

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 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.

**5616. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Bancroft sent his apologies.

**5617. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**5618. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

No changes to order of business proposed.

**5619. MINUTES**

**TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

Cllr Prett noted the following amendments.

Four instances where apostrophe to be removed from Cllrs.

Minute 5607. paragraph 6 add '*Cllr Tisbury kindly volunteered to represent the Parish Council as the liaison person between Holme Pierrepont & Gamston and Tollerton Parish Council.*'

Minute 5607. paragraph 8 clarify that the Stavely Way broken fence is not resolved as yet. Replace paragraph with '*Cllr Prett thanked Cllr Wheeler for his help in bringing the damaged fence on Stavely Way to the attention of Bovis Homes.*'

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

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

**Clerk to delete December '20 Zoom meeting recording.**

**Borough Cllr Wheeler to chase Bovis Homes for resolution of fence issue.**

## **5620. COUNTY REPORT**

County Cllr Cutts explained that the Council had been back at work for one week since the Christmas break and much of her work was associated with Covid19. Cllr Cutts spoke about the vaccination locations around the county including the Gamston Community Centre. It is hoped that the first cohort of residents including care home residents and care home workers will all have had their first vaccination by the end of January '21 and all over 75 year olds by the end of February '21.

Cllr Cutts spoke about a nasty outbreak of Covid19 in Nottinghamshire but noted that other areas had been more adversely affected. Cllr Cutts spoke about the concern over hospital beds and capacity being exceeded. The increased knowledge of the disease and treatments is resulting in better chances of survival but consequently hospital stays being longer.

Cllr Cutts explained that budget discussions were ongoing and a 1% rise in Council Tax was likely, with 1% or 2% increase on Adult Social Care budget.

Cllr Cutts explained that Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council meeting was also taking place this evening and would be leaving early to also attend that.

## **5621. DISTRICT REPORT**

Borough Cllr Wheeler spoke about the vaccinations taking place at Gamston Community Centre. Cllr Wheeler explained that there had been some teething problems with the car park as it is small and also services the GP surgery, vets and pet shop. The Goose public house have now opened their car park up to vaccination staff and patients and this has alleviated the problem. Cllr Wheeler told the meeting that there are plans to provide a canopy and outdoor heaters for the patients queuing outside during the winter.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the one year fly tipping enforcement trial that is taking place and explained that 14 fixed penalties have already been issued. Cllr Wheeler explained there is an increasing fly tipping problem in the region that has been exacerbated by Covid19. People are at home using the time to tidy and clear their homes and there is now a booking system at the recycling centre on Rugby Road for which there has been up to a 5 week waiting list to deposit waste.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the Borough Council financial response to Covid19 and the Business Support Grants that have been issued to local businesses.

Cllr Wheeler noted that a motion had been presented to Full Council on 17<sup>th</sup> December '20 to clean up the local waterways. Cllr Wheeler explained that biodiversity is being adversely affected by pollution and that an external organisation WISE (Waste Investigations Support & Enforcement) have been brought in to assist.

Cllr Jones asked what the current situation is regarding Zinc Bar on Central Avenue, West Bridgford regarding Covid19 compliance. Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that an additional £200 fine had been issued as people have been congregating with their drinks outside several bars in West Bridgford. The Police have been keeping an eye on them and helping the staff to follow the guidance and advise their customers on the current rules. Borough Cllr Wheeler said he felt sorry for the bar owners as the rules changed, as they were having to throw away their products and forward planning was incredibly

difficult, but education and stopping the spread of the virus was paramount. Cllr Arkless noted that these issues would be reviewed when renewing licences.

## 5622. PLANNING

- i) 20/03148/FUL David Middleton Demolish existing flat roof porch. Construction of new slate pitched roof porch. Part conversion of double garage. Replace 1 no. garage door with window. Hall Farm Court, Main Street, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6NN.

*Deadline for comment* : *Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January '21*

Cllr Prett has looked at this application and concluded the following. The left hand side of the existing double garage is to be converted into a bedroom and the existing porch is to be replaced by a slightly larger porch. Only reservation is the claim that there will be no impact on car parking. The existing double garage has two garage doors but opens into a single large space. It is not possible to drive a vehicle into the garage via the left hand door but it is via the right hand door, although the car would probably have to be reversed in to enable door opening. When the left hand side of the garage is converted into a bedroom, it is unlikely that the remaining garage space could be used to store a car, as there will be little space to open a car door. The new larger porch will also impact on car manoeuvrability. However, it is assumed that the garage is not used to store a car at present and hence the claim that there is no impact on car parking. There appears to be sufficient space to park at least two cars within the grounds of the property so recommend do not object.

Parish Council Response : Do Not Object

**Clerk to respond on behalf of the Parish Council via the RBC Planning Portal by the deadline date.**

- ii) *Gamston Fields, land East of Gamston*

*Deadline for comment* : *Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February '21*

Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that the rights on the land were due to expire at the year end and consequently a planning application had been recently submitted. Cllr Wheeler stressed that a strategic plan for the entire development does need to be in place, but this application does not include one. Cllr Wheeler explained that the application will go to Planning Committee sometime in 2021.

Cllr Tisbury asked if Cllr Wheeler knew of any Planning Committee member opinions of the application. Cllr Wheeler confirmed that he did not as Cllrs will not want to preclude themselves from committee by commenting now.

Cllr Arkless asked the meeting whether they considered we should submit a comment at this stage or rely on the submission to DevComms as part of their consultation process. Cllr Tisbury felt that we should also submit a comment to the application focussing on the aspects important to us. Cllr Tisbury explained that he had started work on reviewing the large volume of supporting documentation on the RBC planning website.

**Clerk to request an extension for comment until after February '21 Parish Council meeting.**

**Cllr Arkless to liaise with Cllr Tisbury regarding review of planning documentation.**

**Cllr Arkless to re-send details of Tollerton Parish Council Chair Matt Garrard to Cllr Tisbury.**

**Cllr Tisbury to document a response to the Planning Application on behalf of the Parish Council and circulate for feedback.**

iii) *RBC New Planning Enforcement Policy Draft Document Consultation*

*Deadline for comment : Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January '21*

Discussion took place regarding Planning Enforcement generally. It was agreed that applications for retrospective planning permission were not acceptable and should be discouraged. Discussion took place regarding rates of fines and whether they are set by Central Government. Cllr Tisbury noted that the current level of fines was inadequate and if they were set at a percentage of the development value it would perhaps discourage so much flouting of rules. Cllr Wheeler agreed that the current level of fines made it still worthwhile to take the risk of not complying. Cllr Griffiths noted that on occasion trees and shrubs are removed from plots before submitting a planning application. Said planning application then states that no trees or shrubs will be removed as part of the development, as the problematic foliage has already been removed.

Cllr Arkless asked for a volunteer to review the document and circulate any comments. Cllr Stacey volunteered and Cllr Griffiths agreed to work with her.

**Cllrs Stacey and Griffiths to review RBC New Planning Enforcement Policy Draft Document and circulate thoughts regarding possible response on behalf of the Parish Council ahead of the deadline date.**

**Borough Cllr Wheeler to check if the level of Planning Enforcement fines is set centrally or locally.**

iv) *20/03099/FUL Mr & Mrs Williams Single storey front extension to form a porch. 10 Sandale Close, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6QG.*

*Deadline for comment : Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January '21*

Cllr Griffiths has looked at this application and concluded that it is a straightforward addition of a small porch which looks like it will provide better insulation to the house.

Parish Council Response : Do Not Object

**Clerk to respond on behalf of the Parish Council via the RBC Planning Portal by the deadline date.**

Clerk explained that she had received notification from NALC (Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils) of an online Introduction to Planning course. Meeting agreed to trial course by enrolling Cllrs Arkless and Owen to 'attend' and for them to feedback at next Parish Council meeting.

**Clerk to enrol Cllrs Arkless and Owen on online planning course.**

**Cllrs Arkless and Owen to feedback on planning course at February '21 Parish Council meeting.**

**Cllr Tisbury to forward his background information introduction to planning notes from around 15 years ago to Cllr Owen.**

## **5623. PLAY PARK**

### *Tree Management Proposals*

Cllr Arkless explained that he had met with two tree surgeons James Harrison and Simon Walsh at the Play Park to discuss requirements and receive quotes. Cllr Arkless noted that there are over 200 trees at the Play Park and there is a need to thin some of these out to allow better access to the whole site including the football pitch and allow more light into areas of the park. During the walk around James noticed that a tree at the periphery of the park had fallen and smashed a fence panel of a neighbouring property.

Cllr Arkless outlined the two quotes. Simon Walsh would spend 1½ days at a daily rate of £800. James Harrison would spend 3 days at a daily rate of £680. Mr Harrison would consequently remove more trees and shrubs. Stump grinding would be included and the mulch distributed across the site. Felled trees would be logged for firewood or could be stacked as bug habitats. Cllr Arkless noted that his preferred option would be James Harrison, he was professional and locally based and has looked after the park for several years and has a genuine interest in it.

Clerk explained that she had asked James Harrison to resolve the fallen tree and broken fence as soon as possible and that we would be invoiced separately for this work.

Cllr Hackett explained that for every tree removed from the Play Park she was prepared to plant a new tree on her land.

After discussion Cllr Owen proposed and Cllr Prett seconded the motion that James Harrison be commissioned to carry out the required tree work at the Play Park. Vote taken, unanimously in favour, motion carried.

**Clerk to contact both tree surgeons to inform them of the Parish Council decision.**

**Clerk to speak with James Harrison regarding timescales (before nesting season March '21) and health & safety requirements.**

**Clerk to notify Bookings Clerk of proposed work and possible impact on Play Park equipment daily Covid19 solution spraying.**

### *Cleaning & Painting of Play Equipment*

Meeting agreed that Tree Work to be completed first and then the other works planned in over the coming year including the MUGA (Multi User Games Area) resurface. Power Wash of all Play Park equipment to be carried out by StreetWise as previously agreed.

**Clerk still to establish comparability of two quotations received for painting Play Park equipment. Clerk to also establish approximate timescales for work to ascertain how long the Play Park is likely to be out of action.**

**Clerk still to revalidate quotations for the replacement MUGA.**

#### **5624. VILLAGE HALL**

*Government Guidance re: opening of community venues*

Cllr Arkless explained that the Village Hall was not being used by Daisy Baby group during this lockdown, although they have a Government exemption in place that enables them to meet if they wish to.

Bookings Clerk is at the Village Hall daily as the Covid19 Play Park spray is stored there. The air conditioning has been switched off, with just low level heating in the toilets and kitchen to keep the temperature above freezing.

Cllr Mason asked if any salt bags were required in Holme Pierrepont or Bassingfield as there were plenty stored behind the Village Hall. Cllrs Stacey and Hackett confirmed the salt stores were currently full in Holme Pierrepont and Bassingfield.

#### **5625. A52 NOTTINGHAM STRAGGLETHORPE JUNCTION U-TURN BAN UPDATE**

Cllr Arkless explained that Highways England had responded to our Freedom of Information request and released the report and data that had been used in their decision making.

The parishioners that live on the affected part of the A52 have reviewed the data and Tim O'Donnell a Forensic Collision Investigator has formulated a comprehensive response to the information on behalf of the residents. This has been shared with the Parish Council. Cllr Arkless said that he found it a well-reasoned response that concluded that there had been insufficient testing.

Cllr Owen asked why that stretch of the A52 has a speed limit of 70 mph when the rest of the road is 50 mph or 60 mph.

Cllr Tisbury noted that the fact that the study has taken place during the pandemic when the traffic levels are low is not representative of 'normal' traffic levels and therefore any judgement is flawed.

Meeting agreed that the Parish Council should add to their initial objection to the scheme to Highways England by documenting to them that we have reviewed the data and support the views of Tim O'Donnell and the local residents and we continue to object.

Cllr Stacey noted that continuity had been affected by 3 or 4 different Highways England personnel managing the project over the years.

**Clerk to further respond to Highways England consultation and continue to object.**

**Clerk to forward Tim O'Donnell's response to County Cllr Cutts for her information.**

**8.20pm County Cllr Cutts left the meeting.**

## **5626. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

Cllr Jones noted that the old flag was still flying at the Village Hall. Cllr Mason explained that the new Union Flag would be put up sometime in the next week when the weather is better.

**Cllr Mason to arrange for new Union Flag to be put up at Village Hall.**

Cllr Stacey explained that she had purchased a padlock for the Flood Resilience store for Holme Pierrepont. She noted that no flood training had been received yet. In the event of a flood Cllr Stacey to speak with County Hall.

Cllr Stacey spoke about the gas pipeline that runs from Kingsbury in the West Midlands to Colwick in Nottingham that passes through Holme Pierrepont and runs through the area earmarked for the Gamston Fields development. The entire route is being walked during January '21 and marker posts repaired or replaced.

Cllr Stacey told the meeting that Holme Pierrepont Hall had opened their grounds to the public in a Covid19 secure way. Bookings are made online with timed arrival slots.

Cllr Stacey informed the meeting that parishioner John Crofts had sadly died, and his funeral would be taking place at St Edmunds Church, Holme Pierrepont.

Cllr Stacey explained to the meeting that she had followed up with Andrew Pegram Communities Service Manager at RBC the question of the development works that had been observed at Holly Lodge in Holme Pierrepont. Cllr Stacey confirmed that the property owners had contacted RBC prior to the works and established that there were no TPO's in place before carrying out tree clearance. Cllr Stacey also confirmed it is a listed building, but the property is not situated in a conservation area and RBC advised the owners that repairs to the roof were permissible using felt and tiles.

Cllr Prett shared the success of the Gamston Litter Pickers group who had collected 117 bin bags of rubbish in 2020. Cllr Prett explained that Angie Mugford who currently leads the group will be moving down south and consequently Cllr Prett will assume the role of Group Leader.

Discussion took place regarding littering. Cllr Owen reminisced about the Keep Britain Tidy campaigns that reminded the national conscience to think more carefully about discarding litter. Cllr Arkless noted that much of the litter in our Parish is sweet and crisp wrappers, fizzy drinks containers and fast-food rubbish that has been dropped by children.

Cllr Owen updated the meeting on progress with the creation of a Holme Lane Subgroup. He explained that he had contacted Jack Garner at Serco who represented the Water Sports Centre and was awaiting a reply. He had spoken with Diane Farthing, a Parish Councillor in Radcliffe-on-Trent, who lives on The Green at the end of Holme Lane and who is keen to be involved in discussions. Cllr Owen has also spoken with Chris Kennedy from Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust who is also keen to take part. Cllr Owen noted he had a productive conversation with Mr Kennedy who had many interesting ideas including the possibility of 'greening' the whole area. Cllr Owen explained he would contact County Cllr Cutts to request her involvement and for a contact name at Highways England. Cllr Owen noted that he felt the main issue was through traffic and not the leisure users accessing the area, although they did pose a problem with parking. Cllr Arkless thanked Cllr Owen for his efforts so far.

**Cllr Owen to contact County Cllr Cutts to progress Holme Lane Subgroup project.**

**Clerk to provide Cllr Owen with HP&G PC Zoom Account log in details to set up remote meeting of Holme Lane Subgroup.**

Cllr Mason explained that there had been some damage to the Play Park railings. Inexplicably one of the railings has been removed.

**Cllr Mason to liaise with David Litchfield to remedy railing issue.**

## **5627. 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 had previously circulated an amended precept budget incorporating Cllr recommendations resulting in a request for £37,250 precept for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 (same amount as financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021). Cllr Jones proposed and Cllr Stacey seconded the motion that this precept amount be requested. Vote taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

**Clerk to submit precept request documentation to RBC by the deadline date.**

**Clerk to further chase up the VAT refunds.**



## **5628. CLERKS REPORT**

Clerk reminded the meeting that the next RBC Town & Parish Forum is taking place over Zoom on the morning of 4<sup>th</sup> March '21. The original draft agenda had been changed to include a presentation regarding 2021 Census, replacing the segment relating to Covid19 recovery for Village Hall & Community Buildings.

**Cllrs to inform Clerk if they would like a place booking on Town & Parish Forum.**

Clerk informed the meeting that the Christmas lights on Sandale Close collecting donations for the Radcliffe-on-Trent RSPCA had raised a record £1582.50, £43 more than last year and far exceeding expectations. David the homeowner already has new lights for next year when the display will be better than ever.

Clerk explained that the Parish defibrillators are registered on The Circuit website and this generated reminders to check the defibrillators. Clerk asked Cllr Hackett if she could check the Holme Pierrepont equipment and confirm full battery and unit complete and intact in order for Clerk to update The Circuit website.

**Cllr Hackett to check HP defibrillator and confirm back to Clerk.**

**Clerk to liaise again with defibrillator supplier WEL Medical regarding Bassingfield battery issue.**

Clerk explained that Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) grant contract had been received.

**Clerk to review grant contract and arrange for necessary electronic signatures.**

Clerk noted that she had read in Clerks & Councils Direct magazine that Marlow Town Council had installed a new water refill station to fill up water bottles. This had been previously discussed as an idea for Gamston Play Park but dismissed due to several possible problems. Clerk to enquire as to where Marlow Town Council sourced their equipment and assess for suitability.

**Clerk to contact Marlow Town Council regarding water refill station.**

## **5629. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021** at **7.15pm via Zoom**.

**The meeting ended at approximately 8.50pm.**