support older adults become more mobile have been described as “irreplaceable”. Attendees have described the half-hour seated exercise sessions as ‘extremely beneficial’ to both physical and mental health. Everyone Active, the operator of Stratford-on-Avon District Council’s five leisure centres, secured funding earlier this year from Sport England to deliver activities to support older adults across the community to become more mobile. Sessions are delivered in community venues in a group setting and are designed to improve mobility, fitness and wellbeing as well as help prevent falls.

Sessions are weekly at each venue and led by Everyone Active instructor, Steve Blake.

Chris Mills

Gaydon and Upper Lighthorne Ward

APPENDIX C

**Bank Reconciliation - 30th June 2023**

	£	£	£
<b>Unity Trust Current account</b>			
<b>Opening Balance 31st May 2023</b>			<b>42040.18</b>
<b>Less payments</b>			
Yu Energy		to update	
		Street Lighting Supply	156.47
Yu Energy		Street Lighting Supply	16.60
A. Clarke		Clerk's salary	357.68
Adrian Claxton		Chain and padlock for field gate, Warwick road	64.38
Benchmark		Grasscutting	633.25
SDC		Emptying of dog and or litter bins	159.60
Fee		Service charge	18.00
<b>Total outgoings</b>			<b>1405.98</b>
<b>Add income received</b>			
	0.00		0.00
<b>Cashbook at 30th June</b>			40634.20
Less payments outstanding	0.00		
<b>Closing Balance at 30th June 2023</b>	0.00	0.00	<b>40634.20</b>

**APPENDIX D** Planning application 23/01054/OUT Land to the South of Junction 12 of the M40

Gaydon Parish Council Response to the above application following the Parish council meeting 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023

The council unanimously objects to the application based on the following:-

- The proposed development is outside of the Core strategy.
- Limited provision of utilities on the site. There are known limitations to electrical infrastructure (note recent works through the village to Kineton), and whilst the use of solar panels is suggested, it is not a definite as this depends on the individual units to fit and use solar panels
- The detrimental increase in volume of traffic
- The negative impact the proposal will have on the character of the village.
- The green buffer between Gaydon village and the proposed development should be a “ comprehensive green infrastructure strategy incorporating: structural landscaping and open space to establish and /or reinforce visual and functional buffers to maintain the separate identity and integrity of the existing villages of Lighthorne and Gaydon” as stated in the core strategy, the proposal does not comply with this.
- Gaydon village does not have the drainage infrastructure to cope with the development and the increased demands of the run off and waste water.
- Light and noise pollution will have a detrimental impact on the inhabitants of the village given this is a proposed 24 / 7 operation.
- The development will lead to localised reduced air quality beyond what is already experienced with the presence of the motorway. This will include increased CO2 and particulates from the construction process, operational commercial traffic and employees commuting to the units 24/7. It is noted that most employees will have to commute to the site by car due to distance from urban centres and the lack of public transport in the area
- No limitations are suggested for the use of the units on site so the potential impact of smell pollution on the surrounding area is not being addressed.
- The increased risk of flooding in Gaydon village is not being mitigated. Gaydon has a history of flooding and the proposed area for development would no longer function to absorb water. The suggested bund would not be sufficient to offset this.
- This is a commercial development which is located away from the main centres in the district.
- Stratford district does not have a need for increased local employment as referenced in the core strategy "The unemployment rate in the District is low, with only 0.3% of workers claiming Jobseeker’s Allowance in May 2016, compared with 2.2% in the West Midlands Region and 1.8% in Great Britain as a whole."
- If the strategic objective of the district is being met and adhered to the rural character of the district will have been maintained and enhanced - this proposal does neither maintain nor enhance the district rural character.
- The village street scene would be dramatically changed with this proposal and is not in keeping with the core objectives to maintain the identity and integrity of the existing villages.
- This application is not an appropriate business development for the countryside.