

# Gainford & Langton

## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1 OCTOBER 2018

**PRESENT:**

**COUNCILLORS:** L. Johnstone (Chair)    L. Britton  
                          S. Platten                            S. Hannan  
                          C. Bayles                            M. Charge  
Clerk: Martin Clark

Visitors: L. Oxley, Teesdale Mercury  
Canon Neil Russell & Tony Kennan representing the village hall

**Public Participation:**

No members of the public were present.

With the agreement of members item 6 on the agenda was heard first. *Minutes will show as per agenda*

**AGENDA**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies were tendered and approved for Cllr's Coomer (holiday) and Smith (work). No apologies were received from Cllr Roff

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

None

**3. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2018:**

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 September 2018 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Charge and seconded by Cllr Platten

**4. CHAIRS REPORT:**

Cllr Johnstone gave a verbal report:

- Met with Clerk to discuss various issues
- Working with the Tommies project and arranged for the war memorial to be cleaned.

**5. PROGRESS REPORT:**

The Clerk went through the report issued with the agenda.

**RESOLVED:** The October Progress Report was noted.

**6. MONTABLO VILLAGE HALL CHARITY:**

Canon Russell and Mr Kennan presented to the council its reasons for wanting to change the current charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO):

Limited liability status - personal liability of members/trustees is limited (usually £1); would be a registered charity; hopefully easier to recruit trustees; CIO holds the assets, enters into contracts; CIO is not subject to company law and is regulated by the Charity Commission.

To progress matters it will correspond with the Charity Commission to get consent to the proposal; draft a new constitution for the CIO; complete an application form to the Charity Commission to set up the CIO; amend or terminate the current scheme, and draft a vesting declaration to transfer the assets to the CIO. We want full cooperation with this.

The Chair invited comments and questions from members:

Cllr Hannan was concerned the change may result in the current checks and balances being lost. It is not just a village hall, but property (flats) to be considered.

A question over the current position of the Custodian Trustee (Parish Council) was raised. *The council were advised there would not be a Custodian Trustee with the CIO and the assets would transfer to the CIO.*

The buildings are registered with the Land Registry under the parish council. This position has recently been clarified.

*It was reiterated the village hall management want to move forward and work with the council.*

A question was raised about what would happen if the parish council did not wish to relinquish its role as Custodian Trustee and Land Registry. Would the Charity Commission have the power to remove the Custodian

*The commission may have that power but this is the start of the process and many things have to be prepared and managed*

Cllr Johnston commented she believed a CIO does not necessarily have the assets (buildings) and is aware of this situation elsewhere.

Cllr Johnstone thanked Canon Russell and Mr Kennan for attending and sharing their thoughts on the potential changes.

**7. FINANCE REPORT:**

7.1 The October Financial Report

Additional invoices requiring payment received post report issue:

CE Walker (grass cuts August)	£748.80
M. Clark (for high viz vests)	£48.01
M. Clark (for stamps)	£6.96

The Clerk corrected the vat figure being reclaimed - £3885.01

**RESOLVED:** The October Financial Report was proposed as a true record by Cllr Charge and seconded by Cllr Bayles

Signed.....

Dated.....

## 7.2 Conclusion of 2017/18 Audit

The audit was found with one minor error. The box referring to petty cash expenditure had been ticked 'yes' in error.

It was also recommended the council use standard proformas provided for reconciliation

**RESOLVED:** Members noted the conclusion of the 2017/18 audit

## 8. LOCAL MAINTENANCE:

8.1 A tree on the Balmer Hill green had come down in the recent storm. Action to have it removed will be made.

The Clerk reported the damage to the recreation field fence had been repaired

*At this point Cllr Johnstone declared an interest and removed herself from the meeting*

## 9. REPLACEMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE (GAINFORDNET):

Cllr Britton reminded members that it had been agreed to seek tenders from companies to create a new website for the council, due to the current site no longer being hosted.

3 companies tendered for the work to create a new fresh modern website, with hosting and support

The council examined the three tenders for the website. The recommendation from Cllr Britton was to award the work to LJ Digital, due to being the only bid under budget, the companies recent track record of creating web pages for other parish council's.

The Clerk informed members that it is possible to award the work to LJ Digital as Cllr Johnstone and the council has been transparent.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Hannan that LJ Digital be awarded the work to create the councils new website at £695 set up and £85pa hosting. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Charge.

No counter proposal was put forward so carried.

Cllr Johnstone was invited back to the meeting where the Clerk informed her of the councils decision to award LJ Digital the website work.

## 10. CORRESPONDANCE:

10.1 Great North Air Ambulance – Request for donation

Members praised the work of the service.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Hannan the council make a donation of £100 to the Great North Air Ambulance Service. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Britton.

## 11. PLANNING:

DM/18/02246/FPA - Former Garden Of 23 High Green Gainford. Erection of detached dwelling (resubmitted) – Refused.

Cllr Platten had attended the planning committee meeting and spoke for the council and

reiterated what had previously agreed and submitted. Cllr Platten felt attending was worthwhile to see how the process worked and encouraged other members to look at doing the same.

**12. ANNUAL BONFIRE/FIREWORK EVENT:**

The Clerk advised members that the arrangements for this year's event were almost complete. He advised that the costs for the event had increased due to the requirement to obtain a mobile mini container to store the fireworks and a significant increase in the charges from Hatton Traffic Management. It is expected that Hatton's would not be used in future due to their cost.

All bucket collectors will wear high viz vests identifying them as stewards on the night. Due to the sad loss of Anne Pratt the event will mark her involvement in some way.

**13. REMEMBRANCE SERVICE:**

Cllr Johnstone informed members on how the 'Gainford Tommies' project will work with the service on the 11<sup>th</sup> November.

**14. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS:**

Monday 5 November 2018, 7.00pm Village Hall (Supper room)

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Signed.....

Dated.....







