

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 9th May 2022 at 6.30pm in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Rd**

Members Present: Gary Arkless, Cynthia Stacey, John Mason, Mark Bancroft, Janet Hackett, Geoff Prett, Sally Griffiths & Alun Owen

In attendance: Julia Barnes (Clerk) & County Cllr Roger Upton

5707. ELECTION OF CHAIR 2022 – 23

Cllr Hackett proposed, and Cllr Prett seconded the motion that Cllr Arkless become HP&G PC Chair for 2022 – 2023. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour, Cllr Arkless abstained.

5708. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR 2022 -23

Cllr Owen proposed, and Cllr Arkless seconded the motion that Cllr Stacey become HP&G PC Vice Chair for 2022 – 2023. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour, Cllr Stacey abstained.

5709. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Borough Cllr Wheeler sent his apologies due to another meeting.

Cllr Tisbury sent his apologies as he was unavailable.

Cllr Arkless explained that Phil Jones had written to Clerk and himself to resign his position as Parish Councillor due to increasingly not having enough time to dedicate to the role.

6.35pm Cllr Bancroft arrived at the meeting.

Cllr Arkless asked Cllr Bancroft if he could provide an explanation to the Parish Council as to why he had been absent from the last 5 Parish Council meetings, without communicating any apologies.

Discussion took place between Cllrs Arkless and Bancroft. Cllr Arkless asked why he had not replied to any emails for almost 2 years and his last text message was received around 6 months ago.

Cllr Bancroft explained that he had other things in his life apart from the Parish Council, he thought he had sent apologies and noted that he had arranged the annual servicing of the Village Hall air conditioning.

Cllr Arkless expressed the opinion that Cllr Bancroft has not been active in supporting any of the work of the Parish Council for a considerable time and his record of attendance was getting worse. Cllr Arkless asked Cllr Bancroft if he would consider resigning his

position as Parish Councillor. Cllr Bancroft said he would not. Cllr Arkless then stated that he was not prepared to carry him any longer and if Cllr Bancroft refused to resign then he would resign his position as a Parish Councillor and Chair with immediate effect.

6.40pm Cllr Arkless left the meeting.

Cllr Owen stated that he was in full agreement with Cllr Arkless, and he too was unprepared to continue whilst Cllr Bancroft remained a Parish Councillor and also resigned his position with immediate effect.

6.45pm Cllr Owen left the meeting.

Increasingly heated discussion took place over the next 15 minutes between the Clerk and Cllr Bancroft regarding a Parish Councillor's sense of duty and responsibility to the role within their community. Cllr Bancroft stated that if a replacement Parish Councillor could be found then he would resign his position.

Cllr Hackett asked Cllr Bancroft if he would be prepared to leave the meeting for this evening in order for the meeting to proceed, and that we would be in touch with him. Cllr Bancroft agreed. Clerk asked for confirmation of up-to-date email contact details for Cllr Bancroft.

7pm Cllr Bancroft left the meeting.

Cllrs Stacey and Hackett contacted Cllrs Arkless and Owen to ask if they would consider returning to the Parish Council meeting in order to work through the agenda.

Cllrs Arkless and Owen had not resigned their positions in writing nor had the meeting accepted their resignation, so they were able to resume their positions and proceed with the meeting.

7.05pm Cllr Arkless returned to the meeting.

5710. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5711. ORDER OF BUSINESS

No changes were proposed to the order of business.

5712. MINUTES

TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 11th APRIL 2022

Cllr Prett noted that the apostrophe should be removed from the notation for Cllrs throughout the document.

Subject to this amendment Cllr Stacey proposed, and Cllr Prett seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Cllr Griffiths abstained as she was not present at the April '22 Parish Council meeting.

Clerk to amend April '22 Minutes.

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

5713. COUNTY REPORT

County Cllr Upton explained to the meeting that he was helping some local residents with noise and disturbance issues relating to rumble strips that have been reinstated on the A52 behind their homes. Cllr Upton had met with the residents on site to witness first-hand the problems when traffic, especially HGV's, drive over the new road surface.

Cllr Upton spoke about the new administrative County Council system led by the new leader Ben Bradley.

Cllr Upton spoke about a cross party highway review.

Cllr Mason asked about the removal of road signage on the approach road into Nottingham city. Cllr Upton noted that vegetation had been removed in order to make existing signage more visible. Cllr Upton explained that once all the road works were approaching completion, in a number of months' time, the appearance of the highway verges could be reassessed.

Cllr Upton confirmed that he had submitted both Parish Council applications for funding from his 2022-2023 community allowance, one for inclusive play equipment for the Play Park and the other for a friendship bench for Gamston.

5714. DISTRICT REPORT

Chair read out the following report forwarded by Borough Cllr Wheeler in his absence.

Jubilee Cottage

I have chased enforcement officer again about emails sent to me regarding this. Same about Kentmere Close (Cllrs will be aware of details but as this public record not naming specific cases).

Council Rebate

Residents who pay by Direct Debit should have received their rebate of £150 by now. Those who don't pay by Direct Debit will have received forms to fill in.

Bike Marking Session

In partnership with BikeRegister, the event will take place at the new Pure Gym, on Wilford Lane in West Bridgford NG2 7QY from 11am until 2pm on Wednesday May 11th '22.

Fly Tipping

Council action on fly-tipping has increased hugely in Rushcliffe since the beginning of 2021 with over 160 fixed penalty notices being issued to those found blighting local spots with domestic or commercial waste.

The reduction in fly-tipping is supported by Rushcliffe Borough Council's ongoing partnership with Waste Investigations Support & Enforcement (WISE) which has seen an increase on enviro crime enforcement and a four-year low in reported fly tips.

The action has seen 168 (£400) fixed penalty notices being issued up to April this year to those found to have deposited waste illegally.

It has also included householders and businesses fined for handing over waste to non-registered carriers who have subsequently dumped items.

Cllr Arkless to post details of upcoming Bike Marking Event on Gamston Facebook page.

7.20pm Cllr Owen returned to the meeting.

5715. PLANNING

- i) 22/00684/FUL resubmission of 21/02421/FUL Mr M Daneshmanesh
Alterations to existing building including roof change from dual pitch to mono pitch, mezzanine floor, replacement metal cladding sheeting, changes to fenestration and doors and an open storage area with canopy, solar panels to roof. Springfields, Radcliffe Road, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire.

Deadline for comment : Wednesday 18th May '22

Parish Council Response : DO NOT OBJECT

5716. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Arkless read monthly update received from Bookings Clerk.

'All has been well this month with the hall. Quieter for parties but that seems to be picking up slightly for next month.

The toilet door has been fixed last week. Thank you to for Gary for sorting that out.

The new regular booking for Baby Spa started last Friday, they were really happy with the venue. They will be keeping some equipment in the 3rd cupboard (yoga mats and a pull up banner). They are aware that this cupboard doesn't lock and its left at their own risk.

I have secured another regular booking starting this Thursday, AEBAL Leisure. They are coming to us to run a cooking session with a disability group. A maximum group of 8 clients with a few members of staff. They are booked in every 3rd Thursday 5pm - 7pm and one flexible day on the 4th week.

Gamston Fellowship Group are no longer returning after covid.

Film night has resumed on the 1st Tuesday of the month.

There are parties booked in for 14th and 15th May, 21st May (with bouncy castle), 2nd June, 4th June.

Clay Creators Holiday Club are back for one day during May half term, Tuesday 31st May 8am – 5pm.'

Cllr Arkless to investigate locking mechanism issue on 3rd cupboard door.

Cllr Mason asked how to obtain details of upcoming Film Nights. Clerk explained that to join the Film Night mailing list he should email gamstonbreakfast@gmail.com as advertised in the latest newsletter.

Cllr Arkless explained that the damaged toilet door had been replaced but needed painting. Clerk noted that the accidental damage was covered by our insurance policy. £100 policy excess had been paid and the remaining £250 balance received from Zurich Insurance.

Cllr Arkless explained that he had purchased a new valve for the VH hot water tank and fitted it to resolve the issues with hot water supply.

Cllr Mason spoke about what he considered the poor condition of the wood on the bannisters surrounding the decked area. Cllr Mason proposed that this timber be painted to smarten it up. Cllr Arkless explained that it is intentional that the timber is left to naturally age and turn a silvery colour.

5717. PLAY PARK

Clerk explained that she had received an email from a local resident regarding the safety of the right-hand rear gate to the Play Park. The resident's child had pushed the gate and it had rebounded and hit him on the forehead. The gate has been inspected and it was noted that the close proximity of the rubbish bin may have exacerbated the problem. The relocation of the rubbish bin has been added into the quotation of works from Streetwise Ltd. Cllr Prett noted that the gate has an hydraulic slow close mechanism fitted that may need recalibrating.

Streetwise to move Play Park rubbish bin behind gate 1m to the right.

Cllr Arkless to speak with David Litchfield regarding gate hydraulic mechanisms.

Clerk to reply to resident email regarding Play Park safety.

Cllr Arkless commented on the email he had previously circulated to all Councillors regarding a volunteer to assist Cllr Mason with the task of looking after the Play Park. Cllr Hackett kindly offered her assistance and explained that she would be able to commit to offer help once a week. Meeting thanked Cllr Hackett for her support.

Cllr Hackett spoke about the possibility of putting railings across the entire park, therefore negating the need for separate railings around the play park equipment and also any new play park equipment we may introduce as part of the refurbishment project. Cllr Hackett explained that this would make the entire play park a safe play space from the traffic on Ambleside.

Clerk also noted that she had arranged for the annual independent play park inspection by The Play Inspection Company to take place imminently and was awaiting confirmation of date and time.

Clerk to inform Cllrs Mason and Hackett of the appointment details of independent Play Park inspection.

Cllrs Mason and Hackett to raise the issue of fencing the Play Park off to the Play Park Inspector for their advice and input.

Clerk had previously circulated recently revisited Streetwise quote for jet wash cleaning of the Play Park equipment and rust treating and enamel painting of Play Park equipment. The total cost including VAT for this work is £5,640. Discussion took place regarding alternative quotations. Clerk explained that multiple quotations had been acquired pre-pandemic and Streetwise were the preferred contractor. Clerk also noted that the rust treating and respraying and enamelling of the equipment was a specialist process that Streetwise were outsourcing to a professional specialist company. Clerk noted that the paint surface of the equipment had been touched up but not fully repainted ever since it had been installed over 15 years ago.

Cllr Arkless proposed, and Cllr Stacey seconded the motion that the Streetwise quotation for Play Park cleaning and repainting be accepted. Vote taken, unanimously in favour, motion carried.

Clerk to inform Streetwise of acceptance of quotation and arrange for works to take place.

Cllr Arkless to notify the community via Gamston Community Facebook page of Play Park closure for works when dates known.

Cllr Mason asked about the tidying up of the daffodils at the Play Park and Village Hall. Cllr Arkless explained that the daffodils should be left until all the flowers die and the foliage dies back, and they will then be removed with the grass cuttings.

Clerk explained that the annual maintenance of the MUGA had been carried out. The pitch was spray treated for moss and brushed and sand dressed.

5718. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

Clerk explained that she had purchased the *Acer Palmatum* tree for St Edmund's Church grounds to mark the Platinum Jubilee and awaited delivery.

Cllr Arkless to acquire quotation for platinum coloured metal plaque to commemorate this historic event to accompany tree.

The Village Breakfast team, supported by the Parish Council, are hosting a Queen's Platinum Jubilee Street Party on the Village Green on the afternoon of Sunday 5th June. Clerk has created a promotional poster to advertise the event.

Cllr Arkless to post promotional poster on Gamston Community Facebook page.

Parish Council Summer Play Day to be Regally themed taking place at Ambleside Play Park on Wednesday 10th August '22 2pm – 4pm.

Clerk explained that she had so far received requests from six streets in the Parish for £50 contributions to their Queen's Platinum Jubilee street parties.

5719. FINANCE

Financial Statements & Payments for Approval

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

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

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

Approval of Annual Governance Statement

Clerk explained that she had previously circulated the Annual Governance Statement, via email, for review by all Councillors.

Cllr Arkless proposed, and Cllr Stacey seconded the motion that the Annual Governance Statement 2021/2022 be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

Chair and Clerk to sign Annual Governance Statement 2021/2022.

Clerk to produce draft year end accounts.

Clerk to ensure 2021/2022 accounts internally audited by Brian Hardy before June '22 Parish Council meeting.

Clerk still to reclaim VAT for 2020/2021 Financial Year.

Clerk to set up Parish Council email addresses for all Councillors.

5720. CLERKS REPORT

Clerk spoke again about the Town & Parish Engagement Sessions being run by Nottinghamshire County Council concerning the latest developments in the Nottinghamshire Plan delivery. A session takes place at County Hall, West Bridgford on Thursday 26th May from 7pm to 9pm.

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

5721. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr Arkless explained that he is still awaiting a quotation for the metal friendship bench to be sited facing the canal.

Cllr Stacey explained that once planted, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee tree in St Edmund's churchyard, would require daily watering.

Cllr Stacey also noted that the circular bench in the Millennium Garden in Holme Pierrepont was causing some damage to the tree. Cllr Stacey asked if the Parish Council would be able to finance the remedial work required to save the tree and reposition the bench.

Cllr Arkless proposed, and Cllr Prett seconded the motion that James Harrison, Tree Surgeon inspect the Holme Pierrepont Millennium Garden tree and perform required remedial work. Vote taken, unanimously in favour, motion carried.

Cllr Stacey to combine planting of Queen's Platinum Jubilee tree in St Edmund's churchyard with works in Millennium Garden.

Cllr Hackett noted that the large wooden planters in the Village Hall grounds would greatly benefit from some flowers. Cllr Arkless agreed that flowers would look fantastic but finding volunteers to water them over the summer months was difficult and without regular care the expenditure on plants would unfortunately be wasted.

Cllr Mason spoke about the fact that he thought it was sad that the metal banner hanger in the Village Hall grounds was empty. After discussion Cllr Mason proposed and Cllr Arkless seconded the motion that a banner be created to indicate the Village Hall. Vote taken, unanimously in favour, motion carried.

Clerk to create an aesthetically pleasing Village Hall banner.

5722. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 13th June 2022** in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.**

The meeting ended at approximately 8pm.