

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

**Members Present:** Gary Arkless, Cynthia Stacey, Melvyn Tisbury, John Mason, Janet Hackett, Geoff Prett, Sally Griffiths, Alun Owen, Richard Fairgrieve & Maria Ubhi

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

#### **5775. PARISH COUNCIL CO-OPTION GAMSTON VACANCY**

Clerk explained that the decision to co-opt Maria Ubhi onto the Parish Council had been taken subsequent to her attending meetings of the Parish Council and expressing her interest in joining. Maria had volunteered her time to the 2022 Summer Play Day. In the absence of an August '22 Parish Council meeting the co-option process had taken place via email. Maria was successful by a unanimous decision, with one abstention from a Councillor that had not met her and therefore felt it would be inappropriate to vote.

Maria Ubhi read her Declaration of Acceptance of Office for New Councillor and her Acceptance of Code of Conduct. Document was signed by Maria Ubhi and the Clerk and Cllr Ubhi formally took her position as a Parish Councillor.

**Clerk to notify Rushcliffe Borough Council (RBC) of the appointment of new Parish Councillor Maria Ubhi.**

**Clerk to forward Cllr Ubhi's completed Members' Interests form to RBC.**

**Clerk to issue revised list of Parish Councillor contact details to all Cllr's, and for the notice boards and website.**

**All Cllr's to remember to include Cllr Ubhi in all future correspondence ([mubhi@btinternet.com](mailto:mubhi@btinternet.com)).**

#### **5776. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received.

#### **5777. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

#### **5778. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

No changes were proposed to the order of business.

**5779. MINUTES**

**TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2022**

Cllr Prett proposed, and Cllr Griffiths seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Cllr Ubhi abstained as she was not present at the October '22 meeting. Motion carried and Minutes were adopted.

**Cllr Arkless to upload October '22 Parish Council Meeting Minutes to the HP&G PC website.**

**5780. COUNTY REPORT**

County Cllr Upton spoke about progress on an agreed approach to the Gamston Fields development from Vistry Homes and Wimpy Barwood. Cllr Tisbury asked if any progress had been made with the Highways modelling. Cllr Upton explained that there was a national bottleneck for providing this analysis.

Meeting discussed the possibility of negating the problem experienced on the existing Gamston estate whereby pockets of common land on the estate are not maintained by the developers that own them. Suggestion was made that these areas in the new Gamston Fields estate should be handed over to Rushcliffe Borough Council to provide ongoing maintenance. Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that there nothing in law to make the landowners hand over the common land to RBC.

Cllr Upton noted that the proposed Gamston Fields development is not in his division or Borough Cllr Wheeler's Ward, but they can both comment on any plans and attend joint meetings with Tollerton Parish Council.

Cllr Upton spoke about a recent planning application for a care home and assisted living apartments on land close to the Spire Hospital at Tollerton. Cllr Wheeler explained that the demand for such facilities was huge and there were synergies in the location being close to the hospital, however traffic flow through Tollerton would be impacted. Cllr Tisbury asked if this development was included in the Gamston Fields masterplan. Cllr Upton confirmed it was not but there was no material reason to object to it as it was not proposed for a large greenfield site. Cllr Tisbury explained that if it were included in the Gamston Fields masterplan then HP&G PC would be able to comment on it. Cllr Tisbury spoke about encouraging the developer to make a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment. Cllr Tisbury explained that the CIL law has changed so when the Gamston Fields development goes ahead there will be a large CIL payment to Tollerton Parish Council.

**5781. DISTRICT REPORT**

Borough Cllr Wheeler spoke about the involvement of the Grantham Canal Society (GCS) regarding waterflow maintenance along the canal. Cllr Wheeler told the meeting that he, Borough Cllr Viridi, and Cllr Arkless had met and discussed the issues and a Canal Day of Action was planned for Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December '22. Cllr Wheeler noted that the GCS were volunteers that carried out much heavy-duty work along the canal.

The interrupted waterflow along the Gamston and Lady Bay stretch of canal had been due to the extremely dry summer, many leaks in the aged structure of the canal base and STWA diversion of the water further up the watercourse. Cllr Wheeler mentioned that the waterway had been dry at the back of Stavely Way and that the extensive reed bushes are very untidy. The GCS are going to remove these although they are very tall and cover a wide area. The meeting was reminded that GCS are only actually responsible for the canal and path on the West Bridgford side of the canal and not our side, but they are happy to help us.

Cllr Wheeler explained that the canal footbridges are largely in good condition. RBC are due to carry out some work on the bridge over the Gamston brook and also the bridge near Spinney Way in Edwalton. Cllr Wheeler also noted that there were some Divisional funds being invested in information boards along the canal to add interest.

Cllr Arkless spoke about the email he had circulated regarding a proposal to connect the canal to the River Trent via Regatta Way by cutting through under the A52 near Lings Bar. National Highways realise this would necessitate the raising of Radcliffe Road in order for water to run underneath it. Cllr Wheeler noted that a footpath alongside would be required. Cllr Arkless explained that Highways England have estimated £10.5 million for this work but the total cost will be far in excess of £30 million. Cllr Arkless questioned where this shortfall would come from and if the waterflow cannot be maintained at present how would a longer watercourse be sustained. Cllr Griffiths spoke about the conflict between navigability of the canal and the preservation of the wildlife that use it as their habitat. Cllr Wheeler agreed that the possible use of the canal by narrow boats would necessitate locks and flood gates and would not be appropriate in this area.

Cllr Wheeler explained that the West Bridgford Christmas Lights Switch On was taking place this Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November '22. The Mayor of Rushcliffe would be switching the lights on at 5pm. Cllr Wheeler also noted that David Carter of Sandale Close would be having his Annual Christmas Lights Switch On event the following day on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November '22.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the Safer Streets initiative. More CCTV cameras have been installed on Central Avenue in West Bridgford. Cllr Wheeler explained that we are lucky to have such a vibrant town centre.

Cllr Wheeler told the meeting that the additional Bank Holiday on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 for the King's Coronation does not affect the Council elections in May 2023.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the new visitor and conference centre and café 'Cake by the Lake' that has been recently opened by RBC at Rushcliffe Country Park.

Cllr Prett asked Cllr Wheeler if there were any plans to for Muslim burial provision within Rushcliffe. The issue had been brought to the attention of Cllr Prett by his neighbour who is Muslim and has explained that the nearest facility is in Bulwell. Cllr Wheeler explained that the new facility to be built in Rushcliffe was a cremation site only; and that Wilford Hill crematorium is run by Nottingham City Council despite being located within Rushcliffe. Cllr Wheeler to investigate as he is unaware of any plans for new burial grounds in the borough.

**Cllr Prett to forward Parishioner details to Cllr Wheeler regarding Muslim burial provision within Rushcliffe.**

Cllr Wheeler expressed his thanks to Cllr Stacey for the excellent Remembrance Service at St Edmunds Church in Holme Pierrepont. He also passed on the Mayor's thanks for the event.

## **5782. PLANNING**

- i) 20/03244/OUT Taylor Wimpey UK & Rockspring Barwood Gamston Ltd Land East of Gamston & North of Tollerton Lane, Tollerton Lane, Nottinghamshire.

No further progress other than that noted in 5780. County Report.

- ii) 22/01960/FUL Mr & Mrs John & Lucie Gregory Fox Cottage, Radcliffe Road, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6NR

Parish Council Response : DO NOT OBJECT

After email discussion it was agreed to not object to the proposal. Application has been approved by RBC.

**Clerk submitted Parish Council response by the deadline date.**

- iii) 22/02048/CLUEXD Calder Investment Properties Limited Certificate of existing lawful development to confirm sites use as a restaurant. Haveli, Radcliffe Road, Holme Pierrepont, Nottinghamshire, NG12 2LF.

Clerk explained that she had received the above Planning Application but had been unable to find details on the RBC Planning Portal.

- iv) 38 Patterdale Close, NG2 6PW

Cllr Arkless spoke about a rear extension and alterations to side fencing being carried out at the above address and asked if this work is allowed under permitted development as it has not come through a Planning Application. Cllr Wheeler confirmed that RBC Planning had attended the property and a retrospective planning application would be made.

**Cllr Wheeler to chase up clarification regarding building works at this address.**

Cllr Tisbury asked if there was any update on enforcement action at Elms Farm, Bassingfield 21/01593/FUL.

**Cllr Wheeler to update the meeting regarding enforcement action on Elms Farm, Bassingfield.**

## **5783. VILLAGE HALL**

### *Monthly Update*

Cllr Arkless read monthly update received from Bookings Clerk.

*'It's been a very quiet month at the hall, but still a few enquiries coming in for next year and a few still for the end of this year. All regular bookings are up to date with payments too.*

*ABL, on Thursday mornings, have extended their timings by an hour, on the first Thursday of the month only.*

*Baby Spa, on Friday mornings, are currently having an extra hour too (10.15am until 2.15pm) but are not in every week.*

*The foyer walls are getting slightly bashed and dirty, so I have popped the benches out to try to protect the walls. Hopefully, this will help.*

*The sealant between the hall floor and skirting boards is coming away in places (mostly the wall by the kitchen) I just wondered if we could look at fixing it before it becomes a bigger problem.'*

### **Cllr Arkless to take a look at the skirting board sealant.**

Cllr Arkless explained that after being deep cleaned by the Bookings Clerk, the hall had been repainted internally. Cllr Arkless had also repaired the Village Hall double gate latch and arranged a welding repair to the swing lock.

### *Banner*

Clerk explained that a mesh banner advertising Christmastime at Gamston Village Hall had been put in place. Clerk also noted that a mesh banner with 'Welcome to Gamston Village Hall' would replace the Christmas advertising after the event.

Cllr Tisbury reminded the meeting that the conditions of the planning permission for the metal banner hanger were that any banner would only be in situ for a maximum of 28 days, so the 'Welcome to Gamston Village Hall' would need to be removed after that time.

### **Clerk to double check the planning conditions for the Village Hall metal banner hanger.**

### *Damson Tree*

Cllr Arkless liaised with James Harrison the Tree Surgeon who has cut back the problematic damson tree overhanging the Village Hall footpath. This should prevent fruit falling onto the footpath in the autumn and creating a slip hazard.

### *Outdoor Clock*

Discussion took place regarding remedial work to the outdoor clock in order for it to always show the correct time and for ease of use when putting the clocks forward and back an hour for British summer and wintertime.

**Cllr Prett kindly agreed to investigate and bring information to the next Parish Council meeting in order for a decision to be made on preferred solution.**

Cllr Arkless explained that the slabs on top of the retaining wall at the back of the Village Hall were coming loose and at times children run around the Village Hall and climb on this wall, which is obviously dangerous.

**Cllr Arkless to arrange for David Litchfield to repair the retaining wall.**

**Cllr Arkless to discuss fencing options for the rear of the Village Hall with David Litchfield.**

Cllr Prett explained that he has completed an online application for a Village Hall Platinum Jubilee Grant for £3000 for metal storage cabinets.

**Clerk to arrange Village Hall air conditioning annual service for early in the new year.**

#### **5784. PLAY PARK**

##### *Relocation & Extension of Boundary Fence*

Cllr Arkless noted that the relocated Play Park fence at the external boundary of the park looked good.

##### *CityFibre Joint Box Relocation*

Cllr Arkless also explained that he had identified that CityFibre had, as part of their works, located a joint box on Parish Council land in the proposed path of the relocated fence. Cllr Arkless arranged for this to be moved into the pavement adjacent to the Play Park.

##### *Trees, Bushes & Fallen Leaves*

Cllr Arkless noted that the autumn leaves were late falling this year due to the extended good summer weather. Cllr Arkless explained that he would leaf blow the park next month.

**Cllr Arkless to move fallen leaves from Play Park and football pitch in due course.**

##### *Grant Assistance for New Equipment*

Clerk explained that currently we have £1k towards from County Cllr Upton's Councillor Allowance.

**Clerk still to resubmit grant application to East Midlands Airport Community Fund.**

**Clerk still to complete setting up new Parish Clerk email address.**

**Cllr Arkless to then submit National Lottery Community Fund application.**

**Parish Council to apply for Nottinghamshire County Council Local Improvement Scheme grant assistance 2023-24 once open, accompanied by Cllr Upton testimonial.**

**Clerk to acquire revised quote for repainting Play Park picnic tables and notice boards in Spring 2023.**

**Clerk to arrange annual electrical inspection of Play Park electrical bollards early in 2023.**

Discussion took place regarding the exclusion of dogs from the Play Park now the equipment was not separately fenced. Meeting agreed to monitor the situation with the possibility of continuing the perimeter fencing to fully enclose the entire Play Park and exclude dogs entirely from that area.

**5785. AUTUMN NEWSLETTER**

Clerk explained that the autumn newsletter was being printed and she was due to take delivery later that week, for distribution.

**Clerk to distribute Autumn Newsletter on arrival for delivery before the Christmastime event.**

**5786. CHRISTMAS EVENT – SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 3.30pm – 5.30pm**

Cllr Stacey explained to the meeting that all preparations were in hand for the Christmastime event at Gamston Village Hall, and she would greatly appreciate help from Cllrs in setting up for the event, during the event and packing away afterwards. Cllrs Arkless, Mason, Hackett, Owen, Prett, Fairgrieve & Ubhi all volunteered to help at various times during the event.

**Clerk to send out emails to clarify work requirements on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November for before, during and after the event.**

*Ambleside Play Park Christmas Tree*

Clerk explained that the Play Park tree would be arriving around 9.30am on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November '22 and would appreciate help taking delivery. Cllr's Arkless, Owen & Mason kindly agreed to assist with the addition of David Litchfield.

**Clerk to arrange for John Ingram to put the Christmas lights on the Play Park tree before 26<sup>th</sup> November '22.**

### *Christmas Decoration at Village Hall*

Clerk noted that the Village Hall would be empty on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November '22 and would appreciate any assistance in putting the Christmas decorations up. Cllrs Hackett & Ubhi kindly agreed to assist.

**Clerk to diarise a time before Twelfth Night to take decorations down.**

### **5787. GRANTHAM CANAL**

Cllr Arkless spoke about the meet to walk the canal in the area with the Borough Councillors for Gamston and Grantham Canal Society and the discussions that had taken place, including the organisation of Canal Day of Action on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December '22.

### **5788. WEST BRIDGFORD FIRE STATION CONSULTATION**

Discussion took place regarding the cost saving proposals for reduced Fire Brigade provision for West Bridgford area and the associated consultation. Cllr Griffiths noted that the online questionnaire asked very leading questions that gave little scope to oppose the proposals.

Meeting agreed to send a full written response to the consultation on Parish Council headed paper from HP&G Parish Council. Cllr Arkless kindly agreed to draft the collective response. Clerk noted that Cllrs can also still respond to the consultation as individuals.

**Cllr Arkless to draft a collective response to the WB Fire Station consultation from HP&G Parish Council to be submitted by the Clerk.**

### **5789. FRIENDSHIP BENCH**

Cllr Tisbury spoke about the £900 Gamston Village Breakfast Team reserves that they would still like to spend on a Friendship Bench in the Parish. Cllr Tisbury explained that the total cost would exceed £900 and asked for support from the Parish Council to make up the shortfall.

Cllr Arkless asked that Cllr Tisbury quantify the shortfall and present a proposal to the Parish Council in order to progress the idea.

Cllr Wheeler kindly offered £250 towards the project from his Divisional Fund.

**Cllr Tisbury to document a proposal for additional financial help from HP&G Parish Council to site an additional Friendship Bench in the Parish detailing suggested location and additional funds required and circulate to all Cllrs.**

**Cllr Tisbury to email Cllr Wheeler regarding £250 financial support for the Friendship Bench.**



## **5790. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

Cllr Stacey thanked all those that had attended the Remembrance Service at St Edmund's Church, Holme Pierrepont. Cllr Stacey asked whether the afternoon service was preferable to Remembrance services taking place in the evening. Cllr Stacey noted that it was perhaps better in the winter for the older members of the congregation.

### *Holme Lane Update*

Cllr Owen explained to the meeting that between him and Cllr Upton they were finally getting somewhere in resolving the issues on Holme Lane. Cllr Owen told the meeting that Neil Lewis was due to send a draft proposal document to him by the end of the week consulting on the possible closing of the lane to through traffic. Cllr Owen noted that he would circulate this on receipt. Cllr Owen mentioned the effect on through traffic of Nottingham Forest home football games, hugely increasing the volume of traffic.

**Cllr Owen to circulate Neil Lewis proposal to all Cllrs and Clerk for their perusal on receipt.**

### *HP Millennium Garden Wall*

Cllr Owen explained that he had received a written quotation from a local restoration builder for the required repairs to the Millennium Garden wall in Holme Pierrepont. The work is estimated to take two days and cost £560. Cllr Owen had also circulated photographs of the damage to the wall. After discussion, Cllr Owen proposed, and Cllr Stacey seconded the motion that the quotation be accepted with the inclusion of a substantial post to be positioned to prevent this damage reoccurring. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

**Cllr Owen to arrange for the repair of damage to the Millennium Garden wall in Holme Pierrepont.**

Cllr Mason commented on the advertisement created by the Clerk to advertise the Christmastime event and considered it to be the best we've had for a few years. Cllr Mason asked about the inclusion of donations to Rainbows. Cllr Stacey explained that every year any donations collected at the Parish Christmas event were given to Rainbows Hospice in Loughborough.

Cllr Mason wanted to thank Cllr Arkless and all the other people that had helped, for all his work during 2022 on the Play Park as it looked great.

Cllr Owen mentioned again about the previously agreed plan for each Councillor to invite one Parishioner to a Parish Council meeting to see what we do and to spread awareness of the scope of Parish Council work. Cllr Owen had invited Emma Fletcher from Holme Pierrepont to the last meeting. The opportunity had been missed at the November '22 Parish Council meeting, but it was now the turn of Gamston and Adbolton Councillors to invite a guest Parishioner to the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr Owen stressed that parishioners don't have to be a Parish Councillor to be involved in the Parish Council work in the community.

**Gamston and Adbolton Councillors to invite a guest Parishioner to attend the next Parish Council meeting.**

### *Councillor Roles & Responsibilities*

Cllr Arkless again thanked the Cllrs that had already responded to him with areas of interest they would like to pursue. It was agreed to revisit the allocation of Councillor responsibilities in the new year.

**Clerk to add Councillor Roles & Responsibilities to the January '23 Agenda.**

**Clerk still to obtain access to Public Sector Geospatial Agreement (PSGA) resources.**

### **5791. FINANCE**

#### *Financial Statements & Payments for Approval*

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

#### *2023/2024 Precept Request*

Clerk explained that she had received the blank precept request form for submission to RBC by 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023. Clerk explained that in order to meet this deadline she would issue a draft precept budget for perusal by Cllrs at the December '22 meeting. Any amendments will be discussed and agreed at the January '23 meeting in order for submission by the Clerk by the 1<sup>st</sup> February '23 deadline.

**Clerk to generate a draft precept budget for 2023/2024.**

Clerk explained that the Parish Council electricity at both the Village Hall and Play Park is supplied by British Gas and the rate is fixed until 20<sup>th</sup> April '23.

**Clerk to investigate electricity pricing post 20<sup>th</sup> April '23.**

Clerk explained to the meeting that the 5-year contract for external audit ended with the 2021/2022 audits, and it has just been announced that PKF Littlejohn will remain the external auditors for Nottinghamshire Parish Councils for the next 5 years until 2026/2027.

Clerk explained that she had received correspondence from The Pensions Regulator regarding the re-enrolment date for HP&G Parish Council being 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, with a re-declaration deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

**Clerk to ensure all Pensions Regulator re-enrolment and re-declaration legal duties are performed by the deadline date.**

**Clerk still to submit VAT claim for year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.**

**Clerk still to prepare Annual Accounts .pdf for financial year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 for publishing on HP&G Parish Council website.**

**5792. CLERKS REPORT**

Clerk explained that she had received stickers to identify any public spaces within the Parish that are Dog Controlled Areas. Fixed penalty fines may be issued within these areas by dog wardens if you do not have means to pick up after any dog that you are in control of.

Clerk noted that she had received notification that the Boundary Commission for England will be undertaking a Boundary Review in 2023 in order to rebalance the number of electors represented by each MP and that the final consultation is now open.

**Clerk still to arrange replacement of Bassingfield defibrillator pads.**

**Clerk to continue setting up Parish Council email addresses for Parish & Bookings Clerks, then for all Councillors and for Susan Toon for newsletter email traffic.**

**Clerk to arrange purchase and distribution of bleed control kits.**

**5793. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022** in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Lane, Gamston.**

**The meeting ended at approximately 9.30pm.**