

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 13th January 2020 at 7.15pm in Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road

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

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

5483. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

5484. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5485. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Agenda items pertaining to Borough Cllr Wheeler to be delayed until his arrival.

Cllr Mason asked if Agenda Item 14. *Review any outstanding Matters Arising from the previous Minutes* be moved to Item 3. in order to be fully discussed before the end of the meeting.

5486. REVIEW OUTSTANDING MATTERS ARISING FROM DECEMBER '19 MINUTES

Cllr Hackett updated the meeting with details of the difference in electricity costs in Holme Pierrepont with the addition of the defibrillator. Quarterly bill 18/08/19 £31.15 compared to 18/11/19 £34.19, so an approximate additional electricity cost for defibrillator of £1 per month.

Discussion took place regarding other ongoing costs relating to defibrillators, ie replacement batteries and pads. Cllr Prett explained that the requirements differed depending on the specific model installed. County Cllr Cutts said that she had some defibrillator costs information that she would forward to the Clerk.

County Cllr Cutts to forward to Clerk email regarding defibrillator costs.

Cllr Tisbury explained that he had spoken with the Village Hall neighbour regarding the proposed replacement advertising board and confirmed there were no problems with this. Neighbour also noted that recently the inconsiderate parking situation had improved.

Cllr Prett to arrange for 3 litter pickers to receive 'Thank You' flowers at the January '20 litter pick.

Cllr Prett to forward 2020 litter pick dates to Bookings Clerk & Clerk.

Clerk to diarise 'Clear up of Village Hall Grounds' for April '20 Agenda.

5487. MINUTES

TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9th DECEMBER 2019

Cllr Stacey proposed and Cllr Prett seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Minutes were adopted. Cllr's Tisbury, Mason & Bancroft abstained as they were not present at December '19 PC Meeting.

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

5488. COUNTY REPORT

County Cllr Cutts explained that during the two week Christmas holiday period Council activity was reduced.

Cllr Cutts congratulated the Parish Council on their lovely Christmas event and noted that she had attended a number of carol concerts and services within her area.

Cllr Cutts spoke about an initiative to promote improvement in breadth of vocabulary in looked after children in the County. The literature written by the children has resulted in an invitation to an awards ceremony in London.

Cllr Cutts spoke about attending a Public Health committee meeting on Wednesday to discuss a recent Public Health Report.

Cllr Cutts expressed her pleasure that the recent Bassingfield planning application for development had been turned down in its' entirety.

Cllr Cutts mentioned the areas of flooding within the Parish and explained that similar situations had been faced across the County. During periods of heavy rain the issue of standing water with nowhere to drain is exacerbated by ditches that have been neglected from clearing maintenance by the landowners.

Cllr Cutts explained that the latest Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) is open for applications. Last year the scheme was oversubscribed by three times for the £1 million available to be spent across the County. Cllr Cutts advised that schemes costing less than £5k may receive full funding, greater than that amount and a contribution up to around £10k would be expected. Cllr Cutts encouraged applications to the scheme for community projects.

Cllr Tisbury asked if the LIS would possibly fund banners for the Breakfast Club and Film Night. Cllr Mason asked if improvements to the football pitch area at the Play Park would be eligible.

Clerk to investigate LIS applications for HP&G PC community projects.

County Cllr Cutts mentioned that she had been in correspondence with a Bassingfield resident with regard to road closure signage left on grass verges outside the village with no communication regarding associated road closures.

Cllr Arkless spoke about the City Council's commitment to become carbon neutral by 2028.

Cllr Mason asked if there would be any possibility of reducing the speed limit on the A52 ring road between Wheatcrofts and Gamston Lock roundabout from 60mph to 40mph. Cllr Cutts explained that this was a trunk road and this would not be possible.

5489. PLANNING

No new Planning Applications have been received during the month.

5490. VILLAGE HALL

General Update

Cllr Arkless read out Bookings Clerk monthly report.

'A brief update for the January meeting.

December was an average month until Friday 20th when all of the regular groups finished for the Christmas period.

The heating and water were switched down to a safe minimum. The only user was the Breakfast Club (the heating was switched back on for them). A couple of viewings are booked for the end of the week and a steady flow of enquiries for future bookings, mainly via email.

Everything will gradually return to normal from week commencing 6th January.'

Cllr Arkless noted that a decision had been taken to refuse a booking for a 40th birthday party with alcohol due to the potential risk of unacceptable noise levels. The enquirer was disappointed but understood the reasoning.

Cllr Tisbury explained that the Velux blinds were not working. He had replaced the battery in the controller but they still would not operate.

Cllr Arkless to investigate the cause of Velux blind malfunction.

Cllr Tisbury noted that the expensive floor standing speaker stored in the office had been moved to the centre of the room and was concerned that the public had access to this equipment. Clerk confirmed that she had moved some things in the office in order to store some archive paperwork in the office.

Cllr Mason asked if Film Night information could be provided for the Parish notice boards. Cllr Tisbury explained that a condition of the film licence prohibited advertising of the actual film title offsite, however he could provide the proposed dates.

Cllr Tisbury noted that recently the Film Night had not been as well attended as previously, possibly due to the choice of films being more mainstream and therefore already having been seen by a number of people. More unusual choices were being proposed for the new year.

Cllr Tisbury to provide Clerk with 2020 Film Night dates.

Cllr Tisbury also updated the meeting on the Village Breakfast which is still thriving. On 29th December '19 the team had a very successful morning and served around 60 covers.

Metal Banner Hanger

Cllr Tisbury had already explained that the Village Hall neighbour has no problem with the proposed replacement notice board metal banner hanger.

Cllr Tisbury asked if a Matt Green finish could be requested and also for confirmation of the banner size.

Subject to confirmation from Borough Cllr Wheeler that no Planning Permission is required, Parish Council to proceed with metal banner hanger purchase.

Cllr Prett asked about the removal of the old notice board. Cllr Arkless confirmed that he would arrange for its removal. Discussion took place regarding the provision of outdoor electric points. There is a socket close to the old notice board that is no longer live since the rebuilding of the Village Hall. The outside socket on the Village Hall decking is currently broken. Cllr Bancroft suggested that the socket could be moved from the notice board to the decking to replace the broken one and also look to provide outdoor power for lighting the Village Hall Christmas tree in the future.

Cllr Arkless to provide Borough Cllr Wheeler with dimensions of the proposed metal banner hanger and also details of proximity to the boundary.

Borough Cllr Wheeler to confirm with RBC Planning that permission not required to replace notice board.

Cllr Arkless to confirm the maximum size of banner that will fit in the new holder.

Cllr Arkless to check the notice board socket is no longer live and assess the outdoor electricity options available at the Village Hall.

Spring 2020 Tree Work Quotation

Clerk had previously circulated detailed quotation for Parish tree work required. Meeting unanimously agreed to this work taking place.

Clerk to notify tree surgeon of decision to proceed with quotation dated 27th December '19.

5491. PLAY PARK

Cllr Mason thanked Cllr's Arkless and Owen for assisting with the removal of the Play Park Christmas tree.

Cllr Mason stressed that the condition of the football pitch was becoming a more urgent issue to resolve. It was very dirty, pooled water during heavy rain and presented a significant slip hazard.

Cllr Bancroft suggested that signage be created indicate that people use the pitch at their own risk. Discussion took place regarding signage displayed at our Play Park and other local parks and pitches.

Clerk explained that Cllr Prett had forwarded details to her of a local company that could quote for the work.

Clerk to report back on signage displayed at Ambleside Play Park.

Clerk to arrange for quotations for resurfacing of Ambleside Play Park football pitch.

5492. SPRING NEWSLETTER

Spring newsletter issue date agreed to be around weekend of the 4th April '20. In order to meet this deadline articles must be received by Cllr Prett before 20th March '20.

Discussion took place regarding the 75th VE Day anniversary theming of the Spring '20 Parish News. Clerk mentioned that she had received correspondence regarding early purchase of large lamppost poppies, normally sold ahead of Remembrance Sunday, in order to commemorate VE Day. Discussion took place and meeting agreed to look into purchasing a lamppost poppy to commemorate each fallen soldier from the Parish. County Cllr Cutts explained that details of servicemen killed in Nottinghamshire is accessible on the County Council website. Cllr Owen agreed to collate the information relating to the Parish.

Cllr Cutts suggested the Breakfast Club could host a VE Day themed breakfast close to the VE Day Bank Holiday date, which is Friday 8th May '20.

Clerk to investigate cost of individual lamppost poppies.

Cllr Owen to collate details of fallen servicemen from Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish.

5493. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Cllr Hackett noted that she and Cllr's Stacey and Owen were attending an upcoming course relating to flood protection.

Cllr Mason asked for a revised list of Councillor contact details for the notice boards.

Clerk had added 'Review of 2019 PC Achievements' to the agenda. Historically this review takes place as part of the Annual Meeting each May. Discussion took place. Cllr Owen expressed that, as a recently appointed Councillor new to the current Parish Council processes, he could see no evidence of the Parish Council working towards a 3 or 5 year plan. He acknowledged that the rebuilding of the Village Hall was a major project and that the Play Park is kept well, but is unaware of any statement to the Parishioners that explains what the Parish Council are doing.

Cllr Tisbury agreed with Cllr Owen's sentiments. Cllr Tisbury explained that during his last 6 years on the Parish Council it has been his aim to try and work towards the Parish Council being a catalyst for an increased sense of community. He also noted the Parish Council sometimes have to focus on one big issue in the area for example the work performed on resolving the unkempt Open Spaces in the Parish.

Cllr Owen asked what the Parish Council priorities are for the year and what are the plans going forward. He noted that he would be happy to collaborate with other Councillors on creating a management or business plan.

County Cllr Cutts thought the Parish Council were perhaps being a little hard on themselves and considered that we maintain our facilities well.

Cllr Stacey spoke about recycling spider diagrams that are useful for indicating what waste can be recycled. She noted that the Borough Council are very keen to improve recycling rates.

Cllr Tisbury confirmed that the spring bulbs that are emerging around the Village Hall perimeter were supplied and planted by the Breakfast Club.

Clerk to provide revised Councillor Contact details.

Cllr Tisbury and Owen to liaise regarding Parish Council aims for the next year.

8.30pm County Cllr Cutts left the meeting.

5494. FINANCE

Clerk issued all Cllrs with copies of the month's financial transactions and details of payments. All payments this month, except one cheque to David Litchfield, are to be made via BACS. One party booking receipt this month was received directly via BACS.

Clerk explained that the quarterly £18 service charge for using the Unity Trust current bank account had been paid, but that this had been negated by the quarterly bank interest received in the savings account of £27.90.

Cllr Owen suggested that with considerable funds in reserves, that some of this money should be used to sort out the issues with the Play Park football pitch.

Cllr Tisbury noted that the Village Hall sinking fund amount should be ring-fenced and carried forward.

Clerk to show Village Hall Sinking Fund ring-fenced from general reserves.

Clerk to carry out pensions responsibilities by 30th June '20.

2020/2021 Financial Year – Precept Budget Sign Off

Clerk had previously circulated a revised budget for the 2020/2021 Precept Request.

Cllr Mason was not present at the December '19 meeting and asked if the £60 per annum per Councillor Members' Allowance could be reviewed. Cllr Arkless explained that this had been raised and discussed at the last meeting and the majority decision was to leave at the current amount.

Clerk noted that the expected amount to be received in Village Hall hire receipts had been increased in this year's precept calculations. Cllr Mason asked if there were to be any changes to the amount charged to hall hirers. Clerk confirmed that this was staying as is for now.

Cllr Arkless proposed and Cllr Tisbury seconded the motion that the precept request for '20/'21 financial year be £37,250, a reduction of £50 on the last financial year. Vote taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

Clerk to forward necessary documentation to Rushcliffe Borough Council for precept request before the deadline date.

8.45pm Borough Cllr Wheeler arrived at the meeting.

5495. DISTRICT REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that he had attempted to acquire housing information via telephone and email but had so far been unsuccessful.

Borough Cllr Wheeler to report back to Feb '20 PC meeting on actual v target houses built within the plan period.

Cllr Wheeler confirmed that he had spoken with Bassingfield resident Simon Robinson with regard to the possibility of siting a defibrillator for the village on the boundary of his property. Cllr Wheeler said the response was very positive and that he would speak to him again to confirm details.

Borough Cllr Wheeler to speak with Simon Robinson regarding Bassingfield defibrillator.

Borough Cllr Wheeler gave his district report and noted that West Bridgford Colts Football Club had won the Pride of Rushcliffe Award. They are the biggest junior football club in the country and their home ground is within the Parish. WB Colts would also like to build a 3G pitch.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about an RBC committee to manage Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and 106 payments from developers in the absence of a West Bridgford town council. Cllr Wheeler stressed the importance of developments incorporating adequate provision for health, education, open spaces, retail and community facilities.

Borough Cllr Wheeler told the meeting there was a Bike Mark event taking place at Rushcliffe Arena on 18th January '20 where residents can get their bicycles security coded.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the creation of a proposed SPD (Special Planning Document) that detailed required environmental housing standards. If adopted these standards will create better diversity across new build housing.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the ongoing review of community facilities in West Bridgford. Gamston Community Hall takes the most hire receipts but still runs at a loss.

Cllr Wheeler explained that a primary school was due to be built at Sharp Hill. It is anticipated that children will spend the first term in temporary accommodation until the building is completed.

Cllr Tisbury asked how meetings assessed the need for community facilities. Cllr Wheeler confirmed a combination of community need and financials were considered. Cllr Tisbury suggested that when primary consideration was cost the unquantifiable value of community spirit was often lost. Cllr Wheeler noted that community facilities cost money and the public need to be aware that providing community facilities, even with a charge to hire them, cost the council money.

Cllr Prett asked about the defibrillator in Edwalton. Cllr Wheeler explained that it had been paid for out of his County divisional fund and the Post Office are happy to pay the ongoing electricity costs.

5496. CLERKS REPORT

Clerk explained that she was trying to reduce the amount of Parish paperwork she had stored at home and had acquired a document from NALC (National Association of Local Councils) advising on the legal time limits regarding retention of some Parish documents.

Discussion took place regarding the storage of archive Parish material in the Nottingham Archives. Clerk explained that she was the custodian of all Parish paperwork and as such was reluctant to remove anything off-site that may be needed in the future. Meeting was unsure as to whether, once archived, documentation could be returned.

Clerk to read through NALC documentation and shred any paperwork that can be disposed of.

Clerk to add 'Storage & Archiving of Parish Paperwork' to February '20 Agenda.

5497. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 10th February 2020** at **7.15pm** in Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.

The meeting ended at approximately 9.25pm.

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