

MINUTES OF GOSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
MONDAY 15th JANUARY 2024
AT THE BERNARD BROOKS COMMITTEE ROOM, IN THE MAURICE ROWSON VILLAGE HALL,
CHURCH ROAD, GOSFIELD AT 7.15PM

Present:

Cllr Tricia Edwards (Chairman)
Cllr Bob Waters (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Jo Colyer
Cllr Richard Edwards also (RFO)
Cllr Carol Hough
Cllr Maggie Pawsey
Cllr Tony Strudwick
Cllr John Willis
Mrs Diane Jacob (Parish Clerk)
Two members of the public

24/001 Welcome and Apologies for Absence. The Chairman welcomed everyone, apologies for absence received and accepted from Cllr Tony Farrelly (due to holiday) and County Cllr Chris Siddall (due to illness) the Parish Council wish him a speedy recovery.

24/002 Declaration of Interests.

To receive any disclosable pecuniary interests or non-pecuniary interests, or interests relating to items on the agenda. Members of the council are subject to the Local Authorities Code of Conduct.
No declarations made.

24/003 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

A member of the public confirmed that tree works related to in the annual report has been completed in the nature reserve. He spoke regarding item 24/009 Item 2 about the possible re-routing of the public footpath which has been in existence for many years and so should remain as it is. He spoke about the Halstead Town Council - Climate action project relating to solar panels etc, public meeting being held in the Queens Hall Halstead on Wednesday 17th January at 5pm which he hopes to attend.

On behalf of the Council the Chairman thanked a member of the public for his work relating the replacement guttering on the Pavilion and fixing the disabled toilet door.

24/004 No item.

24/005 County and District Councillors to address the members if present.

County and District Councillors not present.

24/006 Minutes.

Item 1. To confirm receipt of the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th December 2023. Proposed by Cllr R. Edwards, seconded by Cllr Waters, all in favour resolution passed

Item 2. To resolve that the minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 18th December 2023 be signed as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by Cllr Willis, seconded by Cllr Pawsey, all in favour resolution passed.

24/007 Planning Matters.

Item 1. Planning updates.

Item 2. New Planning Applications.

Ref: 24/00021/HH

Description: Proposed single storey rear extension

Location: 17 Halstead Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PG

No Objection

Page 1

Signed.....

Chairman of the Parish Council

Date: 19th February 2024

Proposed by Cllr Pawsey, seconded by Cllr Waters, all in favour resolution passed

24/008 Financial Matters.

Chairman confirmed that the Playquip Ltd invoice had been paid, with a majority vote, as the rectification had been completed and under guarantee and warranty.

Accounts for payment were approved, please refer to separate page as below.

The quarterly bank reconciliations were confirmed.

Proposed by Cllr Strudwick, seconded by Cllr Waters, all in favour resolution passed

24/009 Public Rights of Way Footpaths.

Item 1. To discuss the cutting of Public Rights of Way footpaths, currently cut by Essex County Council once a year. It was discussed and agreed that the Parish Council would like to take over the cutting of four footpaths, numbers 14, 17, 20 and 27.

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr R. Edwards, all in favour resolution passed

Item 2. It is proposed to divert sections of Footpath 15 & 22 Gosfield to an alternative route, comments required.

Footpath 15 is a pleasant track, which does have the disadvantage (from the farmer's perspective) of going through the farmyard. The proposed diversion crosses a featureless field, and has considerably less amenity value.

The current Footpath 22 from point B on the plan in a westerly direction, follows the line of the old field boundary, past the solitary oak. The plan does not represent what is currently on the ground, (and has been for at least the last 34 years).

The proposed diversion of Foot path 22 is very muddy and may have been under water the previous day, following storm Henk, whereas the existing path was perfectly passable.

The Parish Council would like all the existing routes to remain, the new proposed route of footpath 22 C to E on the map is too close to a brook which floods and would be dangerous to walkers and their animals.

Proposed by Cllr Strudwick, seconded by Cllr T. Edwards, all in favour except Cllr Hough who abstained resolution passed

24/010 Grounds Maintenance Agreement 2024.

The RFO discussed and confirmed that the figures are in the budget for this and so the Parish Council would like to proceed.

Proposed by Cllr T. Edwards, seconded by Cllr Pawsey, all in favour resolution passed

24/011 Precept/Budget for 2024/2025.

As required by section 33 of the Localism Act 2011, Parish Councillors are obliged to leave discussions where they have a disclosable pecuniary Interest. To participate in the setting of a precept for the Council, the councillors will require a dispensation, and for this purpose, Gosfield Parish Council resolves to delegate to the Clerk the power to grant a dispensation from exclusion to all Councillors for the purpose of considering and setting the precept.

Proposed by Cllr T. Edwards, seconded by Cllr Waters, all in favour resolution passed

24/012 Budget/Precept 2024/2025.

Item 1. The budget for 2024/2025 was set at £44,499.00

Proposed by Cllr R. Edwards, seconded by Cllr Waters, all in favour resolution passed

Item 2. The precept for 2024/2025 was set at £44,499.00 with an increase of 3.96% which is £69.78 per household.

Proposed by Cllr R. Edwards, seconded by Cllr Waters, all in favour resolution passed

The Parish Council expressed thanks to the RFO for all the work carried out on the above.

24/013 Item 1. Previous Minute No. 22/029 woodland known as The Lodge Plantation, Gosfield parcel of land for inclusion into the Nature Reserve, ongoing.

Page 2

Signed.....

Chairman of the Parish Council

Date: 19th February 2024

Item 2. Previous minute No. 23/126 Essex County Council Highways – Proposal for Improved Road Safety in Gosfield – update by Cllr Willis that he is awaiting information regarding accidents etc from Cllr Siddall.

Item 3. Previous minute No. 23/279 Yellow Lines, junction of Church Road and The Street – The Chairman updated that she had spoken to a resident and this issue appears to be much better, Parish Council to monitor the situation, item to be removed from future agendas.

Proposed by Cllr T. Edwards, seconded by Cllr Strudwick, all in favour resolution passed.

Item 4. Previous minute No. 23/280 Position of Skate Ramp – Chairman updated that a meeting will be held Thursday 17th January 2024 at 11.00am with a contractor to discuss the position, also discussed a quote. Item to be on next agenda.

Item 5. Previous minute No. 23/281 Overflow car park – Chairman has spoken to the Village Hall Management Committee secretary and he believed they would reluctant to agree especially at weekends when the village hall car park is well used – not workable or practicable to enforce.

24/014 Neighbourhood Plan.

Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting had taken place Cllr John Willis (Chairman) confirmed the they have chosen a contractor to write the plan, Jan Stobart from the RCCE will also be helping. A Design/audio code meeting is to take place, the plan is progressing, the budget money needs to be spent by April.

24/015 Playing Field Management Committee.

Previous Minute No. 21/118 To consider and approve the revised agreement. On going to be on the next agenda.

24/016 To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, village representatives, and Parish Council working groups.

Cllr Strudwick reported: -

No Village Hall meeting has been held yet.

Wethersfield Scrutiny Committee is ongoing and updates in the press.

24/017 New Items for next agenda.

Please note that no decisions can be lawfully made under this item, LGA 12 10 (2) (b) states that business must be specified therefore the council cannot lawfully raise matters for decision.

24/018 Date of Next Meeting.

Next Parish Council Meeting 19th February 2024 (7.15pm).

24/019 Fencing boundary around the Playing field.

Previous minute no. 23/272 Along the Top (Hall Drive) and left-hand side from the top (Hall Drive) down to the Play area.

To consider quotes for replacement fencing, another cheaper option than bow top was discussed just another option to consider. Funding required for this project – item to be on the next agenda.

24/020 Car Park.

Item 1. To consider scraping back the car park as a temporary measure. Item deferred to be on the next agenda.

Item 2. To discuss and consider quotes for the drainage and car park surfacing – no quotes to consider at the present.

Meeting Closed at 8.38pm

Gosfield Parish Council
PAYMENTS (AWAITING AUTHORISATION) LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
171 Streetlight Electricity	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	114	Streetlight electricity	apower	L	1,170.20	56.01	1,176.21
172 Car Mteage Allowance	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	115	Clerk's expenses	Jacob Mrs D	X	27.45		27.45
172 Telephone & Broadband	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	115	Clerk's expenses	Jacob Mrs D	X	8.55		8.55
172 Telephone & Broadband	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	115	Clerk's expenses	Jacob Mrs D	X	6.34		6.34
173 Neighbourhood Plan	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	116	Room hire	Maurice Rowson Hall	Z	15.00		15.00
174 Pavilion Electricity	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	117	Pavilion electricity	E-ON UK plc	S	25.00	5.00	30.00
174 Pavilion Electricity	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	117	Pavilion electricity	E-ON UK plc	X	493.88		493.88
175 Software Licences	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	118	LCN domain name renewal	Trend Capital Ltd	S	33.00	6.60	39.60
176 Payroll Bureau	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	119	Payroll processing	Richard Edwards Consultancy	S	89.61	17.92	107.53
177 Pavilion & Playing Field Gen	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	120	Gutter repairs	Jarvis M	Z	595.00		595.00
178 Pavilion & Playing Field Gen	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	120	Pavilion repairs	Jarvis M	Z	80.00		80.00
179 GNR Trees & Major Repairs	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	121	GNR tree work	Second Nature Tree Services	S	2,100.00	420.00	2,520.00
180 Village General Maintenance	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	122	Salt bin repairs	HandyKng	Z	20.00		20.00
181 Village General Maintenance	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	123	Haha Ditch	HandyKng	Z	30.00		30.00
182 Play Equipment Repairs	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	124	Play area repairs	HandyKng	Z	150.00		150.00
183 Meeting Costs	17/01/2024		Barclays Current Acco	125	Room hire	Maurice Rowson Hall	Z	11.25		11.25
Total								4,805.28	505.53	5,310.81

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Gosfield Parish Council Payment Approval & Reporting Council Meeting 16 January 2024						
Supplier For approval and payment	Invoice Date	Total Payable	VAT Input Tax Recoverable	Net Cost to GPC	Grant/ Amount Recoverable	Brief Description of Supply
Per sheet		5310.81	505.53	4311.40	493.88	
Total		5310.81	505.53	4311.40	493.88	
Reported under Financial Regulation 5.6 Payments, which are approved annually, made during the period 20.12.2022 to 16.01.23						
Payroll		1225.36		1225.36		Staff salaries
HMRC	15.1.24	582.93		582.93		Payroll costs
Previously Approved payments paid during the month		1808.29	0.00	1808.29	0.00	
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Payments		7119.10	505.53	6119.69	493.88	
Signed						
Chairman- Gosfield Parish Council						