

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 14th March 2022 at 7.15pm in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Rd**

Members Present: Cynthia Stacey (Chair), Melvyn Tisbury, Janet Hackett, Geoff Prett, Sally Griffiths & Alun Owen

In attendance: Julia Barnes (Clerk), County Cllr Roger Upton & Borough Cllr Jonathan Wheeler

5675. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Arkless sent his apologies due to being away on holiday.

Cllr Mason sent his apologies due to ill health.

Cllr Jones sent his apologies due to family commitments.

Cllr Bancroft was not present. No apologies were received.

5676. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5677. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Proposal for Borough Cllr Wheeler to present his report before County Cllr Upton to enable him to leave the meeting early due to family commitments. Meeting agreed.

5678. MINUTES

**TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 14th FEBRUARY 2022**

Cllr Prett noted that Minute. 5671 should read 150 trees instead of 100 trees.

Subject to this amendment Cllr Prett proposed and Cllr Owen seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Cllr's Tisbury, Griffiths and Hackett abstained as they were not present at the February '22 Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Arkless to upload February '22 Minutes to the HP&G PC website.

5679. DISTRICT REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that the solar car charging canopy in the Gamston Community Centre car park was up and running and being well used. The contractors will be returning to make some minor adjustments.

Cllr Wheeler told the meeting that the RBC budget had been passed last Thursday resulting in an increase of less than 9p per week for a Band D property. The increase is necessary due to inflation and rising cost of living.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the £25 million investment being made in local facilities including play park upgrades at Alford Road and Abbey Park, also improvements to West Park Pavilion and the provision of a Sharp Hill facility.

Cllr Wheeler noted the success of the recent free wildflower seed offer to local residents. Over 300 packs had been distributed in the first couple of hours of the scheme being open. Cllr Wheeler explained that any spare unclaimed seed would be sown near to the Grantham Canal.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the Great British Spring Clean taking place nationally between 25th March '22 until 10th April '22 and encouraged involvement to spruce up the area.

Cllr Wheeler told the meeting that the old Streetwise site on Abbey Road had been cleared ready for housing development. 35% of the stock on this site is to be affordable housing and all the properties will include eco-friendly features such as electric car charging points and heat pumps. There will be no gas on the site.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the RBC response to the appalling situation in Ukraine and the accommodation provision for refugees.

Cllr Wheeler explained that he had received a number of complaints, especially from the new Edwalton housing estate, regarding the volume and frequency of the automatic bird scarers utilised by local farmers to protect their crops. Noise enforcement have spoken to the local farmers, but they can only reiterate the guidance, but there is no legal requirement to comply.

Cllr Tisbury asked if there had been any progress regarding the Land East of Gamston development. Cllr Wheeler confirmed that there was still no masterplan for the entire site, and this is required in order for any planning applications to be considered. There are three landowners that haven't agreed to sell their land, including Nottingham City Council who have £30 million of land situated there, which is clearly outside the City.

Cllr Hackett asked how the scheme to host Ukrainian refugees would work and if, during the 6 month period, there would be respite for the host family in order to go on holiday or have relatives visit. Cllr Wheeler was unsure of the details, but they would be clarified over the coming days. Cllr Griffiths noted that there would need to be trauma counselling in place for all the displaced people.

County Cllr Upton noted that the Council receives £10 thousand per refugee to provide refuge, education and healthcare. Cllr Wheeler noted that some Ukrainian refugee children were still accessing teaching from Ukraine online as there are issues regarding spare capacity in Rushcliffe schools. Cllr Wheeler also noted that 92% of children in Rushcliffe were offered their first choice Secondary School for September '22 intake.

5680. COUNTY REPORT

County Cllr Upton told the meeting that he had attended a Commonwealth Day ceremony that morning.

Cllr Upton spoke about the arising issues regarding the roadworks on the A52 Gamston roundabout whereby traffic is cutting the corner by taking Bassingfield Lane off the A52. Signs along the A52 indicating 'Residents Only' or 'No Left Turn' have been suggested but progress is incredibly slow. Cllr Upton explained that he has been unable to acquire a phone number to contact, only a postal and email address, which is proving to be frustrating.

Cllr Upton also noted that when reporting a collapsed inspection chamber on the A52 that was presenting a raised metal hazard, Cllr Upton was asked to identify the utility that the chamber belonged to by viewing it in the carriageway. Cllr Upton expressed concern at this dangerous methodology and suggested that Highways England should be identifying the assets situated on their highway.

Cllr Upton explained that work on the Regatta Way cycle path was progressing well and confirmed that the Parish Council seat was indeed still in position and looking good.

Cllr Upton announced that the roads to be worked on in 2022/2023 would be published very soon. Cllr Prett asked when the Regatta Way works were due to end. It was assumed a few more weeks yet. Cllr Upton spoke about suggestions that the speed limit on Regatta Way be reduced from 40mph to 30mph from Radcliffe Road to Adbolton Lane and then further reduced to 20mph from Adbolton Lane to Holme Pierrepont. Cllr Upton explained that he had also spoken with Laura Trussler regarding the need to resurface Regatta Way, but she confirmed that road resurfacing did not form part of the cycle path plan.

Discussion took place regarding the proposed new cycle bridge over the River Trent. The preferred crossing had received approval from Nottinghamshire County Council but they will not be responsible for funding it in any way. Questions were asked as to how the cycle path would navigate the industrial site on the Western bank of the river.

Borough Cllr Wheeler spoke about the Tour of Britain beginning again on Central Avenue in West Bridgford and that he has been lobbying heavily for the route this year to incorporate Gamston and Edwalton. Cllr Wheeler explained that the roads were in good condition so was hopeful. Cllr Stacey thanked Cllr Wheeler for all his efforts.

7.45pm Borough Cllr Wheeler left the meeting.

5681. PLANNING

- i) 20/03244/OUT *Land East of Gamston & North of Tollerton Lane*

Cllr Tisbury explained that there were now more than 300 documents pertaining to this application online, which is currently held up with the developers. RBC are not opposed to a development, but it is essential it is accompanied with an holistic plan for the entire site.

Cllr Prett noted that the fence adjoining the footpath behind Stavely Way was still not repaired.

Borough Cllr Wheeler to email for update on Stavely Way fence repair.

5682. VILLAGE HALL

Clerk read monthly update received from Bookings Clerk.

'It's still quite busy with party enquiries and bookings, which is keeping me busy.

The small toilet door is broken, Gary has been informed and organised for the work to be done to fix it. The small blue key by the front door has gone missing, the spare key is currently out, and Julia is looking into a new one.

We hopefully have a new regular booking on the last two Tuesdays of the month, a creative writing group ran by a local lady Amy Dickens. The first session is to start on 22nd March.

I have booked in 4 day sessions over the easter holidays for Clay Creators. They used the hall in the Summer and October half term. 5th and 6th, 12th and 13th April. The sessions run from 8am till 5pm. They will be leaving equipment in one of the cupboards and potentially leaving bits set out on consecutive days.

We have children's parties booked in on 19th and 20th March, 26th March, 2nd and 3rd April and 10th April. So the weekends ahead are looking busy. The party on 2nd April is having a bouncy castle also.'

Clerk confirmed that Bookings Clerk now had 'Read Only' access to Parish bank accounts.

5683. PLAY PARK

Discussion took place regarding plans to upgrade the Ambleside Play Park. Meeting agreed that it would be advantageous if some inclusive play equipment could be incorporated, if affordable,

Clerk to add Play Park Upgrade to the April '22 Agenda.

Clerk to refresh quote for Cleaning & Repainting works to take place in 2022.

Clerk still to book in Football Pitch annual maintenance for late April '22/early May '22.

5684. NEWSLETTER

Discussion took place regarding possibility of including an article in the next newsletter pertaining to the various road works in the Parish.

Cllr Hackett asked about an article regarding the birdlife in the Parish. Cllr Prett suggested that some text could be adapted from the birder's website articles. Cllr Hackett also asked about the fire damaged grubenhaus. Cllr Prett explained that plans were still being formulated with regard to repair.

Clerk to create an article introducing Rebecca Logue the new Bookings Clerk.

Cllr Owen to write an article regarding the wildflower planting explaining the locations, cutting regime and benefits to bees.

Clerk to put together a magazine article to advertise the offer of contributions to the Parish street parties. Clerk to include link to RBC site with instructions on how to apply to formally close the road.

5685. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Cllr Prett explained that he had attended a Tree Wardens meeting last Saturday. Cllr Prett noted that there was the possibility of acquiring some more free native trees for the Parish and it was suggested possibly planting them on Tollerton Lane near the benches. It was noted that permission to plant there must be sought.

Cllr Owen spoke about the ongoing Holme Lane project and has arranged to walk the lane with Neil Lewis and Gary Wood from VIA at 10am on Thursday 24th March '22 to discuss any proposals that have been made. Cllr Owen invited Cllr's Stacey and Hackett to join them if available.

Cllr Owen told the meeting that the Management Plan had now been published. There are a small number of amendments to be made including addition of a map to display locations of Parish assets. Discussion took place regarding the licensing implications of using Ordnance Survey (OS) maps. Cllr Owen explained that the use of 'what3words' pinpoint references could simply indicate the precise locations of grit bins, defibrillators, notice boards, bins, Village Hall and Play Park.

County Cllr Upton suggested that the OS licence fee is around £150 per year.

Clerk to add 'Councillor Suggestions for 2022 Focus' to April '22 Parish Council Meeting Agenda.

Cllr Stacey spoke about the flying of the Ukrainian flag from the Village Hall flagpole to show support for the Ukrainian people that had been approved by majority of Councillors before the meeting. Cllr Arkless had asked Cllr Stacey to take a vote as to whether the flag should be flown alone or together below the union jack flag. Cllr Tisbury proposed, and Cllr Tisbury seconded the motion that the Ukrainian and Union Jack flags be flown together. Vote was taken. Unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

Clerk to affix the Ukrainian flag to the bottom of the Union Jack flag on the Village Hall flagpole when arrives.

Cllr Stacey asked whether the Parish Council were minded to organise a Summer Play Day this year after a gap of 2 years due to the coronavirus pandemic. Meeting agreed and date was set for, Wednesday 10th August '22 from 2pm until 4pm.

Cllr Hackett suggested a Royal theme would be appropriate in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year. Clerk agreed this was an excellent idea and would provide many opportunities to theme the event.

Cllr Stacey updated the meeting on plans to plant a tree in the St Edmund's Church grounds to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Cllr Stacey explained that she had consulted with the Diocese at Southwell and the Parochial Church Council at St Edmunds Church and they agreed that it should be an *Acer Palmatum – Japanese Maple* that grows to between 15 – 30ft.

It was confirmed that this is not available as a free tree from RBC as they provide native species only. Discussion took place regarding the amount the Parish Council would spend on the tree, mulch and planting. Cllr Owen noted it would be there for over 200 years so worth stretching the budget. Cllr Upton explained that smaller trees tended to establish themselves better and in Radcliffe-on-Trent they had experienced the purchase of larger trees that had not taken to their new location and subsequently died. Discussion took place regarding James Harrison, Tree Surgeon sourcing and planting the tree for us. It was also noted that a commemorative plaque would be required to identify the tree.

Cllr Tisbury to speak to James Harrison regarding the sourcing and planting of a Japanese Maple in the St Edmund's Church grounds.

County Cllr Upton reiterated to the meeting that 1st April '22 marks the start of the new financial year and therefore his new Councillor allowance that Parish Councils can apply for, up to a maximum contribution of £1k per project.

Cllr Tisbury spoke about the desire for the Parish Council to provide a friendship bench, hopefully to be sited on the pocket of land on Ambleside next to the path to Gamston Village Hall.

Cllr Tisbury to investigate costs and land ownership to progress friendship bench project.

5686. FINANCE

Financial Statements & Payments for Approval

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

Cllrs Stacey & Griffiths kindly agreed to sign off and authorise month's payments online.

Clerk provided Cllrs Stacey & Griffiths with copies of all invoices in order for them to sign off and authorise the month's payments online.

Clerk still to add new Parish Laptop to the Fixed Assets Register.

Clerk still to add Portable Induction Hob to PAT testing schedule.

Clerk to arrange Parish Council email addresses for all Councillors.

5687. CLERKS REPORT

Clerk reminded the meeting about the next Town and Parish Council Forum on 24th March '22, face to face in the Council Chamber at Rushcliffe Arena. The event will be followed by a buffet lunch.

Cllrs to inform Clerk if they wish to attend the Town and Parish Council Forum.

Clerk read correspondence she had received from Trent District Community First Responders (Trent CFR) volunteer group who were seeking donations towards the purchase of a new monitoring device that will replace some of their obsolete equipment. Discussion took place, Cllr Owen proposed, and Cllr Tisbury seconded the motion that HP&G Parish Council donate £250 to the purchase of the new monitoring device. Vote taken. Unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

Clerk to arrange £250 donation to Trent CFR.

5688. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 11th April 2022 at 7.15pm in Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.**

The meeting ended at approximately 9.45pm.