**Minutes of the meeting of Great and Little Gidding Parish Council**

**Held on Tuesday 17th July at 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs P Jarvis (Chair), P Hodson, N Hill, J Dear and Parish Clerk

**093.18 Chairman welcomed** to those attending the meeting

**094.18 Apologies** were received from County Councillor Ian Gardener. District Councillor Tim Alban advised he will arrive later in the meeting.

**095.18 Disclosure of interests** - NONE

**096.18 Public and Press participation** - none

**097.18 To confirm and accept minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 19th June 2018** - Cllr Hill proposed and Cllr Hodson seconded

**098.18 Matters arising from the minutes**

Cllr Jarvis requested that Risk Assessments be deferred to the August meeting.

(87.18) Cllrs Jarvis advised that he and Cllr Dear had visited Little Gidding, identified the farmer to approach regarding siting of the bin (dog waste bin on footpath). Dog waste bin and salt bin to be purchased.

Clllr Hodson and Cllr Jarvis thanked Cllr Hill for resolving the broadband issue.

Parish Clerk has sent an email to Hunts DC regarding the amount of precept paid - answer awaited.

**099.18** **Communication from Councillors**

Councillors had nothing to report at this stage of the meeting as all matters will be dealt with by agenda items.

Cllr Tim Alban arrived, introductions made, and he explained the split of the ward between himself (South, including the Giddings) and Cllr Marge Beutell (North).

Cllr Alban advised that hearings in respect of the Local Plan start this week at Pathfinder House, Huntingdon. At these hearings the 2036 housing allocation for the whole of Huntingdonshire is being considered and debated - Gidding’s sites were mentioned. Main areas for development are likely to be St Neots, Godmanchester and St Ives. Cllr Hill enquired about RAF Molesworth and USAF Alconbury, which are under consideration. (Following the meeting Parish Clerk sent links to Councillors for the Local Plan).

Cllr Alban enquired if there had been any problems with the Mobile Post Office. Concerns from earlier in 2018 were discussed, but it was identified that Giddings Post Office van was a different van to the one that attends Holme, where ongoing problems are being experienced.

Cllr Alban, offering help and assistance when needed, left to attend another Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Jarvis enquired about a payment, discussed last year at Parish Council meetings, but, having checked, this conversation did not appear in the Minutes - this is with regard to a payment to Cllr Dear (before she became a Councillor) for the emptying of dog waste bins. Parish Clerk will research and report back at August meeting

100.18 **Allocation of Roles and Responsibilities**

Parish Clerk produced a list (as published by the Society of Local Clerks) - Councillors indicated which roles they would be interesting in taking. There are still some roles to be allocated and it is hoped that any new Councillors appointed will fill these “vacancies”.

**101.18 Co-option of Councillors**

Cllrs Hodson, Hill and Jarvis advised that they are in discussion with individuals.

**102.18 Local Highways Improvement Grant**

Cllr Hill has completed a draft copy of the grant application, this had been shared with Councillors and County Councillor Gardener (who was very supportive) - see copy of application attached. It was agreed this should be submitted to Highways Department.

Cllr Jarvis thanked Cllr Hill for his work on this application.

**103.15 Footpaths and Byways** - Bullock Road

In addition to the usual seasonal closure of this stretch of the Bullock Road (between Cow Pasture Farm and Moon Hollow corner), there has been an extended closure of the gate due to various incidents which has a resulted in bad feeling expressed via social media. Cllr Dear has been in conversation with those involved residents and a request was made for the Parish Council to assist and support the residents by denying any involvement. The Parish Council agreed that this would be mentioned via an item in the Clarion, through the village website and possibly through the (privately owned) Gidding Facebook page (Cllr Hill to compose an article). Parish Clerk had checked the Cambs County Council web page and will keep check on developments via the website. (Cllr Dear has also spoken to George Hay and Zaria Bettles at CambsCC). <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-&-culture/arts-green-spaces-&-activities/rights-of-way/rights-of-way-restrictions/>

“REPORT A FAULT ON A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY” = <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-&-culture/arts-green-spaces-&-activities/rights-of-way/>

**104.18 Grass cutting contract**

Cllr Hodson advised that half of the Recreation Field had been cut with one mower and, due to a machinery breakdown, the other half with another mower which had made a much better cut and breakdown of the thatch (“Arisings” are what CGM Contractors call them). Parish Clerk was asked to request that in future, when the grass is long and is left on the field, making it difficult for School to make good use of the area, that the appropriate machine be used and the thatch cleared - it may be that the contract (still keeping to 12 cuts per year) needs to be re-negotiated so that around April/May, when grass is fast growing, there are more frequent cuts. Parish Clerk agreed to discuss with CGM.

Parish Clerk had received an e-mail comment about the triangle corner of Gains Lane and Chapel End, where grass is long and has become overgrown. Parish Clerk has checked Cambridgeshire County Council website grass cutting schedule and the village is due to be cut on Thursday 19th July.

**105.18 Communications**

Cllr Hill reported that the Broadband package has been updated and was successful, the anti-virus package has been updated, therefore the Parish Office (and laptop) now has a internet and telephone connection.

Cllr Jarvis will work on the next issue of the Clarion, with a view to completion of the draft within the next week.

Social media was discussed among the Councillors and it was agreed it was not essential to the Parish Council.

Cllr Hill proposes that Catalyst Design update the village website, particularly the Village Hall pages which are showing incorrect information. It was pointed out that Catalyst currently host the website, setting up the domain name, but the last Parish Clerk and an ex-Councillor were trained in updating the website. Cllr Hill proposed that Catalyst be requested how they would like to be involved with the updating of the website.

Parish Clerk will read the Catalyst training file and see if she is able to update the website without the need for a training session.

**106.18 3 year Budget plan** - this item will be discussed at the August meeting.

**107.18 Correspondence**

1. Letter from parishioner - confidential.
2. Waste Collection for the Village Hall - this is an expense that will come from the Village Hall bank account. Cllr Hill has the letter to discuss at the next Village Hall Committee meeting on Tuesday 14th August.
3. ICO Data Protection - this is to be renewed
4. BT letter - regarding closure of account. Since then a letter has advised that there is a refund due.

**108.18 Payments and Accounts**

A spreadsheet was handed out to Councillors showing income and expenditure (see Finance file).

Cllr Hill asked about the changes to the Bank Mandate, the Clerk advised that this process is still ongoing, due to having to wait for cheques to clear before making the changes, documentation was posted to Barclays on 13/7/2018 to complete the process).

**109.18 Charity Commission**

Cllr Hodson has submitted the returns for the Parish Council and the Charity Trustees and requested Cllr Hill to ask the Treasurer of the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee to complete the return for that organisation.

**110.18 Mirror opposite Village Hall entrance**

Cllrs Hill and Jarvis had hoped their work on the mirror would enable it to stay in place but there have been occasions when it has been moved, therefore it does not provide an effective means of safely exiting the Village Hall car park. Cllr Jarvis offered to speak to neighbours in the vicinity of the sign and, prior to the next meeting, it will be seen if this is successful. In the mean time, the Parish Clerk will seek permission of Milton Estates to site another mirror supported on two poles, and also to mention to the residents of Church Farm.

**111.18 Items for next Agenda**

Village website update

3 year budget plan

**Next Meeting** - due to be held on Tuesday 21st August but Cllr Jarvis and Cllr Hodson are not available, therefore it was agreed to hold the meeting on **Tuesday 28th August**.

Parishioners will be advised via the noticeboard, and the Giddings website.

Meeting closed at 9.35PM