

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 12th October 2015 at 7.15pm in Gamston Village Hall, Gamston

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

In attendance: Julia Barnes (Clerk), County Cllr Kay Cutts & 2 members of the public

4779. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

County Cllrs Calvert and Plant sent their apologies as they were attending a special meeting of their local Branch.

Borough Cllr Wheeler sent his apologies as he was on holiday.

4780. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

4781. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Cllr Tisbury suggested that Agenda item 8. Play Park be moved to 5. as the local residents were here to discuss Play Park trees. Meeting agreed to the change.

4782. MINUTES

TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14th SEPTEMBER 2015

Cllr Prett noted that Minute 4767. penultimate paragraph 'but *was* numbers' should read 'but *the* numbers'.

Subject to this amendment, Cllr Griffiths proposed and Cllr Cuthbert seconded the motion that these Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. (Cllrs Stacey and Hill abstained as they were not present at the September '15 Meeting.) Minutes were adopted.

4783. PLAY PARK

Two Parishioners, Margaret Burdett and Paul Bray, attended the meeting to discuss the trees at the back of the Play Park area. One resident's garden runs parallel to the back of the park, the other's garden backs onto that garden. The residents reported that when the sun is high in the sky during the summer months, sunlight in the gardens is not a problem, but early Spring and Autumn, any sun is obstructed by the trees.

Margaret noted there was a copper beech in her garden protected by a TPO that did cast some shade. Paul also noted that he had one very tall tree within his garden. Question was asked as to whether anything could be done.

Cllr Tisbury explained that a couple of years ago the issue of the Play Park trees had been raised and at that time an annual review of the park trees was initiated. Each year a tree surgeon removes dead trees, prunes and generally maintains the health of the foliage. Cllr Tisbury explained that it is the Parish Council's intention to work with Parishioners, but noted that unfortunately there is no legal right to light in gardens.

The residents both noted that they did not want to see trees removed as they like trees, just reduced in height.

Cllr Tisbury agreed to meet with the residents, ideally early afternoon on a sunny day, with the Clerk. Clerk to arrange.

Cllr Mason noted the issues that 3 Ambleside had had with the Play Park trees. There was some confusion as to the exact work that had been agreed between the PC and residents.

Clerk to draft and deliver letter to 3 Ambleside to clarify the position.

It was noted that in order to ensure consistency of information, all communications to local residents regarding the Play Park to be coordinated through the Clerk.

Margaret noted that the park is very well kept and the Christmas Tree is beautiful.

4784. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Cutts explained that the first round of the 2016/2017 budget was being worked on until beginning of December 2015.

Cllr Cutts spoke about the potential oil well at Radcliffe-on-Trent. Progress had been delayed due to the current oil price.

Cllr Cutts announced that the Radcliffe-on-Trent Village Plan had been launched.

Cllr Cutts explained that she had put in a request to Highways for an interactive speed sign for Bassingfield. Also for the creation of passing places along the single track road. She explained at this time there is very little that can be done to prevent rat running, and the situation gets quieter over the week, but attempts can be made to slow the traffic.

Clerk read out following report from County Cllrs Calvert and Plant:

1. Budget 2016/17

There has been cross Party agreement to work towards a Budget for the next financial year which is acceptable to the whole Council. The budget meeting will be held on 25th February 2016.

There will be widespread public consultation in December and January on the emerging proposals but details on exact timings are not yet available.

2. Combined Authority

Detailed discussions between the 19 local Authorities that make up Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire and Government Ministers and their officials have been taking place throughout the Summer and are still continuing. A submission to Government on 4th September was endorsed by all the LAs around the themes of Enterprise, Skills to Employment, Built Environment, Transport and Smart Infrastructure. Government seem to be insistent that a strong devolution agreement will require approval of an Elected Mayor for the combined

areas of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. It is thought that if a deal is struck it will be formalised in advance of the Chancellor's Autumn Statement on 25th November.

3. 20mph zone Consultation

The County Council is nearing completion of its programme to implement 20mph zones outside every school in the County. These measures are advisory. Many local authorities around the UK have implemented mandatory 20mph zones in residential areas covering a wider area than the vicinity of schools with the aim of reducing traffic speeds and encouraging more walking and cycling. Two pilot studies are being consulted on in Lady Bay and part of Abbey ward in West Bridgford. If these go ahead they will be monitored, and if successful, may be rolled out elsewhere, subject to future funding being available.

4. Loan to Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club (NCCC)

Policy Committee approved a £2.7million loan from the County Council to NCCC towards ground improvements. It is a commercial loan and not a grant. The same loan agreement is being made by both Nottingham City Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council, subject to appropriate approvals. The improvements will increase the Club's competitive edge in securing future Test Matches at Trent Bridge which can deliver major community gains in terms of reputation and the local economy.

4785. DISTRICT REPORT

Clerk read out following report from Borough Cllr Wheeler:

1. Open Spaces

As you will have hopefully all noticed, the Open Spaces are now...Open! I have walked the area at least once a week since the last meeting and numerous residents have stopped me to comment on the work. There is still some way to go on the brambles and Trees which is planned in but the improvement is dramatic. I have also had new Dog and Litter Bins installed along the public footpath, and once the full legal transfer is completed, I will arrange for Benches to go in as well.

2. Local Plan

In what could be a key test for the planning applications for the North of Gamston development, the Melton Road development will be going to Development Control On Thursday. There is over 800 houses in total from the plans and the Ward Member in Edwalton has objected on infrastructure concerns. I will inform you post the next meeting of any relevant information.

3. Bovis Land on Stavely Way

In what will be a big shock to you all, Bovis Homes are proving hard to pin down on the issues around Stavely way, especially on fixing the fence despite numerous emails and calls. I shall be continuing to chase.

4. Local Councillor Surgery

I will be holding my next surgery on the 22nd October at 7 pm. Please let me know if it is ok to send you an a5 notice for your notice boards.

5. Rushcliffe Residents Surgery

Rushcliffe's residents' survey is launched on Monday 12 October. The survey gives people the chance to voice their opinions on a wide range of Borough Council services and life in the Borough.

The survey forms the centre spread of the autumn residents' newsletter which goes to all homes and businesses from Monday onwards over the next couple of weeks. The preference, if possible, is for people to fill it in online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/residentssurvey2015 as it is more environmentally friendly, more efficient and easier to analyse.

The closing date is 4 December 2015. The survey will help inform the next Corporate Strategy which is due in 2016. The results will be available in early 2016.

6. Bridgford Hall

I can confirm that the Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded the Council £1.5m to secure the long term future of the Grade II listed Bridgford, the building's renovation will also be made possible thanks to £800,000 from the Borough Council. Work will start in early 2016 and should be finished in around a year.

Cllr Bancroft noted the fact that the Ambleside pathway towards Radcliffe Road from the park, is still overgrown and impassable on the pavement in places.

4786. OPEN SPACES

It was noted that significant progress had been made in clearing the Open Spaces.

Cllr Prett noted that he had attended a Rushcliffe Nature Conservation event that had provided some ideas for the future including the fact that Friends of the Earth provide free wild flower seeds that could be used in some of the Open Spaces.

Discussion took place regarding Rushcliffe Borough Council's ongoing plans for the maintenance of the Open Spaces.

Cllr Tisbury to contact David Banks, RBC for details of the ongoing maintenance plan for Gamston Open Spaces.

4787. HOLME FARM SOLAR PARK – COMMUNITY BENEFIT

Cllr Tisbury explained that Cllr Stacey had pursued an offer of financial community benefit. Cllr Tisbury read out the following email from James Cook of Stratus Environmental Limited:

Further to my email to Julia Barnes I detail below the outline community benefit offer. I have discussed this with Rushcliffe Borough Council and whilst I'm still waiting on their confirmation it is likely that any agreement will be between my client and the parish council, i.e. Rushcliffe BC will not be involved. I have copied in the case officer for information.

JBM Solutions are willing to offer a sum of £6,000 to Holme Pierrepont and Gamston Parish Council once the commissioning, energising and accrediting (by OFGEM) of the solar farm are complete, hopefully early next year. This would be for the benefit of the community in the Parish of Holme Pierrepont and Gamston and ideally to facilitate opportunities for grass roots community voluntary groups for the promotion and installation of energy efficiency measures, small scale renewable energy projects and education and capacity building projects or other projects involving renewable energy, climate change and nature conservation and enhancing

the public realm so they may create and /or deliver outcomes for the benefit of their community and members via a simple effective inclusive programme within the Local Parish.

I would be grateful for any comments that you may have on this offer.

Cllr Stacey explained that as Bassingfield residents are closest to the Solar Farm, they should specifically benefit from the monies. Cllr Stacey suggested that Bassingfield benefit from a solar powered speed limit sign. This would cost in the order of £2k.

County Cllr Cutts explained that although she had requested a sign, this was not definitely agreed and would not be confirmed until February next year. She suggested that buying our own with the solar power fund would probably be advisable.

Cllr Stacey confirmed that Bassingfield residents were proceeding with a traffic survey.

Cllr Tisbury explained that any remaining funds could be used to improve insulation of the new Village Hall. Solar panels were discussed but it was agreed that as the roof is low level and the most prominently viewed part of the building, it would not be aesthetically pleasing. In addition, it is anticipated windows will be required in the roof for additional light.

Meeting agreed to proposed spending suggestions.

4788. PLANNING

- i) *15/02160/FUL Dr Andrew Ravenscroft Renewal of previous temporary planning permission for cabin containing children's afterschool club, erection of small roof between cabin and main nursery buildings in order to cover a concrete walkway and increase the number of children using the afterschool building from 20 to 30 Little Friends Day Nursery, Adbolton Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottinghamshire, NG2 5AS*

Parish Council Response : Do not object

- ii) *15/01776/FUL Lightsource SPV 139 Limited Installation and operation of a solar farm (5MW) comprising 19,602 panels, mounting frames, inverters, transformers, pole mounted CCTV cameras, substations, composting toilet and fence Stragglethorpe Road Farm, Opposite Entrance to the Nottinghamshire Golf and Country Club, Main Road, Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire*

Parish Council Response : Do not object but with the following conditions:

1. An assurance that the site will be completely and sympathetically screened by the addition of deciduous and evergreen cover.
2. That this application will make four Solar Farms in the area and that further Solar Farms will adversely affect the environment.

8.30pm Residents left the meeting.

- iii) *15/02143/FUL Mrs Jazbee Sandhu Two storey rear extension 11 Keswick Close, Gamston., Nottinghamshire, NG2 6PF*

Cllr Macdonald-Preston to review this application. Discussion took place, Cllr Cuthbert declared an interest as the applicant is a family friend.

Cllr Macdonald-Preston to email suggested response to all Cllr's.

8.50pm County Cllr Cutts left the meeting.

iv) 15/02375/FUL Mr Sukesh Verma Single storey and rear extension 11 Buttermere Close, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6NB

Planning Application just received. Cllr Griffiths agreed to look at the application and will email suggested response to all Cllr's.

4789. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Tisbury noted that all his Parish Council work over the past month had been covered in other Agenda items including Open Spaces, Play Park trees, Holme Farm Solar Farm Community Benefit and VH Rebuild.

4790. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Cllr Prett spoke about the Nature Conservation Forum he and Cllr Stacey had attended.

Cllr Stacey also noted the upcoming planning meeting for this year's Christmas Lights Switch On TreeFest event (Sat 12th Dec '15). It is hoped that St Luke's Church can assist with a PA system and possible choir singers.

Cllr Stacey also noted the Remembrance Services at St Edmunds Church Holme Pierrepont on Sunday 8th November '15. The Mayor of Rushcliffe will be in attendance.

Cllr Hill had assisted the Clerk and Chair with investigative work regarding VAT reclaim for the VH rebuild.

Cllr Cuthbert spoke about the success of the Hickling monthly community breakfast events, which he and his wife had attended. He hoped that we could replicate in some way, once the new VH was operational.

Cllr Bancroft had provided the Clerk with a VAT contact.

Cllr Hackett explained that she and Cllr Stacey had attended a Flood Warning meeting.

Cllr Macdonald-Preston noted that he and his wife would like to organise a breakfast fund raiser at the Village Hall. Discussion took place, suggested perhaps bacon and sausage rolls on a Sunday morning to raise money for Children in Need. Date of Sunday 8th November was mentioned. It was noted that there was £100 unspent from last year's budget that can go towards the event.

Cllr Mason explained that the Play Park swings had been repaired during the month. The park was being well used by all age groups. He noted that the new Play Park electricity points had been installed over a 2 day period. Cllr Mason also commented that the grass had been cut and looked neat and tidy. The Play Park trees had been trimmed and an excellent job had been done.

4791. VILLAGE HALL REBUILD UPDATE

- i) The specification and associated documents to send out to tender are in the process of being revised. The architect has been on holiday for 2 weeks during the last month.
- ii) One area of the specification for clarification is the heating and air conditioning of the new hall. Discussion took place regarding an offer from a local businessman to provide nearly new air con system free of charge with just the installation charge to pay.

This 7kw system has been removed from a shop. It is good quality and a powerful unit. Installation would be £1500.

The requirements for the hall is 3kw and the consultant Services Engineer recommends that this unit is too big for our hall. A new 3kw system would cost £1000 plus £500 installation.

Cllr Tisbury explained the dilemma faced and the need for truly impartial advice. Discussion took place regarding comparative ongoing maintenance costs of each system, disparity in installation costs, does the second hand system include all pipes/cables/control units etc, guarantees etc

A further potential complication has been highlighted by the consultant engineer (who is being paid to advise us) that once completed the building will receive an Energy Performance Certificate which may be jeopardised by installing a system that is too large for the building.

The architect is to further investigate, but Cllr Tisbury expressed the need for a truly independent view.

Cllr Bancroft to try and obtain an independent view from an air conditioning engineer.

- iii) During the month considerable amount of work had been done to attempt to establish our position regarding the reclaim of VAT on expenditure on the new VH.

Clerk advised that our understanding should be checked with an expert at HMRC and written confirmation sought.

Clerk to liaise with Cllr's Tisbury and Hill to produce document to send to HMRC.

- iv) Cllr Cuthbert mentioned possible Lottery Funding and Cllr Prett spoke about LIS funding.

Cllr's Cuthbert & Prett to investigate and apply for possible funding.

4792. HP & G WEBSITE

Cllr Macdonald-Preston explained that the development website was almost ready to go live. Needed .pdf versions of the Parish Newsletter.

Cllr Macdonald-Preston to obtain newsletters from Susan Toon.

Cllr Macdonald-Preston requested good photographs of the Parish for inclusion. Also detail of village history of Gamston, Bassingfield and Holme Pierrepont. Cllr Cuthbert mentioned a classic picture of the VH when it was used as a shop at one end.

All Cllr's to email photos/information to Cllr Macdonald-Preston.

Discussion took place regarding the inclusion of VH calendar on the website. Clerk advised that she had spoken to VH Booking Clerk who suggested that it would be preferable to show BOOKED/PROVISIONALLY BOOKED/AVAILABLE on the website.

Cllr Macdonald-Preston to contact users of the VH to ask them about the details they would like including on the Parish Website and also on the VH Bookings Calendar.

Clerk asked if Bookings Clerk could be copied in on all email correspondence to VH users (bookings@holmepierrepontandgamstonpc.org.uk).

4793. WINTER NEWSLETTER

Cllr Prett explained that the Winter Newsletter production was underway and working towards a delivery date commencing weekend of 28th November '15.

4794. FINANCE

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

Clerk asked that Cllrs Mason, Stacey and Hackett could kindly display the Notice of Conclusion of Audit in the Parish notice boards for the required duration.

4795. CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk again asked that all Councillors noted that this year the TreeFest Christmas Light Switch On event would be taking place on Saturday 12th December 2015. All help would be gratefully received.

Clerk reminded all Cllr's they were welcome to attend the next Town and Parish Forum on October 19th 2015 at Keyworth Village Hall.

Clerk noted that a request to use the VH for the Police and Crime Commissioner Election on 5th May 2016 had been received.

4796. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council confirmed as **Monday 9th November 2015** at the **Village Hall, Gamston Village**

The meeting ended at approximately 10pm.