GIMINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held at Gimingham Village Hall.

Monday 14TH OCTOBER 2024 at 7.30pm

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES:

Present: Daniel Gotts (Chairman), Ali Cargill, Alan Gotts, Richard Lea, Donna Drake, County Councillor Ed Maxfield and District Councillor Roy MacDonald.

Apologies were received from: Cllr. Wendy Fredericks.

One member of the public attended.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:

None.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING and ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THEM:

The Minutes from the previous meeting held on September 14th were accepted as correct and approved unanimously. DC Macdonald joined the meeting at 7.40pm.

4. PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

5. PLANNING:

No new applications had been received.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

County Councillor Ed Maxfield has emailed his report but explained that Highways Dept at Aylsham now has a new team in place. Damian Jeffries is the Area Manager and Chris Purvis is the Head. He felt the previous management and contractors used were doing poor jobs with little consistency or communication. The new team appeared to be more proactive.

Cllr Lee asked Cllr Maxfield about recycling costs amid the new changes of which Cllr Maxfield expressed his disappointment to the changes and disagrees with them.

7. MATTERS ARISING:

a. Update from Beat Manager PC Robinson – unavailable as she was absent from meeting.

b. Southern Hill – the Clerk has invited the hospital representatives to our November meeting but as yet had not received a reply.

c. Caretaker – Mick Kinder is continuing to do a good job in cutting some of the areas of grass in the village and emptying some of the bins.

d. Graffiti on bridge – the clerk had contacted Network Rail but they state they are not the owners of the bridge and therefore it is not their responsibility to

remove the graffiti. The Clerk has been informed by Tim Adams, Leader NNDC, that he has some cleaning products to remove the graffiti but the Parish Council would have to arrange for someone to carry out the work. Clerk to contact Tim Adams to obtain the products.

e. **Gimingham Clubhouse –** Cllr Dan Gotts had spoken with MADRA who had previously expressed interest in renting the clubhouse and land, but they have since found alternative premises. The clerk saw the owner of Mike's Animal Feeds who had also been interested, but have also found other premises. Cllr Cargill asked if any grants were available to renovate the building for alternative uses. The Clerk will enquire as to the cost of advertising it as a storage facility. Cllr Lee felt the hedges near the grounds opposite Harvey Estate and Beech Close need cutting. Clerk to email Cllr Macdonald who can make request to the Council.

   The playing field was discussed and how it could be used. Cllr Lee asked where the wildflowers were on the top half of the field, but Cllr Drake said it would likely take five years to develop; Cllr Alan Gotts felt any wildflower ideas should be shelved as the Parish Council could not afford it. Cllr Cargill suggested the possibility of using the land as a community woodland. The member of public asked if regular fundraising events could be held to raise funds for the field's maintenance but this was not felt to be viable due to the lack of volunteers to run the events.

f. **Allotments –** Cllr Alan Gotts reported that he was drawing up a site plan as no previous records of allotment holders could be traced. This was now almost completed. The Clerk will then send invoices to allotment holders for the year now due. A new allotment holder would be taking over the two allotments which recently became available.

g. **Norfolk Marathon 2025 –** The clerk is liaising with the event's organiser to meet Parish Councillors in the village to discuss avoidance of the issues experienced in the 2024 event. Clerk to report back with a date when confirmed.

h. **Annual inspection report & stock valuation –** Cllr Alan Gotts felt it would not be appropriate for Parish Councillors to inspect the play equipment as this would need to be carried out by a professional in that specific line of work.

Any other matters requiring consideration before the next meeting:

a. DC Macdonald referred to the actions carried out by Anglian Water at the pumping station near the Mill. He had contacted AW who told him they had found a fault in the pumping chamber and that the team on site tested the water and found no ammonia in it, but Cllr Macdonald thought it was surface water they had tested instead. Cllr Alan Gotts reported on what he had seen occur. Cllr Macdonald will find out through a Freedom of Information request as to whereabouts from the river the water had been abstracted for the testing and if it was from a point before the outflow.

b. Cllr Dan Gotts expressed his concern about drainage in the village and that it needs to be resolved, particularly around the area of Sandy Lane to The Beck. It had been agreed previously by Graham Plant of Highways who said that the

funding was in place to do the work required but this was later dismissed by Steve White. Cllr Maxfield will investigate and push to action the work.

8. FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

a. A request had been made by Colin Hart on behalf of the village hall committee that a donation of £500 be given by the Parish Council, as happened in 2023. The Parish Council agreed and this was proposed by Cllr Cargill and seconded by Cllr Alan Gotts.

b. Payments made since last meeting:

Steve Jackman: website support	£95.00
Secret Gardens (playing field grass cutting)	£300.00
Mrs Wheller: refund of deposit and rent for allotments 5 and 14.	£54.66
Zurich Insurance	£989.86
Clerk wages (Sept 3rd – Oct 1st)	£266.72
TOTAL:	£1,706.24

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Potholes on Trunch Road – Steve White previously of Highways, had informed the Parish Council that the work could not be done as it did not form part of the highway. Cllr Maxfield will investigate.

b. Dark sky policy – the Clerk had enquired about this with NNDC who had said this now falls within the AONB category.

c. Cllr Cargill expressed concerns regarding the vans being parked on the corner of Slaughter Road: he will speak to the owners concerned.

d. Cllr Lee asked if the Parish Council had received the money for the new bus shelter near The Pound yet. Clerk confirmed funds had been credited to the Parish Council's account.

11. TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

Monday 18th November 2024 – Gimingham Village Hall at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 20.50 hrs.

DANIEL GOTTS - CHAIRMAN

14th October 2024