

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 7.15pm in Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road

**Members Present:** Gary Arkless (Chair), Cynthia Stacey (Vice Chair), John Mason, Janet Hackett, Geoff Prett, Sally Griffiths, Phil Jones & Alun Owen.

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

**5436. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE – ALUN OWEN**

Alun Owen read his Declaration of Acceptance of Office for New Councillor and his Acceptance of Code of Conduct. Document was signed by Alun Owen and the Clerk and Cllr Owen formally took his position as a Parish Councillor.

**Clerk to notify Rushcliffe Borough Council (RBC) of the appointment of new Parish Councillor Alun Owen.**

**Clerk to email Alun Owen confirming his eligibility to become a Parish Councillor and also confirm that no exclusions apply.**

**Clerk to email blank Members' Interests form to Cllr Owen for completion.**

**Clerk to forward completed Members' Interests form to RBC.**

**Clerk to issue revised list of Parish Councillor contact details to all Cllr's.**

**All Cllr's to remember to include Cllr Owen in all future correspondence ([owentollhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:owentollhouse@hotmail.com)).**

**Clerk to issue revised list of Parish Councillor contact details for the notice boards and website.**

**5437. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Tisbury sent his apologies due to returning from holiday.

Cllr Bancroft sent no apologies.

**5438. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Stacey declared an interest in the planning application 19/02041/FUL as she lives next door.

Cllr Hackett declared an interest in the planning application 19/02041/FUL as it relates to her son's property.

Cllr Jones declared an interest in the planning application 19/02220/FUL & 19/02207/LBC as his garden adjoins the above planning application. The proposed summer house would be sited close to Cllr Jones' garden boundary.

**5439. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

No changes to the order of business proposed.

#### **5440. MINUTES**

##### **TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019**

Clerk explained that Cllr Tisbury had forwarded proposed amendments to the Minutes via email as follows:

Minute 5431. Cllr Tisbury wanted to clarify that the reason for his objection was the fact that he had never met Alun Owen before hence it was too soon for him to support him. He was not suggesting that he was opposed to him joining the Parish Council.

Minute 5432. Cllr Tisbury to submit comments on behalf of the Parish Council directly to Highways England rather than to all Cllrs.

Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr Prett seconded the motion that, subject to the above amendment, the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Minutes were adopted.

**Clerk to amend September '19 Minutes.**

**Cllr Arkless to upload September '19 Minutes to the HP&G PC website.**

#### **5441. STANDING ORDERS AMENDMENT**

Discussion took place regarding the inclusion of Councillors in discussions and votes on matters they have declared an interest in. The issue has been highlighted by a number of planning applications within the Parish that Councillors have declared an interest in.

After discussion it was established that it was the individual Councillor's responsibility to decide whether they had a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any matter. This relies upon the honesty of Councillors and failure to declare an interest could have repercussions if it was discovered that they subsequently did.

Cllr Arkless proposed and Cllr Stacey seconded the motion that if any Councillor declares an interest they should exclude themselves from any discussions and votes on that matter. This includes email communications between Councillors on said matter. Vote taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

**Clerk to amend Standing Orders to reflect amendment.**

#### **5442. COUNTY REPORT**

County Cllr Cutts spoke about the Nottingham Business Awards that she had attended at The Belfry. Notably a Notts confectionery business had performed very well.

Cllr Cutts still attends the Sherwood Farms meetings. The situation is much improved but on hot days a pungent odour can still be detected. These instances are always reported.

Cllr Cutts also spoke about the inspiring For Youth Awards. Children from 7 district councils that have overcome various problems are recognised at a black tie dinner event attended by family and friends.

Cllr Cutts mentioned the issue of on street parking in Nottingham for the disabled.

Cllr Cutts attends 3 Parish Council Meetings including HP&G and Radcliffe-on-Trent.

Cllr Cutts explained that a number of looked after children had been taken on a trip to Alton Towers. The organiser is an individual who was themselves a looked after child.

Cllr Cutts attended the Inspire Archives event where a bookbinding demonstration was performed.

Cllr Cutts spoke about the Wildlife Trust pro-actively working on restoration of gravel works.

Cllr Cutts explained the current advice regarding when and how to cut highway grass verges. Recommendation is 3 times a year, early and late Autumn and early Spring, and the grass to be left quite long.

Cllr Cutts had attended the Goose Fair dinner at the City Council.

Cllr Cutts spoke about the Newton Air Cadets and their Dining In nights. She stressed their professionalism and noted that a number of cadets eventually went into blue light services careers.

Cllr Cutts noted that the LIS (Local Improvement Scheme) was to be relaunched in February 2020. The limit has been reduced from £50k to £30k.

Cllr Cutts attended the full County Council meeting last week where the issue of county lines and the safety of children in relation to this was discussed. Also the provision of charging points for electric vehicles in rural areas.

Cllr Prett asked Cllr Cutts about an article in the Sunday Times on 13<sup>th</sup> October '19 which stated that the Eastern line of HS2 was at risk of being dropped. Cllr Cutts agreed this was disappointing and explained that she would be writing to the Prime Minister regarding this matter. Delivery of HS2 is due in 2040.

#### **5443. DISTRICT REPORT**

Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that the Local Plan Part 2 had been adopted. Bunny, Cotgrave, Cropwell Bishop, East Bridgford, Gotham, Ruddington and Sutton Bonington will all experience development. East Leake has been extensively developed which had an impact on the surrounding infrastructure including schools and healthcare.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the issue of unauthorised traveller encampments. The cost of bailiffs to remove them is high. A three year injunction bans encampments in inappropriate places including Rushcliffe Arena, Gresham Fields, The Hook, West Park and Rushcliffe Country Park.

Cllr Wheeler confirmed that the Planning Inspectorate had approved the Crematorium planning application on appeal.

Cllr Wheeler told the meeting that the Streetwise offices had relocated to Bingham. The previous Abbey Road site is to be developed with houses. Surplus equipment has been donated to African charities.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about a meeting at County Hall regarding on street parking. There is a desire for residents only parking close to West Bridgford, but not with the additional £25 annual fee. Residents only parking in any area just pushes the parking problem further out to other roads. It was agreed that it was important to encourage the use of public transport.

Cllr Wheeler confirmed that the West Bridgford Christmas Lights Switch On event takes place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November '19.

Cllr Griffiths asked if the issue of cars parking on pavements could be addressed. Road access for emergency vehicles is important, but equally access for wheelchairs and pushchairs on the pavements is also required. Wheelie bins left out on the pavements can exacerbate the problem.

Cllr Mason asked about the fact that land East of Gamston was not being released for development. Cllr Wheeler explained that there was an impasse as there was a suggestion that the land wouldn't be released until the A52 had been dualled and therefore better able to cope with the additional traffic. County Cllr Cutts also noted that there was a need for associated infrastructure as well as housing such as schools, doctors, clinics, retail etc. Cllr Cutts explained that development on, for example the Edwalton Golf Course site, would provide housing where there is already infrastructure.

Cllr Arkless spoke about the increasingly regular flooding on Davies Road. It seems the surface water drains are not big enough to cope at times of heavy rain. Once the rain has stopped the water does eventually drain away. Cllr Cutts explained that on this occasion it was not an issue with the gullies. The lack of front gardens and increasing amount of paving, also patios in back gardens, increases the volume of rain run-off.

Cllr Mason asked about the West Bridgford Police Station situation. Cllr Wheeler reiterated that there would be a Police contact centre presence in WB.

Cllr Wheeler also noted that residents can put forward their ideas for what they consider should happen to Lutterell Hall in WB ahead of the Committee Meeting in January '20. The building requires a new roof, floor, radiators etc.

#### **5444. A52 LIGHTING MAINTENANCE WORKS**

Cllr Stacey raised the issue of the impact of the A52 lighting maintenance works on Bassingfield. She stressed the fact that no-one in Bassingfield had been contacted with regard to the works and felt that small rural areas were not well informed of decisions that will affect them.

County Cllr Cutts explained that the works had been extremely well advertised locally. The sections of road are to be closed between 8pm and 6am to minimise disruption. The improvements will provide a greener lighting solution. Cllr Cutts was unsure as to what the residents of Bassingfield were specifically worried about. She considered residents living in the middle of Bassingfield would not be directly affected.

Cllr Stacey explained that the redirected traffic would be passing through the village along a 'C' class road and any redirections should be along 'A' class roads. The road is very narrow and traffic travels very quickly along it. The village residents feel they bear the brunt of any inconvenience.

Cllr Cutts stressed that she was not responsible for the Highways Agency, but the alternatives for them in carrying out the required work would be to shut the road completely or not carry out the work at all. The road through Bassingfield had been recently resurfaced and it is a public highway.

#### **5445. PLANNING**

**Cllrs Hackett and Stacey left the meeting as they had declared an interest in Planning items i) and ii).**

- i) 19/02041/FUL Mr Spencer Hackett Erection of single storey front extension, new oak framed porch and new detached garage. The Hay Barn, Holme Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottinghamshire, NG12 2LD.*

This application has been withdrawn since the agenda was issued and replaced with planning application ii) with a revised specification.

- ii) 19/02041/FUL Mr Spencer Hackett Erection of single storey front extension (Amended Description). The Hay Barn, Holme Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottinghamshire, NG12 2LD.

Cllr Prett noted that the plans were confusing to look at online as both version i) and ii) are shown. The latest plans to be considered are purely for the extension, not the garage and oak beamed sitting area.

Cllr Arkless explained that he had previously asked Councillors to independently look at the plans. He read Cllr Tisbury's comments on the application to the meeting in his absence.

*'The application is for a single storey extension to the house. The main issue is development in the green belt. The photos show the open aspect on two sides. Openness is one of the greenbelt attractions. The new building, timber clad and zinc roof, off the dining area is 5m x 5m. It could be said to enclose the open view. This is all private land so in my view it is not a significant issue. I am told by the owner of the house the design reflects the planners' comments and the neighbours have no issues. Overall I would not object to the proposals. They are relatively minor, not particularly overlooked and only single storey.'*

Cllr Griffiths noted that the garage was going to be sited where the tree was going to be reduced. She considered the plans better now the garage wasn't included.

Cllr Prett noted that the building materials for the extension were staying the same, timber clad build and the amended plans stated a slate roof.

Cllr Arkless proposed that in line with Cllr Tisbury's observations we should not object to the proposal. Vote taken, all in favour except Cllr Mason who abstained. By majority agreed **Parish Council Response : Do Not Object.**

#### **Cllrs Hackett and Stacey returned to the meeting.**

- iii) 19/02220/FUL & 19/02207/LBC Mr Leon Tomasevic Demolition of porch, bin store and side/rear extension and erection of two storey and single storey extensions; creation of new vehicular access including hardstanding and entrance gate; erection of detached summer house with associated patio area; erection of boundary fence; external alterations to the existing dwelling including the insertion of roof lights and internal alterations to the dwelling. Hall Farm House, Main Street, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6NN.

Cllr Griffiths was assigned to look at this application. She explained that the applicant had discussed the application with the Planning Authority. The plans are for a total rejig of the house and as a listed building presents some legal complexity. Cllr Griffiths suggested that the Parish Council support the decision of the Planning Authority. Cllr Griffiths noted that the plans for the summer house at the end of the garden were significant. It looked like another entire property and was a peculiar design with a large sliding door.

Cllr Prett questioned whether development into the loft space was permissible in a Grade 2 listed building. He also agreed that the summer house plans were quite big and clunky.

Borough Cllr Wheeler also felt that the plans for the summer house were too big and out of proportion and out of keeping with the area. He was due to speak with the Planning Officer dealing with the case.

Cllr Jones explained that the garden of the property backs onto his garage. He noted it was a large development, especially the wall and entrance area.

Cllr Prett added that any development would generate a considerable amount of contractor traffic around the Village Hall area that would compound the existing parking problems. Cllr Griffiths agreed but explained this was not a planning concern.

**Meeting agreed to further communicate via email regarding this application.**

**Borough Cllr Wheeler to feedback any pertinent points from the Planning Officer with regard to this application to all Councillors and Clerk.**

iv) 19/02169/FUL Mr John Hartshorne Erection of side extension to provide storage space. 72 Elterwater Drive, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6PX.

This application was received after the meeting Agenda had been issued. The application is for a small side extension. Discussion took place at the meeting and no reasons to object were found.

**Parish Council Response : Do Not Object**

Discussion took place regarding the specialist skills involved in thoroughly and objectively assessing any planning application. Cllrs Stacey and Hackett explained that they had attended Planning Application assessment training in the past.

**Clerk to investigate Cllr planning training possibilities via SLCC, NALC & RBC and report back.**

## **5446. VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr Arkless explained that David Litchfield had painted the interior of the Village Hall. Also the weathered outside windows had been painted ahead of the winter.

### *Use of PA & Music Systems at Party and Event Bookings*

During the summer the Bookings Clerk received a small number of complaints during parties at the VH. A common contributory factor seemed to be the use of amplified music and PA systems. The Clerk also distributed to all Councillors ahead of the meeting, comments on the use of the hall and related disturbance to local residents sent by a neighbour to the Village Hall.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding the best way forward to minimise complaints and also provide a venue for hire by local residents. After discussion a plan was agreed as follows:

- i) Private bookings are NOT permitted to use PA systems.
- ii) Private bookings are NOT permitted to play amplified music outside the Village Hall.

- iii) Bookings Clerk to explain that deposit may be retained if these conditions are not adhered to.
- iv) Community Events organised by and attended by Parish Council permitted to use PA systems (currently Summer BBQ/Picnic and Christmastime Event).
- v) Courtesy note to be distributed to immediate neighbours of the Village Green ahead of community events, emphasising the fact that all are very welcome to attend.

**Clerk to inform Bookings Clerk of changes to booking criteria to take place with immediate effect.**

#### *Village Hall Metal Frame Banner Holder*

Cllr Stacey reported back to the meeting on her findings regarding costings for a metal frame banner holder for the VH, similar to that within the Grange Hall grounds in Radcliffe-on-Trent. The one in Radcliffe-on-Trent has metal posts that are strapped to the boundary wall.

Vale Fabrications provided a quote for a similar product painted and fitted £340 + VAT. Projects are working on a 4-6 week turnaround.

Photographs of the banner in place at Radcliffe-on-Trent were circulated. Discussion took place. The following points were raised:

- i) Would the local residents object to this new form of advertising?
- ii) When a banner is in place would high winds cause problems? Would the banner form a sail in windy conditions?
- iii) What size would be appropriate? Smaller than Radcliffe-on-Trent? What about existing banners?
- iv) Would we require Planning Permission to proceed?
- v) Would random advertisers put up their own signs as at the Radcliffe Road end of Regatta Way?

**Costings to be established for a smaller banner holder.**

**Position regarding Planning Permission to be established.**

**8.45pm County Cllr Cutts left the meeting.**

Clerk explained that the Village Hall and Play Park electricity supplies were now out of their Fixed Price Plan.

**Clerk to investigate best price energy plans for Parish Council electricity supply.**

#### **5447. PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS**

##### *Holme Pierrepont*

Cllr Hackett reiterated that the Holme Pierrepont defibrillator had been installed and registered and was up and running.

Cllr Hackett explained that she still had three financial contributions from HP parishioners to collect.

Cllr Hackett explained that free defibrillator training had been arranged for Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November '19 at St Edmunds Church, HP provided by East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS), starting at 7pm.

Meeting thanked Cllr Hackett for all her hard work and a job well done.

**Cllr Prett to include map of HP defibrillator location in the Autumn '19 newsletter.**

**Cllr Hackett passed HP financial contributions to date totalling £455 to Clerk for banking.**

##### *Bassingfield*

Further discussion took place regarding a possible location for a defibrillator in Bassingfield.

It was suggested that we possibly speak with Bassingfield Woodyard regarding business sponsorship of a defibrillator. A plaque could be displayed near the defibrillator acknowledging their assistance.

Borough Cllr Wheeler offered to speak with Elms Farm regarding the possibility of taking a spur off their electric gates to power a defibrillator.

**Borough Cllr Wheeler to speak to Elms Farm regarding Bassingfield defibrillator.**

**8.50pm Borough Cllr Wheeler left the meeting.**

#### **5448. AUTUMN NEWSLETTER**

Plan is still to take delivery of the printed newsletters week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> November '19 and deliver over the following ten days or so. Articles are required by the end of October '19 and are to include:

- Summer Play Day article
- Summer Picnic article
- Sandale Christmas Lights advert
- Free Spirits advert
- Parish Council Christmas Event advert
- HP Defibrillator location photo and thanks for donations
- Advertise the link to the online Play Park Questionnaire via HP&G PC website.

**Cllrs and Clerk to forward Autumn Newsletter articles to Cllr Prett before end October '19.**

#### **5449. PLAY PARK**

Cllr Mason asked if the annual external Play Park inspection could be arranged. Clerk to organise and liaise with Cllr Mason.

Cllr Mason asked if Cllrs could kindly help him to move the summer sand pit on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October '19 at 9.30am.

Cllr Mason explained that heavy rain had resulted in the football pitch repeatedly flooding. It is in a very bad state, slippery with mud and potentially could cause serious injury to children playing on it. Discussion took place regarding potential solutions. It was agreed that as part of the Play Park revamp next year a new surface must be sourced for the pitch. In the interim it was agreed that part of the £2k allocated in the last financial year for the football pitch be used to pay for a pressure wash of the existing surface.

Cllr Mason spoke about inviting John Cottee to attend a Parish Council meeting to speak about Play Park upgrade.

Cllr Mason explained that the leaves falling in Autumn on the Play Park area needed removing periodically to ensure the area is safe. Cllr Arkless offered to use his leaf blower to gather the leaves for disposal by Streetwise.

**Clerk to organise Play Park Annual inspection.**

**Cllr Mason to arrange for a pressure wash of the football pitch as soon as is possible.**

**Cllr Mason to liaise with Streetwise and Cllr Arkless regarding removal of leaves at Play Park.**

**Cllr Mason to liaise with John Cottee and Clerk regarding speaking at a Parish Council meeting.**

**Clerk to email Parishioners that have offered to help with Play Park upgrade to explain their kind offer has not been forgotten and they will be recontacted in the New Year.**

**Clerk still to speak with Nuthall Parish Council Clerk regarding Play Park upgrade.**

#### **5450. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

Cllr Stacey informed the meeting that the Remembrance Service at St Edmunds Church, Holme Pierrepoint was taking place at 6.30pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November '19. All are cordially invited to attend.

Cllr Prett explained that the additional litter picking equipment had arrived. An extra litter pick had taken place in September that was filmed.

Cllr Mason explained that he had organised the PAT testing at the Village Hall. All electrical items had passed except one heater that had been scrapped.

Cllr Mason explained that a separate fire alarm service was required.

Clerk explained she had arranged for the free allocation of winter salt to be delivered to the Village Hall. Cllr Prett noted that one of the grit bins at the Village Hall was broken and needed replacing.

Clerk explained that the Village Breakfast team had asked the Bookings Clerk if some of the surplus funds generated by them could be used to get the oven professionally cleaned. Meeting agreed.

Cllr Mason asked the meeting about progress regarding permanent signage around the Village Hall to include No Parking signs.

Cllr Stacey asked Cllrs to note that the Christmastime Event would be taking place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December '19. Clerk explained that this was the only date the Carlton Brass Training Band were available. Cllr Stacey explained that no further details have been established as yet, but it is hoped that a singing group can attend.

Cllr Hackett asked if the gazebos had been waterproofed. Costings for spray waterproofing to be investigated.

**Clerk to provide Bookings Clerk with local oven cleaner contact details in order to obtain a quote.**

**Clerk still to issue completed Responsibilities & Interests form to all Councillors.**

#### **5451. FINANCE**

Clerk issued all Cllrs with copies of the month's financial transactions and details of payments. Payments are now being made from the new Unity Trust Bank Account. One cheque required signature this month but all other payments were raised for online approval.

##### *New Parish Bank Account Update*

Clerk confirmed that finally the HSBC bank accounts have been closed and the balances transferred to the Unity Trust Current Bank Account.

Discussion took place regarding transfer of funds from the current to savings account. Meeting agreed to transfer £50k to savings.

**Clerk to arrange for transfer of £50k funds from current to savings account for online approval.**

**Cllrs Mason and Bancroft still to set up their online banking authorisation.**

Clerk explained that hall hire payments could now be received directly into Unity Trust Bank Account.

**Clerk to inform Bookings Clerk that facility for hall hirers to pay directly online is now available.**

Cllr Mason reiterated that he had not been aware of invoices for the tree surgeon work being presented at meetings. Cllr Arkless explained that each year the work required had been authorised at meetings. Cllr Arkless agreed that the failure to submit invoices annually was administratively poor but was not dishonest.

Cllr Mason asked why a Business Plan had never been created for the Parish Council, despite previous Cllrs committing to create one. It was noted that such plans take a huge amount of time and energy to create, and then are liable to get changed by factors outside the Parish Council control.

Clerk explained that she had received documentation from the Pensions Regulator regarding the re-enrolment and re-declaration legal duties the Parish Council had as an employer. Every three

years the Parish Council have a legal duty as an employer to put certain staff back into a pension scheme. The Parish Council must then submit a re-declaration of compliance. The re-enrolment deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 and re-declaration deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020.

**Clerk to ensure legal pensions responsibilities are completed on time.**

**5452. CLERKS REPORT**

Clerk reminded the meeting that the Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils AGM will be taking place on the evening of 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 at Epperstone Village Hall.

Clerk ran through the action points from September '19 Minutes to ensure all were either completed or carried forward to the next month.

**5453. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019** at **7.15pm** in Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.

**The meeting ended at approximately 9.45pm.**