

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 9th October 2023 at 7.15pm in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road**

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

In attendance: Julia Barnes (Clerk) & Borough Cllr Jonathan Wheeler

5920. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Fairgrieve addressed the meeting as the Acting Chair and welcomed everyone.

Cllr Tisbury sent his apologies as he was not available.

Cllr Ubhi sent her apologies as she was not available.

County Cllr Upton and Borough Cllrs Wheeler & Viridi sent their apologies for a possible late arrival due to a prior meeting.

5921. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5922. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Proposed possible deferment of agenda items pertaining to County and Borough Cllrs until their arrival.

5923. MINUTES

**TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 11th SEPTEMBER 2023**

Cllr Hackett proposed, and Cllr Owen seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Cllr Prett abstained as he was not present at the September '23 Parish Council Meeting. Motion carried and Minutes were adopted.

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

Cllr Owen noted matters arising from the Minutes that are not covered by the upcoming Agenda.

Cllr Owen asked about the ownership of land next to Blotts in Holme Pierrepont.

Clerk still to perform land registry search on land next to Blotts.

5924. PLANNING

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

No new information.

5925. VILLAGE HALL

Monthly Update

Cllr Fairgrieve read monthly update received from the Bookings Clerk.

'All is good at the hall.

After a full weekend of parties, bookings are slowing down now for the winter months. Although there's been a few enquiries for October/November, but unfortunately not much has been booked.

The cage that is protecting the external condenser unit at the back of the hall was found hanging off a few weeks ago, I temporarily secured it and Julia saw that it was fixed for us all. It looks like it was done on purpose rather than it just coming loose.

I've had an email about the Hall holding the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime commissioner Elections at the Village Hall next year Thursday 2nd May.

Clay creators are also back over the half term, Tuesday 24th, Tuesday 31st and Wednesday 1st.

Parties this month are; Saturday 21st October and Sunday 29th October.'

Clock Adjustment

Cllr Tisbury has kindly agreed to make the necessary adjustments to the Village Hall clock at the end of British Summer Time. Cllr Tisbury to stop the VH clock on the evening of Saturday 28th October '23 and restart after 13 hours on the morning of Sunday 29th October '23.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Discussion took place regarding the vandalism to the air conditioning unit cage situated at the back of the Village Hall. Various options were discussed including the use of anti-vandal paint, a solid metal cover and a larger mesh cover that stands on the floor. Question was asked as to whether there was a need for airflow around the unit.

Clerk and Cllrs to investigate options for reducing the likelihood of recurrence of vandalism at the rear of the Village Hall.

PAT Testing

Clerk explained that PAT testing was in hand.

Clerk to arrange Village Hall PAT Testing at a time when the Village Hall is free.

5926. PLAY PARK

Anti-social Behaviour

Clerk explained that some of the metal fencing between the play equipment and the football pitch had been vandalised. Cllr Mason told the meeting that David Litchfield was due to fix this tomorrow morning.

Discussion took place regarding ways to discourage this behaviour and increased lighting at night was suggested. It was considered that in fact extra lighting after dark would encourage youths to gather rather than dissuade them.

Extended Fence Line

Clerk explained that the fence extension would be ready to fit in approximately 3 to 4 weeks. This timescale is due to coincide with the half term holidays, so fitting to be delayed until children return to school.

Clerk noted that she would ensure Cllr Tisbury was available to agree on fence line positioning on the first day of installation.

Discussion took place regarding ways of preventing graffiti on the new PSPO signage. Cllr Owen noted that covering these in Vaseline could prevent graffiti.

Cllr Fairgrieve to inform the community on Facebook when a definite installation date for Play Park fencing is known.

Clerk to acquire 2 PSPO signs from RBC to affix to perimeter fencing close to each entrance gate.

Play Park Grant Applications

Meeting of Clerk, Cllr Prett and Susan Toon to take place in November '23 to discuss future plans for funding proposed play park improvements.

Clerk, Cllr Prett and Susan Toon to meet to discuss play park grant applications.

Sand Pit

Cllr Hackett asked the meeting to consider the inclusion of a permanent sand pit at the Play Park. Cllr Hackett explained that children hugely enjoy playing in sand and many parks in the area such as East Bridgford, Rushcliffe Country Park at Ruddington, Newark and West Bridgford all have sand, some of them using it instead of matting around play equipment.

Discussion took place regarding the practicality of a permanent sand pit at the Play Park. It was noted that cats using the sand as a litter tray would be a potential issue as our Play Park is in the middle of a residential area, where there are many pet cats. A covered sand pit could mitigate this but would require personnel to close at the end of each day. Question was also asked as to how often the sand would need to be replaced.

Cllr Hackett to investigate the upkeep requirements for sand pits in nearby play areas to assess suitability for inclusion at Ambleside Play Park.

Grass Seed

It was noted that the grass had worn away in the area where the Summer Play Day temporary sand pit groundsheet had been positioned. Cllr Prett mentioned that there was some spare grass seed in the store cupboard. Cllr Hackett kindly agreed to take some grass seed and rake it into the bare patch of ground at the play park in the coming week.

Cllr Hackett to sow grass seed at the play park.

Salt Bin Maintenance

Cllrs Stacey and Mason explained that the salt in the bins around the Parish had been checked by David Litchfield. Where the rock salt had solidified, David had broken it up ready for winter use. The Holme Pierrepont bin has salty water in it that needs to be removed. David Litchfield has placed two unopened bags of salt in the bin to be opened for use as and when required preventing the formation of further salt water in the salt bin.

Tree Maintenance

Clerk explained that James Harrison the tree surgeon was due to carry out the annual review of the parish trees on 24th October '23 but if they had a cancellation then may bring this date forward.

5927. AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Cllr Owen explained that he had met with Clerk and Susan Toon to progress the production of the newsletter and that there were lots of interesting articles for inclusion.

Cllr Owen spoke about the addition of a flyer insert for the Bassingfield and Adbolton copies to try and attract new Parish Councillors from these areas of the Parish.

Cllr Owen to draft a flyer for new Parish Councillors from Bassingfield and Adbolton.

Cllr Owen spoke about the article regarding the telephone box outside the Village Hall grounds and mentioned a previous suggestion from around 2015 to create an interesting floor to the telephone box. The telephone box is situated on the exact site of the old village water pump, and it had been suggested that a mosaic of that pump would be an appropriate design.

Clerk explained that a local mosaic artist Julie Vernon, who had used the old Village Hall as a venue for teaching mosaic skills, had been suggested as an ideal person to produce this design, but no quotations had been received at the time and the project had become dormant.

Clerk to find contact details for mosaic artist Julie Vernon.

8.25pm Borough Cllr Wheeler arrived at the meeting.

5928. COUNTY REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler explained that County Cllr Upton and Borough Cllr Viridi were still in their prior meeting which he had left in order to give both County and District updates to the Parish Council.

Borough Cllr Wheeler, who is also a County Cllr for a different area, spoke about the school meals price rise that had become inevitable as the cost of producing the meals had increased substantially.

Cllr Wheeler explained that Adult Social Care accounted for around 60% of their total budget.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about a new County Council budget survey.

5929. DISTRICT REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler spoke about Vistry Homes plans for their section of the Land East of Gamston development. Their entire pre-planning consultation is online rather than in-person roadshows. Cllr Wheeler explained that RBC are still waiting for the overall planning document to cover the entire site. Cllr Wheeler encouraged everyone to fill in the consultation survey and intended to post a link on the Gamston Community Facebook page. Cllr Wheeler noted that no official planning application had been received from Vistry Homes.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the fact that after the Gamston Community Hall was used as a Covid Vaccination centre it has struggled to get bookings back to pre-Covid levels. Previous hall users that were forced to relocate during Covid haven't all returned. Cllr Wheeler asked if the Parish Council could signpost any prospective hall hirers that approached Gamston Village Hall that we couldn't accommodate, to Gamston Community Hall.

Clerk to speak with Bookings Clerk regarding Gamston Community Hall as an alternative venue for prospective hirers that cannot be accommodated at Gamston Village Hall.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the fact that Gamston Morrisons glass recycling site is extremely busy and another facility in the area is required to meet demand.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the upcoming RBC Community Awards on 15th October '23.

Cllr Wheeler noted that RBC is 50 years old in 2024 and there are plans to mark this, with a small budget, including some archive work at Rushcliffe Arena and changing the branding for the year to a golden colour.

Cllr Prett asked if RBC is 50 years old next year, then does that mean the Parish Council is also 50 years old.

Cllr Stacey to ask previous Parish Council Chair Diane Kidger if she knows the age of the Parish Council.

Cllr Stacey asked about the status of the proposed new cycle bridge over the River Trent. Cllr Wheeler explained it is still happening, but RBC are not involved with the plans.

Cllr Prett asked if the dredging of the canal that took place in the Spring would be continued in the Autumn.

Cllr Wheeler to check if there are any plans for autumn canal dredging.

Cllr Owen asked if a list of successful applicants to the first round of UKSPF was available. Cllr Wheeler explained that the criteria for the second round of UKSPF funding is due to be set tomorrow. Cllr Wheeler noted that the intention is to benefit more applicants with smaller amounts of funding, whilst providing more application support to applicants.

Cllr Wheeler to enquire as to whether the list of successful UKSPF applicants is available.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the problems with providing direct Police Officer contact details for display as their shift patterns are 4 days on 4 days off and therefore reported crimes could experience a 4-day delay before being acted upon. Recommendation is for all crimes to be reported to 101 unless it is an emergency in which case 999 should be used. Reporting crimes in any area helps to direct the allocation of Police resource to the problematic areas.

Clerk to create a notice detailing Police contact details for Parish notice boards.

Clerk raised the following question in Cllr Tisbury's absence.

'Filling Potholes. Please can you get Jonathan Wheeler to raise the potholes identified and marked up in yellow on the road between Main Street and Grange Farm courtyard with officers, as the company employed to do the works seem to have finished locally and missed this one.'

Cllr Wheeler to raise missed potholes with Cllr Upton as a County Council issue.

5930. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Holme Lane Update

Cllr Owen updated the meeting on Holme Lane. The initial consultations have been assessed again and the formal consultation process has been moved onto the next stage, which will depend upon the number of objections.

Cllr Owen spoke about the appalling state the lane is currently in, which is very dangerous for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists. Notts County Council have filled in the potholes and made the lane safer in the past for special events. Cllr Stacey noted that she had sent an email to Cllr Upton regarding the road condition.

Cllr Stacey spoke about the lunchtime Remembrance Service at St Edmunds Church, Holme Pierrepont and explained that weather permitting, it would take place outside around the lychgate. Cllr Stacey provided advertising posters for display in the Parish.

Cllr Stacey explained that plans were well in hand for the Christmastime at Gamston Village Hall event on Saturday 25th November '23 between 3.30pm and 5.30pm and asked for volunteers please on the day to set up, help during the event and then pack away.

Cllr Prett updated the meeting on the canal work and meetings of WeBCan. Discussion took place regarding the erosion on the canal bank identified by Cllr Fairgrieve that no one is taking responsibility for. Cllr Wheeler explained that the Canal & River Trust are responsible for the canal.

Clerk to invite Gary Dykes, Grantham Canal Society Ranger for the Gamston section of the canal to a future Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Hackett spoke about the state of the post box in Bassingfield as it is covered in green mould. Also the Bassingfield traffic signs on the A52 are broken and very dirty. Cllr Prett also noted that the Bassingfield sign on Tollerton Lane/Bassingfield Lane was also damaged. Discussion took place regarding resolution of problems. It was noted that road signage is the responsibility of National Highways.

Cllr Hackett to notify Royal Mail customer services of maintenance required to Bassingfield post box.

Village Breakfast Gamston Buddy Bench

Clerk explained that Cllr Tisbury had provided required information for Clerk to order Gamston Buddy Bench in the coming week .

HP Additional Bins

Clerk to chase up update from Streetwise regarding the assessment of need for the additional bins in Holme Pierrepont.

Clerk to contact Streetwise regarding HP additional bins.

5931. 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.

Clerk produced the required paperwork for signature to add Cllr Owen as a signatory on the Unity Trust Bank account.

Clerk to process required paperwork to add Cllr Owen as Unity Trust Bank signatory.

Clerk still to add Cllrs Fairgrieve and Ubhi as Unity Trust Bank Account signatories.

Cllr Hackett asked if the Parish Council reserves could be transferred to a Post Office Savings Account to secure a higher interest rate.

Clerk to investigate whether Parish Council funds can be transferred to a Post Office Savings Account.

9.25pm

Borough Cllr Wheeler left the meeting.

5932. CLERKS REPORT

Clerk again reminded the meeting that the next Town & Parish Council Conference was taking place on 10th November '23 at Bingham Arena between the hours of 9.15am and 4pm.

Cllrs to inform Clerk if they would like a place booking on the Town & Parish Council Conference.

5933. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 13th November 2023 at 7.15pm** in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.**

Clerk noted that Cllr Prett will be Acting Chair at the November '23 meeting.

Cllr Hackett gave her advance apologies for the November '23 meeting and also the Parish Christmas event.

The meeting ended at approximately 9.40pm.