

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 9th November 2015 at 7.15pm in Gamston Village Hall, Gamston

Members Present: Cllrs Melvyn Tisbury (Chair), Cynthia Stacey, John Mason, Simon Macdonald-Preston, David Cuthbert, Adrian Hill, Geoff Prett & Sally Griffiths.

In attendance: Julia Barnes (Clerk), County Cllrs Kay Cutts & Steve Calvert, Borough Cllr Jonathan Wheeler.

4797. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Hackett sent her apologies as she is in Australia.

Cllr Bancroft sent his apologies as his son was in hospital.

Cllr Hill sent his apologies for a possible late arrival as he was travelling back from London.

Borough Cllr Wheeler sent his apologies for a late arrival as he was attending another meeting before the PC meeting.

4798. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

4799. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Cllr Tisbury suggested that 6. District Report be delayed if Cllr Wheeler not present.

4800. MINUTES

TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th OCTOBER 2015

Cllr Cuthbert proposed and Cllr Macdonald-Preston seconded the motion that these Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Minutes were adopted.

4801. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Calvert spoke about the cross-party approach to the 2016/2017 Budget. The consultation period will be running from 9th December 2015 until 5th February 2016 and the final proposal will be put to Full Council on 25th February 2016.

Cllr Calvert spoke about the East Midlands Combined Authority involving Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Leicestershire are not included. There is a general head of terms agreement. Nothing will be finalised until further detail has been put out for consultation.

Cllr Hill arrived at 7.25pm

Cllr Calvert spoke about the upcoming by-election in Selston. The previous independent member has resigned. It is an area where there is a sensitive balance of power.

Cllr Calvert confirmed that the Boundary Commission Review results had been delayed by a week and were anticipated on 17th November 2015. This would be the final recommendation, there would be no further consultation.

Cllr Cutts spoke about the care home situation and the prospects for housing and care in old age.

Cllr Cutts also noted Midlands Connect and the attempts to improve east to west communication. There is a prominence of linear connections.

Cllr Cutts predicted there would be few changes to the Boundary Review proposals.

Cllr Cutts explained that last year the budget was passed by the Chairman's casting vote. This time an all-party approach would hopefully result in a balanced budget, all be it a painful process. Cllr Cutts spoke of the move towards sharing more buildings, also encouraging working from home.

4802. PLANNING

Clerk noted that, unusually, there had been no new planning applications during the month. Clerk explained that she had recently received a letter from Andrew Pegram at RBC explaining changes to Planning.

Clerk to understand content of RBC planning letter and action any required points.

Cllr Stacey spoke about the plans for Skylarks to create, over the next few years, Grubenhau and extend their archaeology project. It was agreed by the meeting, that the Parish Council would lend their support to this innovative project.

4803. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Play Park Trees

During the month Cllr Tisbury and Clerk visited the resident that had issues with the shade from the Play Park trees. On inspection, it was agreed with the resident, that the most imposing trees were within the resident's garden and he was prepared to prune these trees. It was however noted that there was a dense holly bush in the Play Park that would be thinned out during the next annual review of the Play Park trees to allow more dappled light through. It was agreed that the other resident's garden was too far away from the park to be affected by those trees, and a copper beech within the actual garden generated much of the shade.

Clerk to provide written response to residents.

Open Spaces

Cllr Tisbury noted that the Open Spaces are beginning to look much better, but he is trying to ascertain what the exact plan is for the ongoing maintenance. Cllr Tisbury read out the following response he had received from David Banks at RBC:

'In terms of the overall plan for maintenance this was summarised in the report that went to Cabinet earlier this year and is essentially a mix of shorter grass (up to 9 cuts per year), longer grass (2 – 4 cuts) and making use of some of the self-set trees. Clearly the scheme is limited by the amount of annual funding that we get from Bovis but I do think that by spring next year the areas will start to really take shape and the different maintenance regimes we can afford will be

more evident. Given that the transfer of the land itself will take up to the next 18 months I therefore think it might be wise to wait until this process is completed before looking to develop further more site specific arrangements or transfers.'

8pm Borough Cllr Wheeler arrived.

Local Plan

Cllr Tisbury explained that nothing had happened on the Local Plan for the Land East of Gamston. The consortium were in the process of putting together a plan including costings before talking in detail to RBC.

4804. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the imminent changes to the RBC online planning portal. Training sessions were planned and he confirmed that there had been no new applications in the Parish over the last month.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the large RBC art collection that was housed in Newark that is due to be sold at auction. This will reduce the need for storage, liquidate some funds and reduce the insurance cost.

Cllr Wheeler had been spending some time at the Skylarks Nature Reserve. He noted the fact that the site has full disability access.

Cllr Wheeler held a residents surgery during the month. Cllr Prett and the local Police attended. The lack of residents' problems was seen as a positive for the area.

Discussion took place regarding the traffic count cables that had been installed in Bassingfield. Cllr Stacey noted that the cables had been fitted during City and County half term holidays. She also explained there had been a head on collision at the bend in the road in Bassingfield.

8.20pm County Cllr's Calvert and Cutts left the meeting.

4805. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Cllr Prett announced that he had become a new Volunteer Warden at Skylarks Nature Reserve.

Cllr Prett explained that he had attended the Notts Parks & Green Spaces Forum. The event was poorly represented by the Rushcliffe area. Cllr Prett raised the issue of the possibility of the formation of Friends of Ambleside Play Park and applying for a Green Flag Award for the park.

Cllr Prett suggested that the Parish Council sign up for the 'Clean For The Queen' initiative to tidy up the area in time for the Queen's 90th Birthday. This will take place over the weekend of 4th/5th/6th March 2016 and received unanimous support from the Parish Council. We need to look for volunteers to assist.

Cllr Wheeler to speak with StreetWise for any assistance, bin bags, litter pickers etc.

Cllr Stacey reminded the meeting that the performance of ‘Alice in Wonderland’ at Pierrepont Gamston School on Wednesday 2nd December 2015.

Cllr Stacey explained that TreeFest planning was going well, but needed commitment of help for the actual day.

MORNING SET UP

Cllr Mason

Cllr Prett

Cllr Cuthbert

Cllr Tisbury

David Litchfield

DURING EVENT

Cllr Stacey

Cllr Hackett

Cllr Mason

Cllr Prett

Cllr Griffiths

Cllr Cuthbert

Cllr Macdonald-Preston

Cllr Tisbury

Borough Cllr Wheeler

Clerk to arrange for Christmas Tree safety barriers.

Cllr Mason to ask Cllr Bancroft for the green battery operated lanterns that were used last year.

Clerk to arrange a TreeFest planning meeting to include Cllr Mason and representative from St Luke’s Church.

Cllr Stacey commented that Mark Winter the grass cutter had done another excellent job this year. Cllr Mason agreed. Cllr Stacey asked that we ask him to requote for 2016 Grounds Maintenance contract and send a letter of appreciation for the work this year. Meeting unanimously agreed.

Clerk to write to Mark Winter.

Cllr Macdonald-Preston explained that the charity breakfast morning he was planning would be taking place in the New Year.

Cllr Mason explained that he had arranged the annual Village Hall Gas check.

4806. VILLAGE HALL REBUILD UPDATE

Cllr Prett explained that a final review of the Invitation to Tender paperwork had been completed and that the selected Contractors would be receiving this today or tomorrow. They would have 4 weeks to assess and return a quotation to the Project Manager, Bruce Bradley.

Bruce Bradley to forward an electronic copy of the final documents and these to be forwarded to all Cllr’s by Clerk when received.

Cllr Tisbury explained that the Capital Grant Application had been revised and re-submitted. It is anticipated that a decision would be made prior to Christmas 2015. The grant will not apply to any committed work. Hence we will need to wait for this decision before entering into any construction project.

Cllr Tisbury explained a revision to the original plans to relocate gate on the West side close to the telephone pole, where a gate was originally sited. This will necessitate less paving and the green space will be less dissected.

Cllr Hill asked what the current position was regarding air conditioning. It was explained that air conditioning was preferable to panels, with controllable skylights. Still haven't established which is the preferred option between a new air con system and the second hand one that has been offered.

Clerk explained that she was struggling to get any response to the comprehensive VAT query that had been submitted to HMRC. **Clerk to continue to chase.**

4807. HP & G WEBSITE

Cllr Macdonald-Preston explained that he has spent a considerable amount of time working on the new website with the VisionICT developers. The new website is anticipated to go live before the next PC meeting.

Cllr's Mason, Prett, Bancroft & Cuthbert to provide Cllr Macdonald-Preston with a photograph and short write up for the site.

Clerk to contact Pauline Lumley for electronic version of the Gamston historical text displayed in Gamston Telephone Box.

All Cllr's to forward any attractive photographs of the Parish to Cllr Macdonald-Preston.

Clerk to scan and forward copy of Annual Accounts from 2011 onwards.

Discussion took place regarding the future approval of content uploaded to the website. Meeting agreed that a Web Content Working Party (WCWP) was required. Cllrs Cuthbert and Griffiths agreed to form WCWP. Cllr Griffiths explained that she was putting together an historical piece about Adbolton.

4808. AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Cllr Prett wanted to record his thanks to Susan Toon for her sterling efforts in producing the Autumn Newsletter in very difficult circumstances as during that time she had experienced two family deaths on the same day.

Newsletter on track for printing by 28th November 2015 and delivery before end November 2015.

4809. FINANCE

Clerk issued all Cllr's with copies of the month's financial transactions and details of cheques for signing.

Clerk explained that she had received notification of a credit amount on the PAYE account. **Clerk to investigate as believes no overpayments have been made.**

9.15pm Borough Cllr Wheeler left the meeting.

4810. CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk explained that Cheryl Newman, Bookings Clerk, was moving house on Friday 13th November. Clerk has issued revised Booking Forms with new contact details for uploading onto the website.

Clerk had received correspondence from St Luke's Church regarding various areas where we could work together.

Clerk to invite representatives from St Luke's Church to attend January '16 PC Meeting.

4811. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council confirmed as **Monday 14th December 2015** at the **Village Hall, Gamston Village**

The meeting ended at approximately 9.25pm.