**Glemsford Parish Council**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at Glemsford Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs: Plumb (chairman), Southgate, Brian & Ruth Stephens, Mills, Cain and Postill

CCllr Kemp. The clerk.

3 Members of the public

**01.03 Parish announcements**

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday April 11th prior to the normal Parish Council meeting.

Thanks were given to Cllrs Southgate and Mills for laying the turf in the new playpark, also to Cllrs Southgate and Stephens for watering.

**02.03 Apologies for absence**

Cllrs Leopold, Sewell, DCllr Holt and Lesli Tunbridge. Part absence of Cllr Southgate.

**03.03 Declarations of interest/dispensation requests**

Cllr Plumb declared an interest in all planning matters due to being a member of the planning committee at BDC.

Cllr Mills declared an interest in item 12.03

**04.03 To adopt minutes of council meeting held on the 14th February 2023**

***It was resolved*** to adopt the minutes.

**05.03 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

None

**06.03 To receive reports**

**CCllr Kemp report –**

Report to be posted on the website.

CCllr Kemp is looking into flooding issues in the village.

**DCllrs report –**

Report to be posted on the website.

The call for election notices will be placed on the notice board and website on the 16th March.

Voters are reminded that photo ID will be required when voting.

**07.0 Planning: New applications:**

 **DC/23/00610 – 20a Hunts Hill**

Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use from commercial business and service to a dwelling house – convert hairdressing salon into a 1 bedroom dwelling and associated parking and new vehicular access

***It was resolved*** to recommend: no reason to object

**DC/23/00949 – 22 Angel Lane**

Application for a lawful development certificate for an existing use or operation or activity including those in breach of a planning condition – construction of raised timber deck with lean-to roof over to rear of existing dwelling

***It was resolved*** to recommend: objection – breach of planning condition

**DC/23/00715 – 1 The Barn, Skates Hill**

Installation of solar panels

***It was resolved*** to recommend: no reason to object

**Granted applications:**

**DC/23/00378 – 4 Spring Meadow**

To replace existing glass roof with an Ultra 380 tiled roof with 2no glass units

**DC/23/00107 – 69 Brook St**

Replacement front windows

**08.03 Public question time**

Enquiries were made about ownership of the old Chinese restaurant as it is in a poor state of repair. It is believed the owner is domicile in Hong Kong.

**09.03 Accounts for approval**

***It was resolved*** to agree the accounts.

Payments for authorisation March:

Main account:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| SCC - light shield | 108.04 |
| HAGS-play park inspection | 428.4 |
| T&P Fire-kitchen shutters | 9608.4 |
| T&P Fire - call out - fault | 172.8 |
| DCM Surfaces-play park | 19316.7 |
| SALC - payroll servs | 129.6 |
| Harcourt Powell-survey | 495 |
| Gardens ARB | 456 |
| Chg card | 147.19 |

**10.03 Reports from working groups**

**Cemetery**

No report

**Finance**

No report

**Village Hall**

Quotes have been obtained for window coverings. It is felt that vertical blinds are the best option especially with regards fire exits. Prices vary between £1850-£4565. Samples are to be obtained to check quality. Suppliers are to be asked to hold their prices pending a decision.

The Parish Council are in dispute with the builders about the flooring in the main hall. This is stopping the hall from re-opening. A flooring inspector has assessed the floor, a report is to follow.

**Neighbourhood Plan**

Draft being written.

**Climate Emergency (Greening Glemsford)**

No report

**New village hall playpark**

The new play park is open and has been very busy. There has been a lot of positive feedback, but complaints also; the small slide is causing an issue for little children. The playpark company are looking into a resolution for this.

Thanks were given to Cllr Brian Stephens for his hard work on this project.

Requests have been received to keep the old play park at the village hall open. A quote is to be obtained to repair the original equipment.

**11.03 Library Lease – renewal of**

A meeting was held with the library property advisors from Suffolk County Council as the current lease has come to an end. It was agreed a larger storage room would be made available to the library and the possibility of the installation of a window as previously requested would be looked into when finances allow. As previously, the Parish Council will not charge for any rent.

The Parish Council make an annual donation of £1000 to Suffolk Libraries which is to be used for Glemsford Library. However, it appears these funds are put into a ‘general pot’ and not used specifically for Glemsford. This year the £1000 donation will be offered to Friends of Glemsford Library for redecorating the room before returning.

***It was resolved*** to agree the renewal of the lease and to donate £1000 to Friends of Glemsford library.

*Cllr Southgate joins the meeting*

**12.03 Coronation mugs – to discuss**

***It was resolved*** to purchase mugs for the children at Glemsford School at a cost of £6.30 each plus P&P.

Cllr Plumb abstained from voting. Cllr Mills did not vote.

**13.03 Grass cutting contract – to award 2yr contract**

Three tenders had been received. Prices were £6318, £8291, & £9520 pa. ***It was resolved*** to award the contract to the current provider at a cost of £6318.

Cllr Southgate did not vote.

**14.03 Risk assessments – to agree**

***It was resolved*** to agree the risk assessments

**15.03 Asset register – to agree**

***It was resolved*** to agree the asset register

**16.03 GDPR policies – to agree**

***It was resolved*** to agree the polices

**17.03 Correspondence to report**

Thanks were given to the Parish Council for the new play park, especially to Cllr Stephens for leading the project to its final conclusion.

Correspondence had been received detailing safety concerns about the climbing frame and the rope walkway in the new play park. It was explained that the equipment is installed by a reputable company who has installed hundreds of playparks across UK and Europe. Each piece of equipment design has to pass rigorous tests and be signed off. The Parish Council is satisfied that each piece of equipment strikes the right balance between creating a challenge for children and providing the safest possible environment.

Babergh District Council has requested a new rubbish bin for the lay-by on the Lower Rd. The Parish Council will do this when other bin installations take place.

**18.03 Date of next meeting**: Tues 11th April 2023 at the Village Hall (following the Annual Parish Meeting).

Meeting finished at 8pm

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