

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 9th January 2017 at 7.15pm in Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road,
Gamston

Members Present: Cllrs Cynthia Stacey, John Mason, Mark Bancroft, David Cuthbert, Geoff Prett & Sally Griffiths.

In attendance: Julia Barnes (Clerk), County Cllr Kay Cutts, Borough Cllr Jonathan Wheeler

4996. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Tisbury sent his apologies due to family commitments.

Cllr Hackett sent her apologies due to being in Australia.

Borough Cllr Wheeler sent his apologies for a late arrival due to a previous meeting.

County Cllrs Calvert & Plant sent their apologies due to local Branch commitments.

4997. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest.

4998. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Proposed possible deferment of agenda items pertaining to Cllr Wheeler until his late arrival.

4999. COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION

Clerk explained that since the last PC meeting Simon Macdonald-Preston had resigned from the Parish Council. Rushcliffe Borough Council have been notified and the Notice of Vacancy is due to be displayed until 27th January 2017.

The Parish Council are currently free to co-opt to fill Adrian Hill's vacancy. There is no formal timescale for this. Clerk asked that if anyone knew of any people with an interest in possibly joining the Parish Council to contact her in the first instance.

5000. MINUTES

TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th DECEMBER 2016

Borough Cllr Wheeler noted that the old Monitoring Officer is Phillip Horsefield and the new one is Glen O'Connell.

Cllr Prett noted that the Minutes were titled 'Annual Parish Meeting'. To be replaced with 'Minutes of the Meeting...'

Cllr Mason requested amendment to Minute 4987. to include that David Litchfield planted the Village Hall hedging plants.

Subject to the above amendments, Cllr Prett proposed and Cllr Mason seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Minutes were adopted.

Clerk to upload November and December 2016 Minutes, once training has been received.

5001. COUNTY REPORT

County Cllr Cutts wished the meeting a Happy New Year and spoke about the appointment of Adrian Smith to Director of Place. Director of Place has lead responsibility for Highways, Environment, Property, Transport, Supplies, Planning, Voluntary & Community Services and Economic Development & Devolution.

Cllr Cutts had attended Holme Pierrepont Christmas church service which she greatly enjoyed and felt it really drew the whole community together.

Cllr Cutts noted the unavoidable recent resignations from the Parish Council and commented that there was currently no representation on the Parish Council from Bassingfield. Clerk explained that notices for the recent vacancies are displayed in the Bassingfield notice board.

Cllr Cutts explained that the first phase of A52 highway developments at the Cropwell Road junction and at the RSPCA at Radcliffe-on-Trent were due to start imminently.

Cllr Cutts spoke about the upcoming budget round and explained that a 3% increase in County council tax was required to cover adult social care. Further increases would be required in future years. Cllr Cutts expressed that this tax, on already taxed income, was expensive and suggested that this growing need may need to be met in the future by Government or the Health Service.

Cllr Cutts spoke about the increasing isolation of older people and the valuable role the Village Hall could play in providing a venue for people to meet. The problem is a societal one that we can try and address at a local level. Ideas were put forward for tea or luncheon clubs, cinema events, chip suppers etc. It was noted that in addition to funding it was essential to have volunteers to run these events.

Cllr Cuthbert explained that planning had begun for a monthly Sunday Breakfast Club at the Village Hall. He explained that he had gathered a team of approximately 10 volunteers, and was arranging regular diary dates with the Bookings Clerk for the event.

Cllr Cuthbert explained that the first one would be invitation only to residents local to the Village Hall for enduring the Village Hall rebuild disruption over the last year. This will give the volunteers opportunity to have a trial run and learn from the experience, before opening up to the whole Parish from the second session onwards.

County Cllr Cutts kindly offered £250 from her Divisional Fund, towards the Breakfast Club set up costs and initial food purchase. The meeting thanked Cllr Cutts for her kind gesture.

Cllr Cutts expressed again that the TreeFest was a lovely event and agreed with the suggestion that in future it should be centred around the Village Hall.

Discussion took place regarding possible siting of new Christmas tree at the Village Hall, proximity to flag pole and whether electrical work was required for illumination. It was agreed that this subject would be re-visited later in the year.

7.45pm County Cllr Cutts left the meeting.

Clerk confirmed that County Cllr's Calvert and Plant had no new business to report this month as a result of the Christmas break.

5002. DISTRICT REPORT

District Report deferred until Borough Cllr Wheeler arrives at meeting.

5003. PLANNING

- i) *16/02998/FUL William Morrison Proposed glazed lobby extension to existing supermarket Morrisons, Ambleside, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6PS. Adjacent to Parish.*

Cllr Griffiths noted that on assessment of the application no mention is made for provision for cycle access. The proposed development will potentially impact on cycle racks, tethering of dogs and 24 hour access to cash machines.

Parish Council Response : DO NOT OBJECT WITH CONDITIONS

It is essential that the proposed development includes alternative sheltered parking for cycles and tethering of dogs, close to the trolley park. Clarification required as to whether 24 hour cash machine provision will be lost as part of the development.

- ii) *16/02876/FUL Mr Sean Parks New 3m wide bitumen path across desire line over existing grass area, widening of existing 1.5m bitumen path to 2.5m and removal of trees to accommodate this Land South of Stavely Way, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6QR.*

Cllr Prett prepared, before Christmas, a detailed document objecting to the plan which Clerk had submitted online.

Clerk to electronically circulate report to Councillors. Also available to view on RBC Planning Portal.

5004. VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

Clerk explained that £450 for fire door fixings and outdoor LED lighting was still in dispute with the builder.

Since the last meeting arrangements had been made for required fire door closings to be rectified, via the Project Manager, in order to comply with Buildings Regulation. The cost of the mistake made by the Buildings Inspector would be borne by the Parish Council and the builder would not be asked further regarding this omission.

Clerk told the meeting that the builder had explained he would be pursuing the £450 owed under contract through the courts if not paid. The Project Manager has written to the builder in response to this, expressing opinion that the outdoor lighting issue should be resolved as part of the contract price and not additionally charged.

Discussion took place regarding the contract and associated payments. Cllr Bancroft thought that the builder had been fair to us and absorbed additional costs in moving large amounts of extra soil and slab reinforcements that had been missed.

The outside lighting plans were agreed to be somewhat ambiguous. However, they did state that final configuration should be agreed with the client. There is some dispute as to whether this happened.

Discussion took place regarding outdoor lighting and it was agreed that it would be beneficial to upgrade the level of lighting. Brighter, searchlight style lighting was suggested.

Clerk explained that it was necessary to contact the kitchen provider to check safety of the new dishwasher. The recent PAT testing had flagged up a borderline result for the dishwasher.

Cllr Prett to contact Kitchen World to discuss dishwasher result.

Clerk explained that the external village hall clock was still showing the wrong time. Discussion took place as to where the power supply was for the clock as it needs to be switched off for one hour to correct the time. No-one seems to know how to switch the clock off individually. Clerk suggested we switch all the electrics off at the main fuse board for an hour to resolve.

It was also noted during the meeting that the light in the small toilet only works intermittently.

Clerk asked if Cllr Mason could speak with David Litchfield to lay slabs and crushed gravel in all gated entrances to Village Hall. This will help in minimising the amount of mud being brought into the Village Hall.

Cllr Mason to arrange tidying and laying of paths at the Village Hall by David Litchfield.

Clerk explained that the Village Hall Bookings Clerk is on annual leave over school half term between 9th and 18th February inclusive, and some assistance is required dealing with the bookings that week. There are 6 bookings and the hall needs thoroughly cleaning twice during that time. Clerk suggested contract cleaners as a one off. It was also suggested David Litchfield may want to do this work.

Cllr Mason to mention to David Litchfield the possibility of cleaning the Village Hall.

Clerk notified the meeting that unfortunately, after much consideration, the Yoga Group have decided to move their class to a bigger hall at a different location.

Clerk explained that there have been some continuing issues with parking around the Village Hall. Clerk explained that it was necessary to fix a permanent sign to the large gate on the corner to say access required at all times. Clerk also to produce some parking instructions to accompany

booking forms to discourage any parking along the short, narrow stretch of road from Old Tollerton Road to the large gate.

Clerk to arrange for signage for large gate. Cllr Mason to put out traffic cones in the interim to discourage parking outside this gate.

Clerk to create parking document to accompany Village Hall booking forms.

5005. PLAY PARK

Clerk explained that Cllr Tisbury had met with the Tree Surgeon during the month and it had been agreed that any new tree planting be deferred until autumn 2017. The need to thin out the existing trees was discussed and any tree felling was under review.

Cllr Prett explained that he had prepared a detailed application for an environmental grant, initially with the purchase of trees for the Play Park in mind. However as new planting is on hold, the application can be tailored to apply for landscaping at the Village Hall, including webbing in the grass.

Clerk to provide Cllr Prett with Cllr Hackett's costings for webbing.

8.30pm Borough Cllr Wheeler arrived at the meeting.

5006. DISTRICT REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that Rushcliffe Arena had successfully opened on 3rd January 2017. Membership take up was well exceeding targets. However, parking was proving to be an issue, as Cllr Wheeler predicted.

The Civic Centre is now vacant and in the process of being sold.

Cllr Wheeler is supporting an event at the Village Hall in aid of a local adult ADHD charity. The Parish Council are providing the venue free of charge. There will be stalls, tombola, cake sale and all are encouraged to attend if possible on the afternoon of Saturday 11th February.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the StreetWise initiative to collect unwanted Christmas gifts including tins of sweets, toiletry sets etc on the dustbin rounds between 3rd and 6th January, in aid of The Friary Drop In Centre. Although not widely publicised, the collection had been very successful, and was likely to be repeated in the future.

Cllr Wheeler explained that the plans for a Sainsbury's mini market on Melton Road had been approved despite opposition from the Ward member. The development of a new cycle path on Melton Road had also started. Cllr Wheeler noted the disappointing lack of funding for investment in roads in Gamston and Edwalton over the last couple of years. He explained that the road conditions in his area was the main focus for correspondence from his constituents.

Discussion took place regarding the dark path/alleyway from Ambleside to the Village Hall. Cllr Mason mentioned that a nearby resident had expressed that they would be happy to have a light fitted to the wall of their property. It was also suggested that one of the nearby lampposts be moved to a better location. It was noted that responsibility for this area was with County Councillors Calvert and Plant.

Clerk to raise Ambleside pathway lighting issue with County Cllrs Calvert and Plant.

Cllr Stacey raised the issue of the need for a litter bin near the benches at the junction of Old Tollerton Lane and Bassingfield Lane. Cllr Stacey had received a quotation from RBC and then investigated prices independently. The Parish Council could save approximately £40 by carrying out the work themselves via David Litchfield. Discussion took place regarding various types of bin, whether the bin would be actually used and whether the rubbish was from walkers or had been discarded from car windows.

Cllr Cuthbert proposed and Cllr Prett seconded the motion that the Parish Council provide a litter bin at the junction of Old Tollerton Lane and Bassingfield Lane, exact position to be decided, acquisition of materials and work to all be carried out by the Parish Council. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that he had £50 remaining in his community fund that he was happy to donate towards the bin. The meeting thanked Cllr Wheeler for his kind gesture.

Cllr Stacey to speak with Tom Pettit at RBC regarding positioning of bin.

Cllr Mason to speak with David Litchfield regarding work and materials required to site bin, as advised by Cllr Stacey.

5007. HP&G WEBSITE

Cllr Prett explained that due to a busy month over the Christmas period he had been unable to receive the telephone web updating training, but that this would take place before the next meeting.

Cllr Prett to receive telephone Web Updating training from Vision ICT and disseminate information to Clerk, Bookings Clerk and Cllr Griffiths.

5008. SPRING NEWSLETTER

Cllr Prett explained that we were working towards a distribution date of around the third week in March for the Spring Newsletter. Articles were required by the end of February.

Cllr Stacey to produce an article reviewing the last TreeFest. She noted that the event had raised £151 for Rainbows Hospice and would include this detail in the article.

Cllr Griffiths to produce an updated Detonate article.

9.10pm Cllr Bancroft left the meeting.

Cllr Cuthbert hoped to have had the invitation only trial run for the Breakfast Club by the deadline date and be in a position to advertise the date of the next session that would be open to all.

Cllr Prett noted other possible articles such as Hydro Electric Company at Holme Pierrepont, Fishing and Lost & Found.

Cllr's to forward Spring Newsletter articles to Cllr Prett.

5009. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Cllr Prett told the meeting that the replacement of the viewing platform that had been burned on Halloween last year was going to be funded by their insurance company. However, a condition being that it must be created in exactly the same way as previously, and that involved two separate companies to build two parts joined together.

Cllr Mason expressed that after suffering a period of ill health last month he was very pleased and relieved to be back to health and able to attend the Parish Council meeting. He explained that he was taking advice to slow down and take things easy. It was suggested that we may put a notice in the Spring Newsletter listing the stroke warning signs – FAST (Face Arms Speech Telephone).

5010. FINANCE

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

Clerk explained that from January 2017 onwards, local bookings at the Village Hall would be shaded yellow. This helps us identify the location of users booking the Village Hall and from that we can work out the percentage of hirers within the Parish.

Clerk issued draft 2017/2018 budget document for discussion. It was noted that financial provision should be made for a new gate near the Village Hall noticeboard, extra outside lighting and possible electrical work to facilitate a new Christmas tree at the Village Hall site.

It was also noted that the £2k allocated to Football Pitch Repairs last financial year, although not spent, should be ring-fenced for future years as repairs would eventually be inevitable.

Clerk explained that Parish Council sign off of the requested precept amount would be required at the February 2017 meeting in order to meet the deadline request date of 15th February 2017.

Clerk explained that as per Minute 4648. December 2014, it was agreed that the Bookings Clerk pay would be reviewed annually. Clerk noted that the Bookings Clerk does an excellent job and based on this year's performance, proposed a 2.5% raise, same as last year. This would equate to a 25p/hour increase up to £9.75/hour.

Clerk explained that as per Minute 4648. December 2014, Clerk's pay would move one spine point up SLCC scale, from point 31. to 32. from January 2017.

Discussion took place regarding levels of increase. Proposal was made and agreed at this time, with the possibility of reviewing at a future meeting during the year.

Cllr Cuthbert proposed and Cllr Stacey seconded the motion that Bookings Clerk hourly rate increase from £9.50/hour to £9.75/hour from January 2017. Vote taken. Unanimously in favour.

Clerk to issue Cllr's Tisbury and Hackett with January financial statements.

5011. CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk explained that the next Town and Parish Forum was due to take place on Wednesday 15th February 2017 at the new Rushcliffe Arena with a focus on Planning issues. Agenda not published as yet, but would be forwarded when received. Any Councillors wishing to attend to notify the Clerk.

Clerk to book Cllr's Mason and Griffiths onto Town and Parish Forum.

Clerk noted that she had been informed that a photo of the Ambleside Play Park boulders had been featured recently in the Nottingham Evening Post. It was suggested that an article could be written for the Spring Newsletter explaining that features the Play Park had been included in the Pokémon Go game, including the boulders, park and wooden bull.

5012. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council confirmed as **Monday 13th February 2017 in Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.**

The meeting ended at approximately 9.35pm