Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council** Monday 11th September 2023 at 7.15pm in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road**

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

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

5906. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

Cllr Prett sent his apologies due to being on holiday.

Cllr Tisbury sent his apologies due to a later than expected return to Nottingham.

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

Cllr Owen gave Jordan Phillips apologies and explained that he is still very interested in becoming a Parish Councillor but unfortunately was unable to make the meeting this evening.

5907. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5908. ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

5909. MINUTES

TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 10th JULY 2023

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

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

Cllr Owen asked if at this point in the meeting any action points from the last Minutes that are not covered by the upcoming Agenda are discussed.

Cllr Owen spoke about the desire to prohibit antisocial behaviour in Holme Pierrepont with specific reference to the land next to Blotts. Cllr Hackett explained that it had been impossible to move the large stones forward using their tractor. It was agreed that the Parish Council would now attempt to establish the landowner by conducting a land registry search.

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

Cllr Stacey noted that she had continued to pursue a Rushcliffe Neighbourhood Police contact list, so far unsuccessfully, but will continue her quest.

Planting of RBC free trees at the junction of Bassingfield and Tollerton lanes was discussed but meeting agreed that without care and watering they will inevitably perish. Due to the difficult location to provide care it was agreed to be impractical. Cllr Hackett noted that of the large number of trees they had planted on their own land around 20% had been lost and consequently they had replanted.

5910. 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.

ii) 23/01231/FUL Mr Rob Phillips Two storey side extension, two storey rear extension, 1st floor window to side elevation, demolition of existing garage, new front entrance canopy, alterations to front gable, alterations to patio including steps to garden and alterations to boundary wall. Application of render. 25 Adbolton Grove, West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, NG2 5AR.

Parish Council Response: DO NOT OBJECT

The plans are similar, though not exactly the same, to what appears to have already been done in the past to neighbouring property, number 23. The size and aspect of the extension does not appear to be overbearing and window positioning looks to be sympathetic to neighbouring properties.

iii) 23/01440/FUL Mr Ged Costello Single storey rear garage extension. Elms Farm, Bassingfield Lane, Bassingfield, Nottinghamshire, NG12 2LG.

Parish Council Response: DO NOT OBJECT subject to the appeal building being demolished

The plans are somewhat confusing.

Firstly, if this is a replacement for the garage they built which was refused on appeal, we believe it to be a better solution being tucked away at the rear of the property. The confusion lies with the block plan attached showing 2 extensions pointing towards the canal. The right one disappears on the second plan. We don't know whether this is to be demolished as there is no supporting statement. The extension is large 10 m x 7 m but will not be anywhere near as visible as the building which was refused on appeal. It will not be seen approaching the village from Gamston. Any views from the opposite direction will include the existing side extension which is larger in the background.

The main issue relates to any potential harm to the greenbelt. Although there appears to be no overriding reason to justify development, we do not consider it will have a harmful effect on the openness of the green belt and therefore could be allowed if the appeal building is demolished.

iv) 23/01408/FUL c/o Agent Reconfiguration of existing car park, construction of collection kiosk, installation of substation, external alterations, and other ancillary works to accommodate a drive-thru in the existing restaurant building. Haveli, Radcliffe Road, Holme Pierrepont, Nottinghamshire, NG12 2LF.

Parish Council Response: DO NOT OBJECT

This application is seeking planning approval for external alterations to the building and the reconfiguration of the existing car park at the Haveli restaurant on the northside of Radcliffe Road to accommodate a Starbucks drive-thru unit.

The existing restaurant forms part of a small cluster of buildings which includes a petrol station and a motorcycle garage. Access to the site is from the A52 via a deceleration lane and access road shared with the petrol station with a dedicated turning point into the existing car park. The egress route is shared with the petrol station back on to Radcliffe Road via a separate exit to the east.

The proposed alterations to the building appear to be modest with minimal changes to accommodate a new 'pop up collection point' on the western side which will necessitate the removal of the existing porch. The proposed changes seem to be in keeping with the existing appearance of the building with the use of wood cladding etc. and there are proposals for soft landscaping as part of the development. The existing car park will be reconfigured to provide wider access, a drive through lane, parking spaces, electric charging points and secure cycle parking.

This application is for the continuing development of a roadside food outlet. There is no expansion of the site, the changes to the structure of the building are minor and the exterior will benefit from the upgrade. Access to the car park will be widened, parking facilities improved, and the appearance of the site should be improved by the proposed soft landscaping.

Just to note the planning statement references 22/02048/CLUEXD but says nothing about 21/03092/FUL (6 EV charging bays at the Pierrepont Service Station). We believe that 23/01408/FUL and 21/03092/FUL are mutually exclusive, as 23/01408/FUL (this application) uses the space earmarked for the 21/03092/FUL EV chargers as the exit road. None of the EV charging bays cater for the disabled motorist.

The existing women's toilets are to become a storeroom and the existing men's and disabled toilets are to be re-configured. There is insufficient space to re-configure the toilets to include women's toilets too. As this is a travel stop and you could be waiting at least 30 mins to recharge an electric vehicle, it is essential that there are adequate toilet facilities. The new toilet arrangements need to be shown on the plan.

The road layout at the entrance to the collection kiosk (start of the drive thru lane) includes a height restrictor. If an above height vehicle approaches this section, there does not appear to be a means of abandoning the visit as there is insufficient space to turn around.

Also, how will Starbucks be advertised? The elevations as proposed do not show a sign.

In conclusion, although we have a few concerns including about vehicle speed on the A52 and the potential for accidents as vehicles leave the site to regain the carriageway, we do not object to the application.

5911. VILLAGE HALL

Monthly Update

Cllr Owen read monthly update received from the Bookings Clerk.

'All is well at the hall.

Hayley from Daisy Baby's have changed their company name to InHale and due to this she has had a very low intake this half term, so she's cancelled her booking and is hoping to be back in November. I've offered to help in the way of posters/flyers in the hall.

All other regular bookings are back and happy.

We have Raul, from SANAR starting his yoga classes on Thursdays in October. He's running two trial sessions in September to gauge the local interest.

I'm getting enquiries for regular bookings still coming through, although we can't take much more as we're quite busy during the weekdays.

Party enquiries are ok for this time of year. Weekend party dates: Sunday 17th and Saturday 23rd September Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th October.' Weeding

Clerk noted that the Bookings Clerk had asked about weeding at the Village Hall, especially around the building and the gate entrances. Clerk asked if Cllr Mason could ask David Litchfield if he could perform a one-off weeding of the Village Hall grounds at the end of the growing season.

Cllr Mason to ask David Litchfield if he would perform a one-off weed at the Village Hall at the end of the growing season.

Union & Ukrainian Flags

David Litchfield assisted by Cllrs Mason and Owen had flown the new Village Hall flags.

Projector

Bookings Clerk had contacted Clerk regarding the projector. Bookings Clerk had met with U3A Photography group who wanted to use the projector during their sessions. They managed to get the equipment working successfully but the blue cable from the wall socket in the office to the system appears to be temperamental and if touched or knocked the connection is lost.

U3A Photography also noted that a long HDMI cable was required to attach to a laptop.

Cllr Fairgrieve kindly agreed to take a look at the blue projector cable at some point.

Clerk has ordered long HDMI cable for 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.

5912. PLAY PARK

Extended Fence Line

Cllr Tisbury had emailed a map and explanations of the various play park fencing options after the last Parish Council meeting. Councillors had agreed by majority to option 1 which fully enclosed the entire Play Park, with the fence line set back from the path by approximately 2m.

Clerk explained that it was estimated that the fencing would be ready for installation in approximately 6 weeks. Clerk noted that she would try and ensure Cllr Tisbury was available to agree on fence line positioning on the day of installation.

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

Discussion took place regarding new Play Park signage required. Cllr Fairgrieve showed the meeting a picture of the signage used at the newly refurbished Lady Bay play area on Adbolton Lane. Clerk noted that the signs prohibiting dogs were available from RBC and would arrange procurement of those nearer the time.

Cllr Fairgrieve to forward picture of new Lady Bay play area sign to all Cllrs and Clerk for information.

Clerk to acquire RBC dog signage.

Play Park Grant Applications

Clerk explained that she would be arranging a meeting with Cllr Prett and Susan Toon to discuss future plans for funding proposed play park improvements.

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

Cllr Owen noted that he had been unable to find a list of beneficiaries from the first round of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. It was noted that we would get the opportunity to reapply in the future as there would be two further rounds of funding.

Play Sand

Meeting agreed that the groundsheet and play sand toys could now be removed from the play park as the school holidays were over and the weather was becoming more autumnal.

Cllr Fairgrieve noted that many of the sand toys had become broken with sharp edges and should be disposed of.

Cllr Mason to contact David Litchfield to arrange for play sand to be removed.

Trees

Clerk explained that she had been recontacted by one of the residents that had been visited in the summer regarding Play Park trees adjacent to their property. Clerk explained that the Tree Surgeon had booked our annual tree review for Tuesday October 24th '23 but would be earlier in the autumn if they had a cancellation. Householder was informed that work on the trees would be taking place then, but if they wanted to prune overhanging branches before, they were at liberty to do so, but at their own cost.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Cllr Fairgrieve explained that he had been contacted via the Parish Council Facebook Messenger regarding a couple of issues. Firstly regarding the rules for playing of music in the Play Park. The parishioner lives adjacent to the park and there have been instances of youngsters playing music after school hours, the parishioner had asked the youngsters

to turn it down in one instance and they had admittedly turned the music off but wondered going forward what the actual rules were.

Discussion took place and it was noted that there were no specific rules surrounding music, but the Parish Council endeavour to be a good neighbour to properties surrounding the Play Park. It was anticipated that as the weather became wetter and colder these instances would become less frequent.

The same Parishioner noted that they were aware of significant problems of anti-social behaviour including very loud music and drug taking in a makeshift den in the tree clump behind Swindale Close/Stavely Way, with the understanding that furniture and shopping trollies have been dumped and used in there.

Discussion again took place, and it was established that this was known to RBC and since the message to Cllr Fairgrieve, the site has been cleared by Streetwise.

Cllr Fairgrieve to further respond to Parishioner regarding their issues.

Autumn Leaf Removal

Clerk explained that Gary Arkless had very kindly offered to keep the Play Park and football pitch area free of leaves over the autumn period using the Parish Council leaf blower. Clerk to check level of fuel remaining for the leaf blower and arrange access to this equipment with Gary Arkless.

Meeting unanimously passed on their thanks to Gary Arkless for helping them with this maintenance work at the Play Park.

Clerk to check leaf blower fuel level and liaise with Gary Arkless.

5913. AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Clerk explained that the Autumn Newsletter needed to be distributed in time to advertise the Christmastime event on Saturday 25th November '23. Articles need to be received by mid-October in order for the newsletter to go to print by the end of October.

Cllr Owen explained that he had begun to look at possible inclusions in the newsletter.

Cllr Owen told the meeting that he had met with Pauline Lumley who had created the excellent local history display in the old telephone box at the top of the village green. Cllr Owen noted that it was a K6 telephone box dated around 1935.

Cllr Owen spoke about the need to try and attract new Parish Councillors from Adbolton and Bassingfield as no existing Parish Councillors lived in those areas. The Parish Council represents all Parishioners, regardless of where they live in the Parish, but a greater understanding of individual areas is inevitable when actually living in that location. It was agreed that an individual flyer be included in the copies distributed to Adbolton and Bassingfield in an attempt to recruit new Councillors.

Cllr Stacey kindly agreed to write the Vice Chairs report.

8.10pm County Cllr Upton arrived at the meeting.

Cllr Owen spoke about a number of other topics that could feature in future Parish Newsletters such as defibrillator locations, the naming of Skylarks, sharing of recipes using local fruits and produce, community health and wellbeing article and West Bridgford Colts article with specific reference to Mary Earps. Cllr Mason noted that there was an article in the St Lukes Church magazine Outlook regarding the new headteacher at Pierrepont Gamston Primary School.

Cllr Owen, Clerk and Susan Toon to meet to progress the Autumn Newsletter.

8.17pm Borough Cllrs Wheeler & Virdi arrived at the meeting.

5914. COUNTY REPORT

County Cllr Upton noted that August had been a short month with no formal meetings.

Cllr Upton spoke about Cycle Route 15 that runs through the Parish and his discussions with Sustrans who are custodians of the National Cycle Network. Sustrans had not been consulted on the proposed changes to Holme Lane in Holme Pierrepont, but they were supportive of the changes.

Cllr Upton had spoken with Neil Lewis regarding the Holme Lane proposals and Neil Lewis explained that he would be back in touch when he had formulated the next steps for the initiative.

5915. DISTRICT REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler spoke about the broken wooden step between the canal path and Radcliffe Road that has been reported to and repaired by the Canal River Trust.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the £80k investment by RBC in the Adbolton Lane play park where a combination of new and reused recycled equipment was utilised to create a refreshed play area.

Cllr Wheeler congratulated the Parish Council on a very successful Summer Play Day.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about meeting the Prime Minister at Regatta Way football pitches where provision of defibrillators in dugouts was discussed.

Borough Cllr Virdi apologised for missing the Parish Council Summer Play Day due to being away on his summer holidays.

Cllr Virdi spoke about the successful Rushcliffe summer events including Proms in the Park, Sunday Cinema, Lark in the Park and also the British Cycling Tour of Britain event as it passed through our region.

Cllr Virdi explained he was looking forward to celebrating the areas unsung community heroes at the annual Celebrating Rushcliffe awards. Cllr Virdi noted that nominations remain open until Sunday 15th October '23.

Cllr Fairgrieve raised the issue of the makeshift den. Cllr Wheeler explained that he had been made aware of this by a resident and had arranged for the area to be cleared. Cllr Wheeler had met with the Police to discuss the possibility of more patrols in the area, but they explained it was very difficult as resource was often pulled into town especially on a Friday and Saturday night. Cllr Wheeler also noted that some residents were reluctant to report incidences to the police as there was a belief that an increase in Police crime numbers would result in an increase in insurance premiums.

Cllr Owen asked Cllr Wheeler if he was aware of a list of beneficiaries from the UKSPF round one applications. Cllr Wheeler thought they had not yet been published but would ask the relevant officer for information.

Borough Cllr Wheeler to ask about publishing of beneficiary list from UKSPF.

5916. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Holme Lane Update

Cllr Owen explained that he had spoken to Neil Lewis and Jane Baines regarding the next part of the process. Neil Lewis now must look at all outstanding objections and address those with a response. Cllr Owen then noted that the formal consultation of other users of the road including utilities would be carried out. The Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) would be advertised publicly in the Nottingham Post, anticipated to take place in 6 to 8 weeks. The process after this time is dependent upon the feedback from the further consultations.

Cllr Mason thanked Cllr Upton for some of the potholes in the area being fixed.

Village Breakfast Gamston Buddy Bench

Clerk noted that this was still pending.

HP Additional Bins

Clerk explained that she had contacted Streetwise for a quotation for the additional bins in Holme Pierrepont. Streetwise explained that the process would be to carry out an assessment of need for the additional bins over the next few weeks. If a need was identified then the bins and emptying would be completed free of charge. If a need is not identified it will still be possible to install them and have them emptied, but at a cost to the Parish Council.

Cllr Stacey thanked all the Parish Councillors for their invaluable help in making the Summer Play Day such a success. Cllr Stacey noted that going forward we are in need of help from younger people to set up events as the Councillors are getting older and it is physically exhausting work. Cllr Mason asked whether we could link up with local schools to find volunteers to help. Cllr Owen spoke about Ceri the drum leader and his skill at creating music with a group of children in such a short time. Cllr Owen confirmed that he had taken some pictures at the Play Day and would distribute those. Cllr Stacey explained that the marquee that had been hired in case of bad weather had not been delivered. As an apology the marquee company offered us a 50% reduction on our next hire, which would be at the Christmastime event.

Cllr Stacey thanked David Litchfield for the excellent job he had done in maintaining and painting the lychgate war memorial at St Edmunds church in Holme Pierrepont.

Cllr Stacey noted that she had received notification that the Environment Agency would be taking industrial action in the form of short strikes between 18th August '23 and 18th September '23. This may affect the automated flood warning system, which may or may not be an issue dependent upon the weather conditions.

Cllr Ubhi explained that she had performed the monthly check of all the defibrillators in the Parish, and they were all were in working order.

Clerk to update The Circuit website with latest date of defibrillator check.

Clerk read out Cllr Prett meeting report.

'Questions for councillors

1. I was pleased to hear from Roger that there's to be some tidying up of the A6011 between the Gamston Roundabout and the Canal Bridge. Will these works include putting right the mess left by Bethell when they installed the cabling for the EV chargers? The land at the Ambleside/Radcliffe Road junction is in a particularly poor state. It is mostly turned over sub soil, which is not flat and has not been reseeded with grass. A cycling path sign was also dug up as part of the works and has been left in the hedge.

Cllr Upton to raise reminder with County Council contact Laura Trussler regarding remedial work.

2. WeBCan now has "Community adoption" status with the Canal & River Trust for the Gamston and Lady Bay sections of the Grantham Canal. This means that WeBCan can enter the canal and remove the Norfolk Reeds, which are one of the causes of the water loss problems. It is not possible to carry out all of this work from the towpath side of the canal at Gamston (the canal is too deep) so access will be necessary from the Gamston side too. Is there an up-to-date map showing the land ownership on the Gamston side of the canal? I believe that the landowners need to be informed, as the WeBCan works could inadvertently create safety issues and could cause the landowners to stop their regular upkeep works.

Land ownership can be identified using the Land Registry.

- 3. I reported the problem with the bank erosion on the Gamston side of the Grantham Canal, which I mentioned at the July meeting, to the Canal & River Trust (what3words location being.editor.discrepancy) over a month ago but am yet to receive a response. (Richard can explain the problem if further details are required.) I only asked for an inspection as the resolution may rest with others (i.e., with the landowners).
- 4. We (the Parish Council and the Tree Warden) have not applied for any trees under this year's RBC free trees scheme. Will RBC be replacing the trees that were lost last year whilst they were responsible for looking after the new plantings, or do we need to use our free tree allocation to replace them?

Cllr Wheeler explained that there was no resource available to care for all the trees that were planted by RBC so it was unlikely that these trees will be replanted this year.

Councillor's Report

- 1. As mentioned previously, WeBCan has achieved "Community adoption" status and is holding weekly reed removal work sessions. They have also acquired a shed for tool storage on the Eltham Road allotments.
- 2. Gary Dykes, who lives in Honister Close, Gamston, is now the Grantham Canal Society Ranger for the Gamston section of the Grantham Canal.

Clerk to invite Gary Dykes to speak at a future Parish Council meeting.

- 3. The Gamston Litter Pickers collected their 600th bag of litter in August.
- 4. The new bird hide at the Skylarks Nature Reserve was officially opened on 8th September. It is known as The Herebeorg (pronounced Hay-bay-org), which means shelter or refuge.
- 5. The temporary sandpit at the Ambleside Play Park appears to be more popular in its new location and is always busy. (It may be because it further away from the other play equipment.) I have also observed that the young children like to sit in the sand, and it is often their father who is playing with them. Do we need to consider a two-level sandpit, ground level for children to sit in and play, and a raised level for wheelchair users?

Discussion took place and meeting felt that the temporary sand pit each summer was sufficient and provided a novel offering at the play park during the summer.

6. Play Park fencing. If the options are to be discussed, I vote for Option 1 (fully enclosed) but a self-closing gate may not be necessary. I appreciate that it will be rarely closed but dogs would still be prohibited, and access would be easier for wheelchair and pushchair users, and cyclists. If Option 1 is adopted, the notice boards need to be moved next to one of the gates, so that the RBC Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2022 can be displayed.'

Clerk considered a self-closing gate a necessity and one was currently on order. Clerk noted that the RBC Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control) 2022 notices can be independently displayed near each entrance.

9.15pm County Cllr Upton and Borough Cllrs Wheeler & Virdi left the meeting.

5917. FINANCE

Financial Statements & Payments for Approval

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

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

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

Clerk has produced the paperwork for signature by two Councillors to remove Mark Bancroft, Gary Arkless and Sally Griffiths from the Unity Trust Bank signatories list.

Clerk still to produce the required paperwork to add Cllrs Owen, Fairgrieve and Ubhi as signatories on the Unity Trust Bank account.

Clerk to process required paperwork to bring bank account signatories up to date.

Clerk explained that she had carried out the required paperwork to fulfil The Pensions Regulator legal re-enrolment and re-declaration duties for Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council.

5918. CLERKS REPORT

Clerk 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.

Clerk explained that all Cllrs were invited to attend a special welcome service for the new Headteacher of Pierrepont Gamston School Claire Bills on Sunday 17th September '23 at 3pm at Pierrepont Gamston School.

Clerk asked the meeting if any winter salt was required for the grit bins around the Parish. Meeting confirmed that the bins were full but required David Litchfield to break up the solidified contents.

Cllr Mason to liaise with David Litchfield to attend to all the grit bins throughout the Parish.

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

5919. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as Monday 9th October 2023 at 7.15pm in Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.

Clerk noted that Cllr Fairgrieve will be Acting Chair at the October '23 meeting.

Cllr Hackett asked if Cllr Tisbury would be taking his turn at the October '23 meeting. Cllr Fairgrieve explained that he would chair the meeting if Cllr Tisbury was unavailable.

Clerk to speak with Cllr Tisbury ahead of the October '23 meeting regarding the chairing of the meeting.

The meeting ended at approximately 9.25pm.