

**Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of Gosberton Parish Council
held on Monday 28th March 2022**

Present: Councillors: John Clark (Chair), Denise Benjamin,
Neil Oakman, Sue Thorley, Sue Wray, Pete Waudby

Also in Attendance: Frances Newton (Secretary to the trustees of Gosberton Relief-in-Need charity) taking the Minutes.

Open Forum: No one in attendance.

1. **Apologies for absence and reasons given:** No apologies received.
2. **Declaration of Interest and dispensation request for relevant items:** None received.
3. **Garden Allotments update:** The Chairman has contacted a land assessor to book a visit to measure and mark out the plots. Also, to re-measure the plots on the Windmill Lane and Spalding Road allotments as it is felt that some of the markers have been moved overtime.
4. **Cemetery update:** Councillor Wray has been dealing with all of the Cemetery enquiries whilst the Parish is without a Clerk. No "Certificates of Ownership" have been found in the files. Councillor Wray is to make enquiries with the local printers to organise getting new Certificates printed. It was suggested that a meeting is held in the near future to review all of the Cemetery policies/agreements. A fuel card is to be sourced so that there is accountability for fuel used for ground maintenance, rather than having to deal with petty cash. The Groundsman has been asked in future to purchase all mower parts/ strimmer tape etc from either Pecks or Weston Farm Supplies. The Council have accounts with both of these companies and again this should stop the use of Petty cash. As the Cemetery is reaching capacity it was agreed to open the south side of the path up for burials/cremations. Future cremation plots are to be made larger to accommodate the new biodegradable urns that are being used by Undertakers as the current size is too small. It has been brought to the Chairmans attention that some of the trees need attention as dead wood is falling into a neighbouring property. Quotes are to be obtained to carry out works. Councillor Wray agreed to carry on dealing with cemetery enquires.

To resolved to move into closed session in accordance with public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business of Agenda items 5, 6, and 7.

5. **To discuss and agree a resolution regarding a Councillor that has failed to attend a meeting for six months and is therefore subject to an automatic disqualification under the Local Government Act 1972:** Advice has been taken from LALC and SHDC with reference to none attendance at meetings. The only time that a Councillor can legally not attend for a six-month period is if they have been called into Service by

the Armed forces. Also noted was that all Councillors are required to complete an Acceptance of Office and a Declaration of Interest form when they are first co-opted to the Council. Apologies should be sent with the reason for any no attendance. Reasons do not have to be accepted. A resolution was agreed to disqualify Councillor Sanders-Baker for no attendance during the last six-month period in line with the Local Government Act of 1972. The Chairman is to contact SHDC to confirm this decision and SHDC will issue a notice advertising the vacancy.

- 6. Social Media Policy Reminder:** The Chairman reminded all Councillors of the Social Media Policy and advised that is wise not to comment on any local pages.
- 7. Acceptance of Clerk’s resignation and recruitment of new Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer:** The Chairman has been advised by LALC that the recent resignation should be accepted and all monies due to be paid. This has been actioned. A notice for a new Clerk has been drawn up and will be placed on the LALC Website, Parish noticeboard and Indeed job agency. LALC have advised that due to the Council being responsible for two playgrounds and the cemetery the current 12 hours a week position should remain unchanged. The closing date for applications will be 8th April. Councillor Thorley is to manage applications and a staffing committee is to be set up to conduct the interviews.

8. Agenda Items for next meeting:

- A bench for Gosberton Risegate War Memorial.
- The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee weekend.
- Garden Allotments.
- To consider requests for donations towards a) the refurbishment of the clockface of Gosberton Parish Church, and b) Gosberton Church Flower Festival
- Gosberton Risegate Playing Field Update.

- 9. Any other business:** The Chairman has taken advice from LALC regarding selling of tickets for the “Friday night event at the Jubilee weekend”. Under an Act of 1874 the Council are legally allowed to sell tickets as the function is being held on private land. A Ticket price of £6.00 per person was agreed. GCAT are holding a meeting on 6th April at the Public Hall to discuss Jubilee arrangements. Mrs. Newton was asked to call GB Alarms to request a quotation for security to cover the Marquee over the weekend.

10. Date and venue of next meeting:

Next meeting to be held on Monday 25th April at 7.30pm at the Marjorum Hall, Gosberton Risegate.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Chairman