

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 8th January 2024 at 7.15pm in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road**

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

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

5962. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Tisbury addressed the meeting as the Acting Chair and welcomed everyone, wishing them a Happy New Year.

Cllr Owen sent his apologies as he was unexpectedly taking a neighbour to Accident & Emergency.

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

Borough Cllr Viridi send his apologies due to a respiratory infection.

5963. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5964. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Proposed possible deferment of agenda items pertaining to County and Borough Cllrs until their arrival, including 7. Planning item (i).

5965. MINUTES

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

Cllr Tisbury noted that Minute 5952. (i) should replace the word 'resubmitted' with 'amended'.

Subject to the above amendment Cllr Prett proposed, and Cllr Ubhi seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Cllrs Mason and Fairgrieve abstained as they were not present at the December '23 Parish Council Meeting. Motion carried and Minutes were adopted.

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

5966. PLANNING

- ii) 23/02250/FUL Bente Klein *Installation and operation of a renewable energy generating station comprising ground-mounted photovoltaic solar arrays and battery-based electricity storage station together with a switchgear container, inverters, site access, internal access tracks, security measures, access gates, other ancillary infrastructure and landscaping and biodiversity enhancements. Land North of Stragglethorpe Road, Stragglethorpe Road, Stragglethorpe, Nottinghamshire.*

Cllr Tisbury assessed the application and concluded that as the application relates to an adjacent Parish, and no comments have been submitted by Cllrs or residents, we should make no comment. Parish Councillors agreed. Clerk noted that the application had been received as being within our Parish, which needed correcting.

Clerk to notify RBC Planning Department that 23/02250/FUL is adjacent to and not within our Parish.

- iii) 23/02315/FUL Mr Michael Panayi *Single storey front and rear extensions including garage conversion 17 Millbeck Close, Gamston, Nottinghamshire, NG2 6PY.*

Cllr Fairgrieve kindly agreed to look at this application and circulate thoughts ahead of the deadline date of Wednesday 24th January '24.

5967. VILLAGE HALL

Clerk explained that she had spoken with the Bookings Clerk and agreed that there was no need to produce a monthly update for the Christmas period as there was nothing specific to report.

Village Hall Projector

Clerk explained that she and the Bookings Clerk had met with 3 representatives from various U3A groups that hire the Village Hall and one of the original equipment installation team from Nottingham HiFi to troubleshoot the issues U3A were having with the projection equipment. Clerk noted that she was grateful for Nottingham HiFi attending at short notice and during the busy run up to Christmas period.

Since the visit Bookings Clerk has received feedback from U3A Photography Group as follows:

'We successfully used the adapter (with a MacBook Air computer), and the unit has been left in its box, on the shelf in the cupboard with the HDMI cable. This was the first time that we have been able to use the projection facilities in the Hall and it worked as expected. However we have noticed a couple of issues

which could do with attention, and which may be due to the projector being out of alignment with the screen -

1) the top of the computer screen window is partly cut off on the screen - it may be corrected by lowering the projector slightly;

2) we have noticed that the focus of the image on the screen is only sharp on the left side of the screen and falls out of focus on the right-hand side - it may be that the projector needs some corrective realignment in its housing to achieve a sharp image across the whole screen.

Your consideration of these issues would be appreciated.

Thank you for your support and attention in sorting this out, I am sure it will benefit and encourage others to use the excellent facilities of the hall.

Our next meeting is on Monday 15th January 2024

Best wishes for a Happy Christmas.'

Clerk to recontact Nottingham Hi-Fi for their comment and advice regarding the U3A feedback.

Village Hall Planting

Cllr Fairgrieve kindly offered to help with the sourcing and planting of slow growing, spiky bushes behind the retaining wall at the rear of the Village Hall, in order to deter children from climbing and potentially accessing the roof of the Village Hall. Cllr Fairgrieve suggested purchasing from a local nursery may be preferable to a large supermarket.

Cllr Tisbury asked about the inclusion of some of these plants at each end of the Play Park railings to fill any gap between the fence line and boundary fences.

Meeting to revisit purchase and planting of spiky plants at back of Village Hall and also in Play Park .

Air Conditioning System

Cllr Hackett asked when the next air conditioning service is due as the hall seemed very cold. Clerk explained that the next annual air conditioning service wasn't due until October '24. Meeting agreed it was a particularly cold evening, but it was noticeably colder in the unheated rooms outside of the main hall.

PAT Testing

Clerk still to contact alternative companies to arrange Village Hall PAT Testing at a time when the Village Hall is free.

Village Hall curtains to be cleaned in the New Year.

5968. PLAY PARK

Play Park Grant Applications

Clerk confirmed that a meeting was planned for Friday 12th January '24 with Cllr Prett and Susan Toon to progress our application to the UKSPF for grant funding for inclusive play equipment at the Play Park, deadline date being Friday 19th January '24.

Borough Cllr Wheeler has provided a list of the beneficiaries from the first round of the UKSPF grants.

Cllr Mason noted that the new yellow gate at the Play Park does not close properly. Clerk explained that this has now been resolved as South Notts Fabrications had returned and reset the fence post.

7.30pm County Cllr Upton arrived at the meeting

Clerk explained that John Ingram had taken down the Ambleside Christmas Tree lights and cut the tree up for collection by Nottingham University Hospitals Tree Collection service. Clerk noted that the Christmas Tree railings were to be removed and stored in the Village Hall later this week.

Clerk, David Litchfield and Cllr Mason to remove and store Play Park Christmas Tree railings on Wednesday 10th January '24 at 10am.

7.40pm Borough Cllr Wheeler arrived at the meeting

Clerk explained that unfortunately the Christmas Tree lights had again been vandalised, the first time less than a day after them being put up. Clerk noted that the broken sets of lights had been replaced with spares. Clerk has investigated the options for even more robust outdoor lights, which are available, but further investigation is required to ascertain cost.

Play Park Trees

Cllr Tisbury explained that the Parish Council Tree Surgeon had performed some additional pruning of the Play Park trees adjacent to 3 Ambleside.

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

5969. COUNTY REPORT

County Cllr Upton explained that things had been relatively quiet in the County over the last month other than the rain and flood events of the last few days.

Cllr Upton spoke about the proposed 40mph speed limit along stretches of A52.

Cllr Upton told the meeting that around £1.2 million had been allocated to work overnight on improvements to the road between Radcliffe-on-Trent and Gamston in both directions starting in February '24. Police supervision during the night is not yet in place. This is required as threats to workforce have been experienced in the past. Cllr Upton is optimistic of a top-quality finish.

Cllr Upton spoke about the Holme Lane project and explained that it was close to implementation, a key lock is to be secured for both gates. Costs involved are minimal and he has been assured that although the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) expires at the end of 2023, this initiative can be completed in 2024.

Cllr Upton spoke about the ongoing requests to fill potholes, but recently the priority has been pumping out flooded homes. Also it is impossible to repair potholes when they are full of water.

Cllr Prett thanked Cllr Upton for sending an email regarding the cycle path sign at the end of Ambleside but explained that although the sign had been removed, a lump of concrete with a cut off piece of metal pole had been left. Cllr Prett has sent a note in order to get this removed.

Cllr Tisbury asked if there was any way of checking the validity of road signage as there seemed to be far too much of it cluttering the highways. Cllr Wheeler explained that there were certain limits in any one area. Cllr Upton noted that temporary signage seems to be left on the roadside indefinitely and this was the responsibility of Highways England.

5970. DISTRICT REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler spoke about a resident on Bassingfield Lane that had become trapped in their home by floodwater and the work involved to engage National Highways to assist.

Cllr Wheeler praised the excellent work undertaken by HP&G PC volunteer flood wardens Cllrs Stacey, Hackett and Owen and the additional support kindly given by Cllr Hackett's family.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the financial assistance available to elite athletes within the Borough of up to £250 towards their costs and urged anyone to apply that may think they are eligible.

Cllr Wheeler confirmed that he had forwarded a list of the beneficiaries from the first round of UKSPF and noted that applications for the second round of funding were open

with a deadline date of 19th January '24. Cllr Wheeler noted that he would be very happy to support an application submitted by the Parish Council.

Cllr Wheeler explained that by the next meeting an approved RBC budget should have been published. Cllr Wheeler predicted that Council Tax is likely to rise this year but by less than the maximum rate allowable. Cllr Wheeler spoke about the investment that was taking place in improving leisure centre facilities across the borough and the costs that involved. Cllr Wheeler spoke also about the NCC budgeting process and the huge percentage of that budget that is needed to pay for Child and Adult Social Care, around 68% of the total budget equating to around £400 million. Cllr Wheeler noted that the balancing of funding for all essential and required services was a difficult process.

Cllr Fairgrieve asked if there were any updates on the spate of car crime in the Edwalton area. Cllr Wheeler confirmed that for now the problem had ceased most likely due to the organised gang responsible moving on to another area. Cllr Wheeler noted that a similar pattern of crime was experienced in the Gamston area around 5 years ago and it was important for householders to be vigilant. Cllr Wheeler explained that he was meeting with the Police Inspector on Thursday 11th January '24 and if any Cllrs had issues they wanted to raise to send him an email.

Cllr Tisbury asked about progress with the formation of a unitary authority. Cllr Wheeler explained that a shadow combined authority was being formed to initially work in parallel with the existing functions to gradually transfer over, but this will not be an instant process. Mayoral elections are taking place in May '24. Cllr Upton noted that all four of the involved authorities had now signed up to agree to adopt the unitary authority so it would definitely be taking place.

5971. PLANNING

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

Cllr Upton updated the meeting on progress with this application and explained that a regular meeting schedule to review progress with the Special Planning Document (SPD) was in place, the next meeting being on Wednesday 24th January '24. A draft timetable had been formulated whereby a first presentation and assessment of the SPD masterplan will be on 20th May '24 with the hope that approval can be gained on 11th June '24. Consultation would then take place over the summer and the plans be adopted in the autumn of '24. Cllr Upton stressed that this was a provisional timeline and was subject to change. Cllr Upton noted that the leaflet drop consultation conducted by the Vistry Group was outside of this remit and not part of the official consultation process which has not yet begun.

Cllr Fairgrieve asked if the SPD would include roads. Cllr Upton confirmed that it would and that such designs are incredibly complex. Cllr Wheeler added that flooding mitigation would also form an important part of the SPD.

Cllr Fairgrieve asked about the movement of people on foot or cycle between the proposed new development and the existing Gamston area. Cllr Wheeler spoke about the need for a footbridge to link the two areas and noted that a pedestrian crossing on the A52 had been suggested but would clearly be inappropriate and dangerous for the predicted footfall.

Cllr Wheeler explained that as the development was not actually taking place within his ward he could have little direct influence on the detail but as it will be adjacent this will have an enormous impact on the surrounding area. Cllr Wheeler explained that he would lobby the Tollerton member to represent the views of his ward.

5972. SPRING NEWSLETTER

Cllr Stacey passed a message to the meeting in Cllr Owen's absence to request that any newsletter articles be sent to him as soon as possible.

Clerk still to forward email contact details for Carolyn Kearton to Cllr Owen.

5973. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Cllr Stacey spoke about the recent flood event at Holme Pierrepont and thanked Cllrs Owen and Hackett for their invaluable assistance and also a big thank you for the help given by Spencer Hackett. Discussion took place regarding the feasibility of the flood response going forward, as the movement and placing of signage requires very heavy lifting and without the use of the Hackett's farm vehicles would be impossible. It was noted that although the flood affects the hamlet of Holme Pierrepont and that is where the signage is stored, the signs actually need to be displayed at each end of the lane in Radcliffe-on-Trent and nearer the National Water Sports Centre.

Cllr Upton confirmed that unfortunately there were no flood wardens on the Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Council and when he raised the suggestion there was an indifferent response. Cllr Stacey noted that she thought it should be a compulsory function of a Parish Council. Cllr Upton commended HP&G Parish Council on the number of willing volunteers taking ownership of the flood warning process.

Cllr Hackett suggested that the signs could perhaps be stored in the stables at the end of The Green in Radcliffe-on-Trent behind the hay and straw and in the case of a flood contact could be made with someone at the stables to display the signs. Similar suggestion was made for the National Water Sports Centre end of road closure. Cllr Stacey explained that she was in contact with Josh Wells, Notts County Council Flood Advisor regarding the production of a 'No Through Road to Radcliffe-on-Trent' sign and negotiating with Blotts for them to store the sign somewhere on their site.

Cllr Hackett to progress the suggestion that some flood signage be stored in Radcliffe-on-Trent with a contact to display the signage when required.

Cllr Stacey explained that she had requested a quote for Grounds Maintenance for the coming year from Mark Winter and that she should be receiving it in the next couple of weeks.

Cllr Stacey told the meeting that £177 had been collected for Rainbows Hospice at the Christmastime at Gamston Village Hall event. Cllr Stacey noted that this was less than the amount collected in 2022. Cllr Prett explained that he had seen a number of people scan the QR code on the collection buckets in order to donate that way. Cllr Stacey confirmed that all donations had been included. Cllr Wheeler suggested that a Facebook post from HP&G Parish Council could be sent to update the Parish on the amount collected and to also include details of how to donate if anyone wanted to.

HP Additional Bins

Clerk to recontact Streetwise for HP additional bins installation date.

Cllr Ubhi confirmed that she had checked all the Parish Defibrillators.

Clerk noted that she and Cllr Ubhi were to meet in week commencing 15th January '24 to progress investigations into potential issues with Bassingfield and Holme Pierrepont defibrillator batteries.

Discussion took place regarding return of Parish defibrillators should they be used in an emergency. Cllr Prett noted that on the Saturday before Christmas a defibrillator was deployed at Morrisons supermarket. Contact with Morrisons to find out what happened to that defibrillator would provide useful information.

Clerk to provide update regarding potential issues with Parish defibrillator batteries.

Clerk still to ascertain the process should a Parish defibrillator be used without the Parish Council knowing.

Clerk to contact Morrisons supermarket to ascertain what happened to the defibrillator that was used before Christmas.

Cllr Hackett expressed disappointment that there was no flood signage process at either end of the lane. Cllr Hackett also noted that she still required replacement batteries for the flood warning lights. Cllr Stacey confirmed that Cllr Owen had these batteries.

Cllr Mason thanked Cllr Wheeler for the planting of 16 new trees along the footpath near Morrisons.

Cllr Mason asked about the concrete base on the grassed area off Ambleside near the path to the Village Hall that had seemingly been there unused for a year and asked if the metal benches near the canal or one of the benches on Bassingfield Lane could be moved to the Ambleside site. Cllr Tisbury corrected Cllr Mason as the concrete had been laid just 8 weeks prior and was still completing the curing process, ahead of the siting of the previously purchased Gamston Buddy Bench. Cllr Tisbury explained that this initiative was led by the

Gamston Village Breakfast team and permission had been granted by RBC to site the bench on this land.

Holme Lane Update

Cllr Upton had already updated the meeting in Minute 5969. in Cllr Owen's absence.

Cllr Prett spoke about the recent WeBCan work and also explained that there was no longer an issue with the VAT payable on purchases as further financial support had been sought to negate this.

Cllr Prett explained that in 2023 Gamston Litter Picker Group had collected 124 bags of rubbish. Cllr Tisbury noted that there had been occasions when the bags of rubbish that are piled on the verge outside the Village Hall for collection by Streetwise are split open, most likely by wild animals, and rubbish is strewn across the road. Clerk asked if the rubbish could be stored on the Village Hall side of the gate, but it was thought that Streetwise would not collect it from that location. Cllr Wheeler suggested that we may be able to deposit the rubbish with Morrisons supermarket for them to dispose of. Cllr Prett explained that this would be a less convenient location for the Litter Picking group. Clerk to investigate this option in principle, and if available to us could work out logistics to transfer the rubbish from the Village Hall to Morrisons on a monthly basis.

Clerk to investigate the possibility of disposing of the monthly Gamston Litter Pick rubbish at Morrisons supermarket.

Cllr Fairgrieve noted that he continued to engage with the Parish on behalf of the Parish Council by periodically posting relevant information to the HP&G Parish Council and Gamston Community Facebook pages.

Cllr Fairgrieve kindly offered to affix the PSPO signage at the Play Park once acquired.

Village Breakfast Gamston Buddy Bench

Cllr Tisbury reiterated that the bench would be sited once the concrete was fully cured and when weather conditions allowed. Cllr Fairgrieve kindly offered to help with any lifting required with the siting of the bench. Cllr Hackett kindly offered the use of her flatbed trailer for transporting the bench. Cllr Tisbury thanked both for their kind offers.

Councillors still to investigate ideas for plastic panelling for the existing metal Parish Council benches.

Clerk still to invite Gary Dykes, Grantham Canal Society Ranger for the Gamston section of the canal to a future Parish Council meeting in 2024.

Clerk spoke about meeting dates for 2024 asking if the May meetings (Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council) could be taking place on **TUESDAY 14th May 2024** which would facilitate the Pilates group using the Village Hall on the Monday evening of that week. Meeting agreed.

Clerk explained that she had responded by telephone to the request for information about the Bassingfield defibrillator that had been received via the website contact page. Clerk told the meeting that the gentleman lived at Normanton-on-the-Wolds, who was not a member of their Parish Council, but was looking to help the village provide a publicly accessible defibrillator and was interested in the process we had gone through to provide ours.

Clerk spoke about the correspondence Cllr Hackett had sent to her regarding an idea to introduce an incentivised recycling scheme similar to that used in Australia, and forty other countries, the scheme involves a small financial return for bringing glass, aluminium and plastic waste to a central recycling point. Cllr Hackett noted that the streets were noticeably free of waste and the bins not overflowing during her visit to Australia.

Clerk to forward recycling idea to Streetwise on behalf of Cllr Hackett.

Cllr Tisbury agreed to investigate land ownership of Holme Pierrepont sub-station area, before paying for a land registry search.

5976. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 12th February 2024 at 7.15pm** in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.**

Cllr Stacey confirmed she would be able to assume Acting Chair role at the February '24 meeting.

The meeting ended at approximately 9.25pm.