

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 10th February 2025 at 7.15pm in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road**

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

In attendance: Julia Barnes (Parish Clerk), Borough Cllr Jonathan Wheeler & Dr Darren Anderson

6139. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Stacey addressed the meeting as the Acting Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

County Cllr Upton gave his apologies due to a clash with a Cabinet meeting.

Borough Cllr Viridi gave his apologies due to a meeting clash.

6140. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

6141. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Proposed possible deferment of agenda items pertaining to County and Borough until Cllr Wheeler's arrival.

6142. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public participation.

6143. MINUTES

**TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 13th JANUARY 2025**

Cllr Tisbury noted addition to Minute 6130. to include *'the three proposed industrial units on the same site that will also inevitably create a demand for parking in the area.'*

Cllr Owen suggested amendment to Minute 6135. to remove word *'tumultuous'*.

Subject to the above amendments, Cllr Owen proposed, and Cllr Ubhi seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried and Minutes were adopted. Cllr Hackett abstained as she was not present at the January '25 meeting.

Cllr Fairgrieve to upload January '25 Parish Council Meeting Minutes to the HP&G PC website.

6144. VILLAGE HALL

Monthly Update

Cllr Stacey read out the Bookings Clerk monthly update.

'I genuinely don't have much to report this month.

All is well at the hall, regular bookings all happy and back after Christmas.

Poppy had a trial mindfulness and mediation session last Friday and she was really happy with everything. She's going to trial one more session and if it works well is looking to continue once a month on a Friday evening.

Our amazing Richard fixed the drawer in the kitchen for us as it had become stuck and unable to be opened.

The walls are looking rather grubby again, they are proving difficult to keep nice at the moment but will try and give them a scrub over the next few weeks.

No party bookings in the next 4 weeks unfortunately.'

Cllr Hackett noted that the curtains still required cleaning. Cllr Hackett said that as the dirty area was at the bottom, maybe they could be shortened. Clerk considered they may look a little odd to be short across the double doors and that it would perhaps be a good idea to try washing them first, and if that was unsuccessful to look at other solutions, possibly shortening.

Cllrs Hackett and Ubhi very kindly offered to take Village Hall curtains and tie backs to HP campsite launderette to wash on a low heat setting. Curtains to be removed from the Village Hall on Monday 24th February '25 after Warm Hub coffee morning. Cllrs Hackett and Ubhi to rehang curtains whilst damp to dry in the Village Hall.

Clerk to check with Bookings Clerk that curtains can be removed on 24th February '25.

Cllrs Hackett and Ubhi to wash and rehang curtains at Village Hall.

Warm Hub Coffee Morning

Cllr Hackett explained that the Warm Hub coffee morning continued to thrive on a Monday morning and that there were 8 attendees this morning including one brand new person.

Cllr Owen reiterated that there was a nice welcoming atmosphere, attended by interesting people and encouraged any Parish Councillors that were free on a Monday morning to drop in. Cllr Owen questioned as to whether the attendees belonged to the original target audience but appreciated how difficult it was to access those most in need.

Cllr Hackett asked if an 'A' board could be purchased to advertise the Warm Hub on the day with simple wording 'Coffee Morning. Here! Now! Free!'

Cllr Fairgrieve to continue to advertise the Warm Hub Coffee Morning on Gamston Community Facebook page.

Clerk to investigate purchase of advertising ‘A’ board.

Cllr Owen to include Warm Hub article and photo in the Spring ’25 edition of Parish News.

Hire Hall Rate Increase

Clerk explained that the new hall hire rates would be introduced after Easter as all termly bookings had already paid for the Spring term, and the new financial year starts in April. Clerk asked for clarification of new charges, that were confirmed as those documented below:

	OLD HOURLY RATE	NEW HOURLY RATE (from 22 nd April ’25)
Weekday	£12.50	£13.50
Weekday – Parishioner Postcode	£10	£11
Weekend	£30	£31
Weekend – Parishioner Postcode	£25	£26

Clerk to produce amended Booking Form for price increase and also to include wording regarding damages and cleaning deposit.

Clerk to liaise with Bookings Clerk regarding rate increase.

Clerk to forward .pdf copy of revised Booking Form to Cllr Fairgrieve for uploading to HP&G PC website.

Free Spirits Hall Hire Rate

Clerk had previously circulated communication from Carolyn Kearton regarding request for free or reduced cost hall hire for Free Spirits group.

Cllrs fully discussed the request and stressed that any decision must be justifiable to all current and future groups using the Village Hall. Meeting noted that the Village Hall incurs a cost to run and also that Cllrs have taken a 50% cut in their Cllr Allowances for the coming year in order to reduce Parish Council costs.

After full debate Cllr Tisbury proposed, and Cllr Fairgrieve seconded the motion that Free Spirits group be offered free use of the Village Hall at the same time as the Warm Hub on a Monday morning. Vote taken, unanimously in favour, motion carried.

Clerk to inform Carolyn Kearton of Parish Council decision, explaining that the Warm Hub may continue into the spring and summer months.

Clerk still to arrange application of ‘Wet & Forget’ to the Village Hall decking and balustrade.

Clerk to arrange for the outdoor power point cover at the front of the Village Hall to be replaced.

Clerk still to check insurance policy regarding liability for accidents if the large Village Hall gates and/or Village Hall door are accessible to hall hirers via a key stored in an outdoor keypad.

Concrete drop bolt base still to be created in order to prop open large Village Hall gates.

8pm Borough Cllr Wheeler arrived at the meeting.

6145. PLAY PARK

UK SPF & NCC LCF Conclusion

Clerk explained that there was still a considerable amount of work required by herself and Cllr Prett to satisfy the requirements for the final grant payments towards the project.

Clerk and Cllr Prett still to complete all work required for final grant payments from RBC and NCC.

Cllr Prett and Clerk still to further investigate and obtain quotations for the addition of brightly coloured graphics on the Play Park tarmac paths.

Grass seed/Turf Area

Clerk noted that the excellent work carried out by Ainsley Asphalt had necessitated for a bare patch of earth to be left next to one of the paths. Discussion took place regarding remedying this and decision was made, in the first instance, for Clerk to arrange for the grass seed stored in at the Village Hall to be sown and taped off. Should this method prove unsuccessful, then turfing the area will be pursued.

Clerk to arrange for grass seed to be planted at Play Park.

Clerk still to arrange interim MUGA clean by Bingham Ground Services.

Clerk still to forward a proposal to County Cllr Upton for supply and installation of seating for dog owners with children to rest outside the Play Park area.

Clerk to arrange for a concrete base for the bench, similar to the Buddy Bench base, to be created.

Clerk to arrange purchase and installation of bench.

6146. COUNTY REPORT

County Cllr Upton had emailed the Clerk ahead of the meeting to explain that the gates for the unmade section of Holme Lane in HP are supposed to be installed by the end of March '25 with keycode locks.

Cllr Wheeler updated the meeting on further County issues in County Cllr Upton's absence. Cllr Wheeler spoke about County Council budgeting.

Cllr Wheeler explained that the Government required initial proposals for local government reorganisation by March '25, before entering the pre-election period, and that final proposals were due in November '25. Cllr Wheeler said that the impact on Parish Councils had not been specified in the Government White Paper and was as yet unknown.

Cllr Tisbury asked if there were any rules to be implemented on the new unitary boundaries. Cllr Wheeler explained that each unitary boundary was to include a population of around ½ million. Current estimates for the city of Nottingham population are around 280,000 and 1.2 million in the whole of Nottinghamshire.

Cllr Wheeler noted that they were due to receive another Government guidance letter on the subject this week.

Clerk asked question on behalf of local Parishioner regarding pothole repair on Ambleside near to the crossing refuge close to the buddy bench and also Ambleside as you turn into Kirkstone Drive. Parishioner noted that these areas are significantly eroded and cause considerable noise when lorries drive over them accessing the petfood business on Ambleside, especially at night. Cllr Tisbury added to that list the section of Radcliffe Road turning west from Ambleside, where deep cavities have formed parallel to the road that are particularly dangerous for cyclists.

Borough Cllr Wheeler to feedback problematic pothole information to County Cllr Upton.

Clerk raised the issue of commuter cars parking in the Play Park lay-by, therefore making it difficult for parents and carers with small children to park close to the park entrance and asked if there was any solution to the problem. Clerk explained that this issue had been highlighted when the path works were taking place at the Play Park. During this time the lay-by was full of cars, the Play Park was closed, and the works vehicles were unable to park close by. It was evident that the vehicles moved at the end of the working day and the lay-by was in effect being used as a park and ride. Cllr Wheeler explained

that the only deterrent would be to monitor the area and based on findings apply for a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to restrict parking to 2 hours.

6147. DISTRICT REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler spoke about the Borough Council budgeting process.

Cllr Wheeler explained that work was due to start imminently on refurbishment of West Bridgford teen park, completion of these works will result in all RBC owned play parks having been refurbished over the last 4 years. Cllr Wheeler also spoke about investment in all the local leisure centres, with the exception of East Leake that cannot be worked on until 2027.

Cllr Wheeler explained that the air quality in the two problematic zones at Trent Bridge and Holme House in Stragglethorpe were now well within Defra limits for pollutants. Cllr Fairgrieve asked how Defra limits compared to those of the World Health Organisation (WHO). Cllr Wheeler explained that WHO limits were stricter but the improvements in the local areas of concern were now well considerably lower than the previously exceeded Defra limits. Cllr Wheeler noted that ongoing monitoring was being undertaken.

Cllr Tisbury asked Cllr Wheeler if there were any plans to improve the issues with traffic congestion on London Road. Cllr Tisbury expressed concern over accessibility for emergency services and whether the Fire Brigade would even be able to leave their building on London Road at peak times. Cllr Wheeler explained that he met regularly with National Highways regarding traffic plans.

Borough Cllr Wheeler told the meeting that the extension of the WB Colts lease of land on Regatta Way had been agreed, securing their future and enabling them to apply for various grants for the new all-weather football pitch.

Borough Cllr Wheeler to speak to County Cllr Upton regarding the possible addition of a waste bin to the Radcliffe Road eastbound bus shelter, opposite The Lock public house.

6148. PLANNING

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

No appreciable progress has been made with this application but crucial to the success of the entire schema is still a comprehensive, entire site agreed masterplan that incorporates highways improvements ahead of any houses being built.

Cllr Wheeler although accepting of the proposed housing, expressed his ongoing consideration for the impact of this on the existing neighbouring population.

Clerk to reiterate the Parish Council position regarding the application on the RBC Planning Portal by reposting our previous comments to confirm that they still apply.

Cllr Tisbury to draft letter to local MP regarding Gamston Fields development and circulate to all Cllrs and Clerk.

Cllr Owen asked Cllr Prett if he would kindly draft an article for the next Parish News regarding the Medical Centre and PPG, tying into the proposed extension to the surgery.

6149. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Holme Lane

Cllr Owen reiterated the fact that gating and key code access for the unmade section of Holme Lane is anticipated to take place before the end of the financial year April '25.

Cllr Mason asked if the road would then be tarmacked. Cllr Owen explained that this would not be the case, the surface would be improved though in order for non-vehicular transport.

Cllr Owen stressed that the quality and positioning of signage notifying the change was very important. Cllr Owen also noted that Holme Pierrepont Hall were looking into possibly installing electric gates to prevent vehicles using HP Hall as a cut-through. Cllr Owen also noted that initially there may be some parking issues or congestion either end of the closure, but they would eventually settle down.

Cllr Owen spoke about the need to restructure the flood response procedure after installation should Holme Lane stretch from HP to Radcliffe-on-Trent become unpassable by flood water.

Cllr Ubhi noted that close to HP Hall there was a flood sign and sandbags lying flat on the floor.

Cllrs Owen & Stacey to restructure flood response procedure after lane closure.

Cllrs Owen & Stacey to investigate discarded flood sign near to HP Hall.

Cllr Fairgrieve explained that he would attempt to assess the condition, functionality and positioning of the Parish notice boards in the near future.

Cllr Fairgrieve to carry out independent assessment of notice boards and report back to a future PC meeting.

Cllr Fairgrieve noted that he had started to look at new website options and explained that he will require details of our domain hosting registration from the Clerk at some point.

Cllr Fairgrieve to investigate costs and functionality of alternative Parish Council website providers over the next year.

Cllr Ubhi confirmed that all the Parish defibrillators had been checked ahead of the meeting.

Clerk to update Parish defibrillators status on The Circuit website after Cllr Ubhi's monthly check.

Cllr Stacey had previously circulated Mark Winter's quotation for Grounds Maintenance for 2025 and assessed the impact on costings for the coming financial year. Cllr Tisbury asked if we are obligated to acquire three quotes. Clerk did not think that was necessary but would check and feedback.

Clerk to feedback regarding comparative quote situation.

Subject to Clerk findings regarding comparative quotations, Clerk to formally write to Mark Winter to accept 2025 quotation.

Cllr Stacey asked everyone to add the following dates to their diaries, further details of which would be forthcoming over the coming months.

Summer Play Day

Wednesday 20th August '25

Christmastime at Gamston Village Hall

Saturday 29th November '25

Cllr Stacey to arrange commemorative flag flying and bell ringing for 80th anniversary of VE Day.

Clerk, Cllr Prett and local resident still to arrange meeting to discuss suggestions for Parish Council telephone box.

Cllr Hackett still to carry out further investigation regarding inclusion of EpiPens in our defibrillator cabinets.

Clerk still to contact Mervin Oddjobber to ascertain if they could fit if we supply the bench materials for the metal bench at the canal side.

Clerk to arrange purchase of Option 2 metal bench materials.

Quotations still to be obtained for the paving work required to the Millennium Garden at Holme Pierrepont, possibly combining with the work to close Holme Lane as and when that occurs.

Clerk still to make contact with Tara's Angels in the first instance as they are a charity local to Gamston regarding gifting summer play day sports equipment.

6150. FINANCE

Financial Statements & Payments for Approval

Clerk issued copies of the month's financial transactions and details of payments and presented a summary of the finances.

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 explained that the electricity fixed rate supply to both the Village Hall and Play Park were due to end on 19th April '25 and that she had been investigating the use of Utility Aid to provide new comparative quotes. Clerk explained that she had investigated the use of Utility Aid and found that they were a company specialising in providing a service to not for profit organisations and featured on the NALC and SLCC website. Clerk told the meeting that by fixing for 3 years with British Gas (current provider British Gas Lite) we will save around £1k per year (current supply cost around £3k per year). Clerk explained that the Utility Aid commission is paid by to them by the supplier.

Clerk to action 3-year electricity fix with British Gas through Utility Aid.

Clerk still to provide Conclusion of Audit file for Cllr Fairgrieve to upload to the Accounts area of the HP&G PC website.

Clerk still to submit paperwork to add Cllr Owen as Unity Trust Bank signatory.

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

Clerk to submit VAT reclaim for financial year ended 31st March 2024.

6151. CLERKS REPORT

Clerk informed the meeting that the next Town & Parish Council Forum is taking place at Rushcliffe Arena on Friday 4th April '25.

Cllrs wishing to attend the next Town & Parish Forum to contact the Clerk in order to book a place.

6152. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 10th March 2025 at 7.15pm** in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.**

Cllr Tisbury agreed to confirm to the Clerk if he is able to chair this meeting.

The meeting ended at approximately 9.15pm.