

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 19th October 2020 at 7.15pm via Zoom

Members Present: Gary Arkless (Chair), Cynthia Stacey, Melvyn Tisbury, 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.

5573. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

Cllr Bancroft not present.

5574. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5575. ORDER OF BUSINESS

No changes to order of business proposed.

5576. MINUTES

**TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 14th SEPTEMBER 2020**

Cllr Tisbury noted that Minute 5564. should clarify that the website that is documented as a source for information regarding the unitary authority proposals is purely from a Notts County Council perspective.

Cllr Tisbury also noted that the sentence *'The Local Plan outlines this land for potential development.'* Minute 5564. is ambiguous and it was agreed to remove from the minutes.

Subject to the above amendments, Cllr Prett proposed, and Cllr Stacey seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Cllr Owen abstained as he was not present at the September '20 meeting.

Cllr Arkless to upload amended September '20 Minutes to the HP&G PC website.

Clerk to delete September '20 Zoom meeting recording.

5577. COUNTY REPORT

County Cllr Cutts spoke about the rising levels of positive Covid-19 tests in the city of Nottingham and surrounding boroughs including Rushcliffe. Rates of infection are rising in West Bridgford. This rise is resulting in increasing levels of hospitalized cases as the virus moves into the older age groups. Cllr Cutts confirmed that she was involved in talks

with the government regarding next steps along with leaders from Nottingham City and the surrounding districts.

Cllr Cutts spoke about the Notts County Council Inspire library service winning a Times Educational Supplement award for Adult & Community Learning. Cllr Cutts explained that this was a high accolade.

Cllr Cutts explained that she had written to the Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club to congratulate them on their T20 Blast Championship win.

Cllr Cutts told the meeting that refurbishment of Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church had begun, but progress may be affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Cllr Cutts spoke about, subject to planning permission being granted, creation of a new household recycling facility on Hollygate Lane in Cotgrave.

Cllr Cutts noted problems with cars cutting through Kirk Lane in East Bridgford and changes to be made that would dramatically reduce the number of vehicles.

Cllr Cutts explained that a new pedestrian crossing is to be created on Musters Road to help school children cross the road safely. Cllr Cutts noted that it was increasingly difficult to find lollipop people to work the required split shifts to facilitate children crossing and consequently this would result in an increase in pedestrian crossings. Cllr Cutts also spoke about Ride&Stride proposals whereby parents and bus drivers would not drop children off directly at school gates, but further away and the children could walk a bit further. This would be better for the children's health and make school sites and immediate surrounds less congested with vehicles.

Cllr Tisbury asked about a government meeting that was due to take place on Friday. Cllr Cutts confirmed that this had been cancelled but she had been involved in public health meetings that included Jonathan Van Tam. Cllr Cutts explained that if possible, they do not want to move into Tier 3 restrictions. Cllr Cutts asked the meeting their views on the current situation.

Cllr Tisbury noted that the rate of positive cases is starting to reduce in Nottingham. Cllr Cutts agreed but in contrast hospital admissions are increasing as the virus moves through the age cohorts. The worry is that the NHS will become overstretched and elective operations then get cancelled. Cllr Arkless explained that he had spoken to some businesses in West Bridgford who felt that the current restrictions were so damaging to business that at least in Tier 3 there would be some financial assistance. Cllr Tisbury questioned how much going into Tier 3 would help. Would the virus just be suppressed and then re-emerge as the restrictions are lifted again.

Cllr Cutts explained that Nottingham and Nottinghamshire coincidentally have a 2-week half term holiday starting now that will hopefully have an impact on Covid-19 transmission.

Cllr Griffiths noted that the terrible toll on the mental health of the population must not be underestimated. Cllr Cutts agreed that many people were upset and frightened by the situation and it is difficult to balance an approach to suit all. Cllr Cutts' individual view is that the situation as it is cannot continue forever, and we must find a way to live and work whilst shielding the extremely vulnerable and protecting the NHS.

Cllr Tisbury agreed with Cllr Cutts on this point but also thought that trust in the government had been undermined and needed to be rebuilt. He noted that the Test & Trace app had been a fiasco and does not work.

County Cllr Cutts announced that she would not be standing for election again in May 2021. Cllr Arkless said he would be sorry to see her go. Cllr Cutts said the time was right after 32 years as a County Councillor, 10 years as a Borough Councillor and 5 years as a Parish Councillor but stressed that she was in post until May 2021 and would be carrying on as usual and hoped that sometime before then we would be able to meet as a Parish Council face to face. Cllr Mason explained he had heard Cllr Cutts on Radio Nottingham at 6.45am and she was as clear as ever at that early hour.

5578. DISTRICT REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler spoke again about the free native trees and wildflower meadow initiative. He explained that the government were very keen to promote biodiversity in communities.

Cllrs to contact Borough Cllr Wheeler with any ideas of locations in the Parish that would benefit from native trees and wildflower meadow.

Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that he had been notified by the local PCSO that there was an increasing theft problem at the recycling bay at Gamston Morrisons. Handbags and valuables were being taken from cars whilst the occupants were depositing their recycling just metres away. It is important to lock car doors whilst unoccupied.

Cllr Wheeler explained that he had been in discussions with St Luke's Church regarding funding and support as they were struggling during this time. Sarah Sharpe Families Minister from the church is working with Public Health England to try and formulate some plans for a Christmas celebration in conjunction with Holme Pierrepont Water Sports Centre. Initial thoughts are for a 'Christmas Carols in the Car' event in the water sports car park, ensuring social distancing is possible.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the need to support local businesses during this time. When speaking to local hospitality business owners they describe a disappearance of afternoon and evening trade. Cllr Wheeler also spoke about the closure of Zinc venue for one month on Central Avenue after flouting Covid-19 rules on four occasions. Cllr Wheeler told the meeting of a success story during the pandemic, Okende coffee shop on Gordon Road are expanding by taking over the retail space previously occupied by WB Local News shop.

Cllr Wheeler explained that High Street Ambassadors were being employed on Central Avenue and nearby shopping areas to explain current Covid-19 restrictions. Their role would not be that of policing the area, rather offering friendly reminders of the current rules, especially important as they are ever changing.

Cllr Wheeler explained there would be some tough months until a vaccine for Covid-19 was found. Taking any area into Tier 3 restrictions was a hard decision, especially for the businesses that would be forced to close during this phase. Once trade has been interrupted it is a difficult task to win it back again.

Cllr Jones asked why it had taken so long to close Zinc bar. Cllr Wheeler explained that there were rules and procedures that had to be legally followed that took time. Concerns were expressed about compliance to Covid-19 rules as and when Zinc reopens. Cllr Wheeler explained that RBC licencing and public health were involved in ensuring Zinc reopens safely. The Police will also keep a close eye on the establishment as and when it reopens and there will be weekly RBC inspections. Cllr Arkless noted that RBC have leverage with the future granting of a licence to Zinc

5579. PLANNING

- i) *Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan*
- *Regatta Way ACV (Asset of Community Value)*

Since the last Parish Council meeting West Bridgford Colts Football Club application for their pitches to be granted ACV status had been approved. Cllr Arkless asked what effect this will have on any plans that are proposed for the site. County Cllr Cutts stated this would have no effect as the land is leased and not owned by West Bridgford Colts FC. Cllr Cutts noted that any school that was built would most probably be equipped with 5G pitches and there would be the possibility of coming to an arrangement to share any facilities.

- ii) 20/02368/FUL Claire & Tom Kay First floor front extension and single
storey side extension. 45 Adbolton Grove, West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, NG2
5AR.

Cllr Tisbury kindly volunteered to look at this application.

Cllr Tisbury to circulate a proposed response to all Cllrs in order to meet the deadline for comment of Thursday 5th November 2020.

- iii) *Barwood Land & Taylor Wimpey Outline Planning Application – Land East of Gamston/North of Tollerton*

Clerk explained to the meeting that she had been contacted by DevComms.co.uk on behalf of Barwood Land & Taylor Wimpey to ask if the Parish Council would be interested in being briefed on the emerging plans for the site, that broadly reflect the Core Strategy allocation. Meeting agreed this would be beneficial and suggested the presentation be included in the agenda for the November 2020 Parish Council meeting if possible.

Clerk to liaise with DevComms.co.uk and arrange briefing presentation, ideally on Monday 9th November 2020 during next Parish Council meeting.

Clerk still investigating Planning Application Assessment training course options for Cllrs Arkless, Hackett, Jones & Owen.

5580. PLAY PARK

Additional Cleaning – Streetwise Quotation

Clerk had circulated quotation from Streetwise for additional cleaning requirements at the Play Park. In summary;

- i) Leaf Removal - £228 +VAT per visit
- ii) Power Wash All Park & MUGA Equipment - £456 +VAT per visit
- iii) Repaint Park Equipment & Benches - £830.77 +VAT

Cllr Arkless considered the quotations to be reasonable except for i) Leaf Removal which he considered to be unacceptably high.

Cllr Arkless made a proposal that the Parish Council purchase a petrol-powered leaf blower and pay David Litchfield to use this to remove the leaves during the autumn. Discussion took place regarding safety and storage of the equipment. Cllr Tisbury asked if David Litchfield had been asked whether he was happy to carry out the work. Cllr Arkless agreed to speak with David Litchfield. Cllr Hackett kindly offered to assist with the removal of the cleared leaves from the park area to prevent them redistributing around the park during high winds. Cllr Griffiths asked for clarification of where it would be stored. Cllr Arkless confirmed Storeroom 2 at the Village Hall and if necessary spare fuel could be stored off site in his garage.

Cllr Arkless proposed that, subject to agreement from David Litchfield to carry out the work, a Parish Council petrol leaf blower be purchased. All Cllrs unanimously agreed.

Cllr Arkless to speak with David Litchfield regarding leaf removal at Play Park.

Subject to David Litchfield agreement, Cllr Arkless to purchase Parish Council leaf blower.

Cllr Hackett suggested that before accepting the Streetwise quotation for cleaning and repainting the Play Park another quotation be acquired for comparison. Meeting agreed. Cllr Tisbury offered to ask a painter and decorator that lives locally to provide a quotation.

Cllr Tisbury to approach local painter and decorator for quotation for comparison for repainting Play Park.

Christmas Tree Decorative Safety Fencing

Cllr Arkless confirmed that 15 fencing panels would be required to surround the Christmas Tree at Ambleside Play Park at a cost of approximately £330. Clerk explained they would be easy to store. Cllr Tisbury expressed concern over securing the fencing to prevent it being stolen. Cllr Arkless explained the fencing could be bolted together or secured with padlocks or cable locks. Clerk explained that Cllr Prett had forwarded to her a completed application for grant assistance towards security equipment. Discussion took place regarding the purchase of fencing. Meeting agreed unanimously to purchase fencing panels, Cllr Tisbury noted this to be conditional on them being locked together.

Cllr Arkless to purchase fencing panels.

Clerk to submit grant application for possible financial assistance to purchase security items.

Clerk explained that she had been notified by Cllr Prett that during the monthly Gamston Litter Pick the ashes of a child's jumper had been found at the Play Park. It was suspected that this was a random act of vandalism of some lost property and fortunately no damage appeared to have been sustained. Cllr Mason confirmed this as he had inspected the area.

5581. VILLAGE HALL

Government Guidance re: opening of community venues

Clerk confirmed that she had spoken with the Bookings Clerk regarding the trial use of the Village Hall by Daisy Baby group and it was working well. Daisy Baby asked for permission to extend the trial after half term until Christmas. Bookings Clerk has received a booking form and cheque to cover the hire pending the decision by the Parish Council. Discussion took place. Meeting unanimously agreed to allow Daisy Baby to continue to use the Village Hall until Christmas, subject to government guidelines.

**Clerk to communicate with Bookings Clerk regarding Daisy Baby.
Bookings Clerk to pass Daisy Baby booking form and payment cheque to Clerk for processing.**

Discussion took place regarding the opening of the Village Hall to other regular user groups. Concern was expressed over the gathering of groups with older members. Discussion took place regarding ways of facilitating reintroduction of Rainbow and Brownie groups. It was decided that at this time it would be too difficult to monitor and control the movement of the children within the hall area. This issue does not apply to baby groups.

Clerk explained that the Bookings Clerk had been approached by a baby sensory group that currently hire a room at the Poppy & Pint public house, concerned that if increasing restrictions necessitated the Poppy & Pint to close, they would be without a venue, and in that instance would like to use the Village Hall on a temporary basis. Meeting discussed the proposal and agreed that as long as they provided us with their risk assessment documents and were able to administer Test & Trace for their group, observe social distancing and provide their own cleaning and sanitising products, this would be approved on a temporary basis.

Clerk to notify Bookings Clerk that Poppy & Pint Baby Sensory Group could use the Village Hall facilities on a temporary basis, subject to the above conditions.

Cllr Hackett to obtain further information regarding Flintham Beaver group and report back.

Clerk explained that Bookings Clerk requested guidance on level of heating required in the Village Hall over winter. Meeting agreed that main hall and toilets should be heated at a minimum level, increased when the Daisy Baby group are using the hall. Heating in the storage cupboards and foyer area are not required at this time.

Clerk to inform Bookings Clerk of VH heating requirements.

Use of Village Hall outdoor space

Cllr Tisbury to circulate first draft of Rules for use of Outdoor Village Hall space.

5582. PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS

Cllr Hackett updated the meeting on the defibrillator for Bassingfield. The cabinet has now been sited on the roadside at the entrance to Elms Farm. The defibrillator now needs to be registered.

Cllr Hackett explained that she had contacted Rob Birkin at EMAS but he had informed her that they are no longer responsible for registration of defibrillators. Clerk needs to open an account with The Circuit by the British Heart Foundation and register ALL the Parish defibrillators with them.

Once registered The Circuit system provides reminders when defibrillator pads and batteries are due to expire.

Clerk to open a Parish Council account with The Circuit and register all Parish defibrillators.

Cllrs Hackett and Prett to provide Clerk with relevant details required to register Parish defibrillators, including defibrillator serial number and cabinet serial number.

Clerk explained some further contributions from residents of Bassingfield had been received directly into the Parish bank account. Cllr Hackett explained that she would be speaking with the residents of Bassingfield once again to encourage them to contribute.

Cllr Cutts suggested Cllr Hackett contact Sherwood Farms to ask if they would contribute towards the cost of the defibrillator.

County Cllr Cutts to forward contact details for Sherwood Farms to Clerk.

During the Covid-19 pandemic it was agreed that resident defibrillator training should be provided remotely.

Clerk to produce a letter for all residents of Bassingfield with thanks for contributions and to include training instructions. Cllr's Prett and Hackett to assist with content.

Cllr Arkless confirmed that the defibrillator pads in the Gamston Village Hall equipment expire in May 2021.

5583. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Cllr Stacey explained that the residents of Holme Pierrepont were experiencing problems with the kerbside parking near to the Skylarks Nature Reserve. Cllr Stacey asked Cllr Prett if he could help in any way to alleviate the problem. The car park is small and overflow parking on both sides of the road is dangerous.

Cllr Prett noted that the parking issue was exacerbated by professional dog walkers who frequently use the reserve to exercise as many as 5 or 6 animals.

Cllr Owen asked about the extra car park inside the nature reserve that seems to always be locked. Cllr Prett explained that the gate could not be opened during daytime hours as this would encourage anti-social behaviour by motor bikers.

Cllr Prett to investigate the parking situation at Skylarks.

Cllr Stacey noted that, with Cllr Wheeler and Sarah Sharpe from St Luke's, in addition to the carol service at Holme Pierrepont, plans were being formulated to have a Big Gamston Lights Switch On. A date and time were yet to be confirmed, but at that time the whole Parish would be encouraged to switch on their Christmas lights.

Cllr Stacey explained that St Edmunds Church in Holme Pierrepont would be holding a Remembrance Service on Sunday 8th November 2020 at 6.30pm. There would unfortunately be no refreshments served due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Cllr Mason explained that the union flag at the Village Hall was very tatty and he requested approval from the Parish Council to purchase a new flag. Cllr Mason proposed, and Cllr Arkless seconded the motion that a replacement union flag be purchased. Vote taken. Cllrs Arkless, Stacey, Mason, Hackett, Prett, Griffiths and Jones in favour. Cllrs Tisbury & Owen abstained. Majority in favour. Motion carried.

Clerk to purchase replacement union flag for Village Hall.

Cllr Mason explained that PAT testing had been carried out at the Village Hall and all appliances had passed. Cllr Mason explained Clerk was still awaiting the necessary paperwork to display in the Village Hall.

Cllr Tisbury explained to the meeting he had attended a virtual Local Government Reorganisation Focus Group for the Parishes on behalf of the Parish Council. The meeting had lasted 3 hours and covered a lot of the same ground that was discussed a couple of years ago. Cllr Tisbury explained that the focus group was independently carried out on behalf of Notts County Council to extract the views of the Parish Councils. Cllr Tisbury noted that it would compromise confidentiality to discuss the content of the focus group whilst County Cllr Cutts and Borough Cllr Wheeler were present. Parish Councillors agreed to stay on the Zoom call after the Parish Council meeting to be updated. This would not be recorded or minuted.

Cllr Stacey spoke about the email that had been forwarded by the Clerk regarding the surface of Holme Lane, Holme Pierrepont from the Area Rights of Way Officer James Hatchett. Cllr Stacey had asked Cllr's Hackett and Owen to also be involved.

County Cllr Cutts explained that she had not been informed of this initiative and asked for the Clerk to forward the letter to her. Cllr Cutts informed the meeting that a highway could not be downgraded to a bridleway without a public enquiry.

Clerk to forward letter from James Hatchett regarding the surface of Holme Lane to County Cllr Cutts.

5584. FINANCE

Clerk had previously issued via email all Cllrs with copies of the month's financial transactions and details of payments.

Cllrs Arkless and Stacey kindly agreed to electronically authorise month's payments online.

Clerk to forward scans of all invoices for payment to Cllrs Arkless and Stacey.

Clerk to arrange to move Clerk mobile to TalkMobile.

Clerk to further chase up the VAT refund that was applied for in May '20.

Clerk explained that we were approaching the end of the year when provisional budgets were formulated and circulated. Clerk explained that this would be particularly difficult this year as it was hard to predict when Village Hall income would be anything like normal. Cllr Tisbury asked if current forecasts for this financial year considered loss of income. Clerk explained that in her cash flow analysis she had made a worst-case scenario assumption that there would be no VH hire income this financial year. Clerk explained that we did hold on credit several sessions for regular groups that had not been used due to Covid-19, but she was unsure of the exact value.

Clerk to speak with Bookings Clerk to establish £ value of hall hire credit of regular users.

5585. CLERKS REPORT

Clerk still awaiting delivery of large Salt Bin for Village Hall.

Clerk still to draft letter of thanks to all Covid-19 volunteers and post out.

5586. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 9th November 2020** at **7.15pm via Zoom**.

The meeting ended at approximately 9pm.