

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7.15pm in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Rd, Gamston**

**Members Present:** Cynthia Stacey, John Mason (Acting Chair), Janet Hackett, Geoff Prett, Alun Owen, Richard Fairgrieve & Maria Ubhi

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

**5876. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Cllr Mason addressed the meeting as the Acting Chair.

Councillor Fairgrieve recited, and signed, his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Clerk countersigned the document.

**5877. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Tisbury sent his apologies due to work associated with moving business office.

Borough Cllr Viridi sent his apologies due to an unexpected leak at his home.

**5878. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**5879. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

No changes were suggested to the Order of Business.

**5880. MINUTES**

**TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2023**

Cllr Ubhi proposed, and Cllr Prett seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Cllr Fairgrieve abstained as he was not present at the May '23 Annual Meeting. Motion carried and Minutes were adopted.

**Cllr Fairgrieve to upload May '23 Annual Parish Council Meeting Minutes to the HP&G PC website.**

## **5881. COUNTY REPORT**

County Cllr Upton reiterated that the replacement bus shelter at Bassingfield has been installed on the A52.

Cllr Upton spoke about the extension of the Route 11 bus around Greenacre Mobile Home Park, that he and Borough Cllr Wheeler had petitioned for.

Cllr Upton explained that the Highways programme for '23/'24 is due to be published in July '23 and noted that he was still persevering to get resurfacing of Ambleside included in this.

Cllr Upton spoke about the Holly Farm planning application at Bassingfield and the County Council attempt to reduce the number of vehicular accesses to the site to one. Cllr Upton spoke about the fact that the surrounding road is a single carriageway with no footpath and one vehicular access would be most sensible, but decision for two vehicular accesses has been made and no proper response was received.

Cllr Owen asked for why there was a raised strip of pavement in the centre of the new carriageway eastbound along the A52 towards Radcliffe-on-Trent. Borough Cllr Wheeler explained this was to enable service access.

## **5882. DISTRICT REPORT**

Borough Cllr spoke about the new term of office post elections and associated inductions and training for new Cllrs.

Cllr Wheeler explained that he had met with residents from Bassingfield to discuss the Holly Farm planning application.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the fact that the newly assigned Gamston Ward extends from the Hilton Crescent area of West Bridgford which has experienced some anti-social behaviour, car crime and nuisance from off road bikes. Cllr Wheeler explained that the Police were performing more patrols and were more visible in the community to hopefully negate some of this behaviour.

Cllr Mason asked if we have a Police Station in West Bridgford. Cllr Wheeler explained that that is shared with the Fire Brigade and there is also a presence at the Rushcliffe Borough Council contact centre in West Bridgford. Cllr Wheeler noted that it was preferable for officers to be out on the beat rather than behind a desk in a station. Cllr Wheeler spoke about the issue of laptops to PCSO's in order for them to write up their reports out on the beat rather than having to repeatedly return to a station, this enables funds to be invested in personnel rather than properties. Cllr Mason asked about how the PCSO's could be identified and whether they had badges on their shoulders.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the substantial investment being made in improving footpaths at Rushcliffe Country Park. Cllr Wheeler noted that the new facilities of the café, shelter and conference facilities were superb and the £1 cost to park for the entire day was excellent value for money.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the upcoming Proms in the Park event at West Bridgford Park, also Armed Forces Day and Lark in the Park that attracts over 6,000 visitors.

Cllr Wheeler noted that full RBC cabinet meets tomorrow night and spoke about the West Bridgford growth boards work. West Bridgford town centre is a vibrant place with empty units being quickly re-let. A new Italian restaurant is coming to Central Avenue and a 200 degrees coffee outlet in the old Oliver Bonas building. Also the new Indian sweet shop that has opened is experiencing huge demand.

Cllr Fairgrieve asked about whether the 'No Mow May' initiative covered hedgerows also. Cllr Wheeler explained that for the last 7 or 8 years there has only been three cuts per year along Ambleside, once in April, once in June and a final cut in the autumn. Cllr Wheeler explained that hedge cutting is determined by the bird nesting season, during which only careful hand cutting is allowed. Cllr Wheeler also noted that some hedges are the responsibility of individual householders and that notices have been served on properties where trimming is required.

Cllr Wheeler explained that the new Mayor for the coming year is Cllr Debbie Mason. Cllr Stacey confirmed that the mayor had accepted the kind invitation to attend our Summer Play Day and would be accompanied by her consort Dexter the dog.

Cllr Prett asked about the road works at the junction of Ambleside with Radcliffe Road. Cllr Wheeler explained that EV (Electric Vehicle) charging cables for the Gamston Lock pub had been incorrectly installed and the latest disruption was remedial work.

Cllr Mason asked about the purpose of the WeBCan meeting to be held at the Poppy & Pint. Cllr Wheeler explained that this was a volunteer community meeting, attempting to prevent the Grantham Canal for drying up during periods of high temperatures and low rainfall. Cllr Wheeler clarified that the creation of bore holes was a suggestion to alleviate the problem but explained that there was a safety issue associated with those and a planning application would be required, also sufficient funds to implement.

Cllr Prett explained that monitoring of the canal on the Lady Bay side had been taking place and it had been identified that a willow tree was disrupting the clay base of the canal. Cllr Prett noted that it is extremely difficult to detect leaks in the canal base.

## **5883. PLANNING**

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

County Cllr Upton explained that Taylor Barwood and Vistry Homes were meeting regularly, facilitated by Rushcliffe Borough Council planning department, in order to create a masterplan or SPD (Special Planning Document) for the entire development. Planning applications will be submitted separately but all in conjunction with the SPD that covers the whole site.

Cllr Upton explained that Vistry Homes have bought a significant land holding and were increasingly proactive in progressing the development. Borough Cllr Wheeler noted that the builders realised the creation of an SPD was not negotiable in order for the Borough to ensure that the housing development also incorporated the required infrastructure, unlike the new housing development at Edwalton that entirely utilises existing infrastructure and therefore puts additional pressure on those resources.

Borough Cllr Wheeler thanked County Cllr Upton for his determination that an SPD for the site is a prerequisite for housing applications. Cllr Wheeler explained that from July '23 RBC planning department will be fully staffed, which is very rare for any planning department in the UK.

Cllr Upton explained that after the land East of Gamston has been developed any further housing will be resisted before 2041. Cllr Wheeler spoke about the National Highways consultation that is looking at the impact of developments on the whole of the West Bridgford area. Cllr Wheeler noted that improvements to A52 Lings Bar will be funded by developer contributions.

- ii) 23/00255/FUL                      *Mr J Croft                      Alteration, conversion and extension of the existing farm buildings to create five dwellings. Demolition of minor ancillary buildings.                      Holly Farm, Bassingfield Lane, Bassingfield, Nottinghamshire, NG12 2LG*

*Deadline for comment : Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June '23*

Parish Council Response :                      OBJECT

As the only noticeable alterations relate to parking all the previous objections submitted by the Parish Council remain:

To clarify, the massing of the proposed developed is out of keeping with the village environment. It is already one of the most dominant buildings before its proposed increase in size. The scale and design of the alterations and extensions are unsympathetic to the character of the existing buildings.

The proposal is for 5 dwellings creating 20 bedrooms (1 x 3 bed, 3 x 4 bed and 1 x 5 bed). We understand car provision in the village is 1 car per adult suggesting all adults residing in the new development will drive. Over 12 will be occupied by adults. Suggesting in para 7.8 a reduction of 23 movements in the AM peak is incorrect as the traffic generated by the wood yard has moved to another site and is already on the road network.

The 4 parking spaces at the front of the site including the city car garage are all substandard. We don't understand how NCC can say parking provision now meets their Design Guide.

EV charging point regulations came into force on 22 June 2022 which should be

reflected in the plans. It is not readily apparent if EV charging is supported/ is possible for some of the parking spots.

We consider the intensity of the development, both traffic movements and massing together with the unsympathetic design when considering the village character, would have an adverse impact on the greenbelt and the character of the area and should be refused.

If Rushcliffe BC consider sustainability and greenbelt issues are resolved we believe a further traffic assessment is required during a normal period for vehicle movement (not a holiday period) before taking the application to committee. If this is not provided NCC Highways must confirm they accept reports prepared during such quiet periods. Have NCC also acknowledged the relocation and intensification of the timber yard when considering traffic movements. Any traffic comparisons (Transport Statement paras 7.8 and 8.2) to suggest it will not be an issue should be against residential and agricultural use. NCC accepting issues with substandard visibility splays has no bearing on the impact of additional traffic movements.

#### **5884. VILLAGE HALL**

##### *Monthly Update*

Clerk read monthly update received from the Bookings Clerk.

*'Not much to report since the last meeting as it was only three weeks ago, just a couple of maintenance issues.*

*Also the slab that was fixed a few months ago, as it was a trip hazard, has broken and once again is a trip hazard. I have put a cone over it again to make people aware.*

*Parties this month: Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June (10am so Geoff is aware as it's litter pick day) and 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July.'*

##### *Outdoor Clock*

Clerk explained that local electrician had almost completed the work required to resolve the issues with the outdoor clock and they would be finished before the next Parish Council meeting.

##### *Flag*

Clerk has purchased two new flags and asked if somebody would be able to assist in flying them from the Village Hall flagpole. Discussion took place and due to the thunderstorm it was decided not to attempt at that time.

**Cllr Mason to liaise with David Litchfield and Clerk to arrange for new flags to be affixed.**

### *Watering Trees*

Clerk explained that she had been contacted by our Tree Surgeon James Harrison regarding the extremely dry weather and the newer trees in the Village Hall grounds that were showing signs of drought. James recommended that the trees were watered by hosepipe at least once but ideally twice a week, in the evening, during June, July and August. Clerk confirmed that there was a hosepipe at the Village Hall. Discussion took place, Cllr Owen offered to help, Clerk thanked him for his generous offer but thought it should be people based in Gamston, rather than him having to travel from Holme Pierrepont. Cllr Ubhi asked if Bookings Clerk could perhaps incorporate the task with her work at the Village Hall.

**Clerk to organise watering of young VH trees.**

**Clerk still to liaise with Bookings Clerk to arrange Village Hall PAT Testing at a time when the Village Hall is free.**

### **5885. PLAY PARK**

#### *Grant Application Update*

Clerk explained that unfortunately our application to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund via RBC had been unsuccessful.

Clerk had spoken with Charlotte Gault the UKSPF & REPF Project Implementation Officer for feedback who had explained that the fund had been massively over subscribed by four times the available funds. There were very few weak applications and ours was very good. Charlotte noted that our application was clear and easy to read and answered all the questions that were asked of us. When assessing the applications it was important that the funds were spread across a variety of beneficiaries. Charlotte explained there were three applications for playground funding and the project likely to go ahead is in an isolated village with no play facility. The reason our bid was rejected in comparison was that firstly our existing equipment is in good working order, secondly although ours is the only playground in Gamston, we are attached to other areas with play facilities such as West Bridgford and finally our Parish precept is higher than the successful bid and therefore we could save up to fund our developments.

Clerk noted that although disappointing, the reasons were understandable. Also, the application work already done was not wasted as would be useful for future applications.

**Clerk to arrange meeting with Cllr Prett and Susan Toon to further progress grant funding applications.**

### *Services Survey*

Clerk explained that she had emailed the contact forwarded by Cllr Tisbury, to request a full services survey at the Play Park.

**Clerk to follow up request for underground services survey.**

**Cllr Stacey to speak with Diane Kidger, previous Parish Council chair, regarding any documentation regarding the original creation of the Play Park.**

### *Extended Fence Line*

Clerk asked the meeting if we were now in a position to place an order for the extension to the Play Park fencing. Discussion took place. Cllr Prett explained that some further investigations were required before a final decision is made. Cllr Prett noted that access for not only wheelchairs, pushchairs and bicycles should be considered but also mobility scooters; and the number of gates and location of gates considered.

Cllr Upton explained that he had reserved £1k of his Divisional Allowance to help fund the extension of the play park fencing. Clerk required to submit an application to Cllr Upton in order to access the funds.

**Clerk to prepare and submit an application for Divisional Allowance funds to County Cllr Upton.**

**Clerk to arrange meeting with Cllr Prett to discuss the specification for Play Park perimeter fencing before placing order.**

### *Playground Painting*

**Clerk still to further liaise with new Streetwise contact regarding remedial Play Park paintwork.**

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

### *Annual Independent Inspection*

Clerk explained that The Play Inspection Company had independently inspected the entire Play Park. Clerk has forwarded, via email, resulting report to all Cllrs. Clerk noted that all aspects of the Play Park were assessed as being low or no risk, there being a small amount of taping of the ropes required and some graffiti to be reported for removal via RBC. The top of the large swing unit could not be inspected due to its height above the ground. Clerk explained that last summer welding repairs and replacement parts were carried out on this swing unit.

### *MUGA Annual Maintenance*

Clerk explained that Bingham Ground Services would be carrying out annual maintenance of the MUGA football pitch, weed treating, power brushing and sand dressing, which is now due to take place in early July '23.

**Clerk to notify Cllr Fairgrieve when MUGA maintenance taking place in order to pre-warn local residents via community Facebook pages.**

### **5886. SUMMER NEWSLETTER**

Discussion took place with regard to the production of a summer newsletter. Options for a 4 page or 2 page or just a flyer to advertise the Summer Play Day on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August were debated.

Meeting agreed to attempt to issue a full 4-page newsletter, if not enough material available, a 2-page newsletter. Cllr Owen noted a number of articles that could be included as well as the Chair's introduction, diary dates and the advert for the Summer Play Day such as an article regarding Geocaching, U3A article, 'Follow us on Facebook' and an article describing what the Parish Council actually does.

Cllr Owen asked that any potential articles be forwarded to him in the next two weeks. Cllr Owen explained that both the Clerk and Susan Toon were going on holiday in July '23 and the short timescales reflected this.

**Cllrs to forward any newsletter articles to Cllr Owen within the next two weeks.**

**8.40pm County Cllr Upton & Borough Cllr Wheeler left the meeting.**

Cllr Owen spoke about also trying to recruit new Cllrs and explained that he would introduce his granddaughter's partner Jordan at the July '23 meeting as he had expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council and getting involved in the work they do. Jordan is a Gamston resident, which the Parish Council is proportionally deficient in.

### **5887. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

#### *Holme Lane Update*

Cllr Owen explained that he had spoken with Neil Lewis who confirmed that there was no timetable as yet, but VIA had started the process of implementation of the changes to the lane. Cllr Owen had asked for a catch up and was due to meet and discuss at County Hall in the near future.

Cllr Stacey thanked Cllr Owen for everything he was doing to progress this initiative. Cllr Owen explained that County Cllr Upton had been incredibly helpful in assisting with this project.



### *Village Breakfast Gamston Buddy Bench*

Clerk explained that this was being worked on by Cllr Tisbury

### *Summer Play Day*

Cllr Stacey explained that she had submitted the necessary paperwork to book the Mayor Debbie Mason to attend the play day and noted that she would be accompanied by her dog. Cllr Stacey asked whether a meeting before would be useful. Clerk agreed a meet up before her annual leave would be a good idea.

**Clerk to organise a Summer Play Day meeting with Cllrs Stacey, Hackett and Ubhi sometime before 21<sup>st</sup> July '23.**

Cllr Stacey spoke about acquiring an updated list of Police contacts for the notice boards. Clerk noted that Cllr Hackett had asked about this a couple of years ago, but Clerk had been informed that this information was not now available. Cllr Stacey explained that she was due to receive this information. Clerk welcomed this and would copy for all notice boards on receipt.

**Cllr Stacey to forward updated Police information to Clerk on receipt.**

Cllr Stacey explained that she had received correspondence from Gary Arkless regarding the strimming at the Play Park around the new shrubs. He noted that some damage had been sustained. Clerk explained that she would arrange for James Harrison to take a look at them when he was next reviewing the play park foliage.

**Clerk still to acquire quotation from Streetwise for additional bins in Holme Pierrepont and the weekly charge for emptying them.**

Cllr Fairgrieve explained that he had experienced a challenging couple of months regarding both home and work and wanted to apologise for that. Meeting noted no apologies required and thanked him for everything he was doing. Cllr Fairgrieve explained that if anybody had anything they wanted posting on Facebook or the website to forward it to him. As the HP&G PC Facebook site was now over 3 months old it was possible to cross-post into the Gamston Community Facebook page, therefore reaching more residents.

Cllr Fairgrieve explained that he intended to post something each week on the HP&G PC Facebook page to try and increase traction.

Cllr Hackett spoke about the recent bonfire that had become out of control in Holme Pierrepont at Jubilee Cottage and explained that the Fire Service had been unable to locate access to the mains water supply in the hamlet, resulting in water being piped from The Green, in Radcliffe-on-Trent, as the nearest available supply.

Cllr Ubhi explained that she had checked all the defibrillators in the Parish, and all were working, including the defibrillator cabinet in Bassingfield. Clerk had arranged for the metal plate attached to the electricity supply to be swapped as it was malfunctioning, explaining the plate was swapped free of charge and the electrician Paul Housden also gave his time for free to replace and test the unit.

## **5888. FINANCE**

### *Financial Statements & Payments for Approval*

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

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

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

### *Approval of Annual Governance Annual Review Section 2 Financial Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023*

Clerk explained that she had previously distributed paper copies of the Annual Governance Annual Review Section 2 Financial Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and associated documentation for review by all Councillors.

Cllr Owen proposed, and Cllr Stacey seconded the motion that the Annual Governance Annual Review Section 2 2022/2023 be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

**Chair and Clerk to sign Annual Governance Annual Review Section 2 2022/2023.**

**Clerk to gather all required documentation for external audit by PKF Littlejohn and ensure this is submitted by deadline date of Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023.**

Clerk still to review Councillor signatories on the Unity Trust Bank account to remove Cllrs that have left the Parish Council and add on new Cllrs.

**Clerk to ensure bank account signatories up to date.**

**Clerk to fulfil The Pensions Regulator legal re-enrolment and re-declaration duties for Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council by 30<sup>th</sup> August 2023.**

**5889. CLERKS REPORT**

Clerk spoke again about the invitation to attend the County Council Civic Service at Southwell Minster on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June '23. Any Cllrs wishing to attend to notify Clerk.

**Clerk still to co-ordinate completion and submission of Cllr Declaration of Interests forms to RBC.**

**5890. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.15pm** in **St Edmund's Church, Holme Pierrepont.**

Clerk noted that Cllr Hackett will be Acting Chair at the July '23 meeting.

Cllr Stacey asked that all attendees bring their own refreshments to the meeting please.

**The meeting ended at approximately 9.15pm.**