



Minutes of a Meeting of Gamlingay Parish Council held at the Kier Suite, Eco Hub, Stocks Lane, on Tuesday 11th July 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present: Vice Chair S Groom, Councillors C Smith, J Wright, A Goss, K Warburton, M Brown, S Martin, P Webb, G Burne and T Gurney. Clerk L Bacon. County and District Councillor S Kindersley and District Councillor B Smith (arrived at item 48). 2 members of the public.

40. Resolved to accept apologies for absence from Chair J McGeady Councillors C Sale, D Finningan and A Foster
41. **To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda:-none**
 - a. To receive written requests for dispensations for disc losable pecuniary interests.
 - b. To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.
42. To receive any representations from Members of the Public and Press relating to items of business on this agenda during a fifteen-minute Open Forum. Item 46.1 i. was brought forward after item 44. As members of the public were in attendance to discuss Sunshine Pre-School.
43. Resolved to approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of 13th June 2017 and to note draft minutes of F&GP 27th June 2017. Typo noted on Cllr names.
44. To consider Any Matters Arising from these minutes. JW asked about Environmental Health matter in Northfield Close – Clerk explained this was a report of dog fouling passed to SCDC.
45. **Correspondence from Local MP, District and County Councillors and Police reports-** i. Reports from Cllr Smith, and Cllr Kindersley (District and County representatives- will be delayed). SK – GPC should respond to the CBC local plan consultation as the proposals for a new town near Tempsford and other proposals will affect the area. GPC should contact the SCDC officer tasked with responding to ask to be involved and offer to work together. Children’s Centres to be cut – will impact locally as provision is currently at Bassingbourn which will now be lost. Residents should be encouraged to respond to the consultation. SCDC intends to combine planning services with City Council – no cost saving but hope it will improve efficiency. Robinson Court – development progressing, bright pink hoarding has caused some complaints (this is developers corporate colour and was specified in planning documents. Fire Authority consultation – urged PC to respond to keep Police and Fire Authorities separate. SK will get an update on the progress of the quotation from County for the Church Street parking scheme. BS – (arrived late). SCDC may not separate paper waste in bin collections in future. New SCDC Chief Executive has been appointed and is coming to Gamlingay for a site visit shortly. BS has identified a promising new grant funding stream to promote to local businesses. St Denis Church in Hatley was formally handed to the Friends of Friendless Churches this evening. Taylor French – developers of Robinson Court – has provided grant funding for a new freezer, tables and chairs for Avenalls Way Day Centre. They will be holding drop in sessions for residents on the 1st Wed in each month at around 9am during the re -development. BS asked the Parish Council to consider backing a campaign against pavement parking which causes great difficulty for the disabled as well as other pedestrians. ii. Police –no items
46. **To receive reports on other Parish Council responsibilities and projects:-**
- 46.1 **Community Buildings**
 - i. WI Hall – Sunshine Pre School EGM ,letter from County Council, and latest update-verbal report/recommendations. SK attended EGM. A vote for closure was carried on the grounds that the Pre-School was financially unsustainable.



Attendees – County Officers, parents, current and prospective new committee members. A group came forward offering to form a new committee. Members of the public explained to the Parish Council that they had been prepared to try and form a new committee but at yesterday's meeting with the Pre-School Learning Alliance, they were advised that this was not viable and that the best option was to close. This is now proposed for the 18th July, pending an investigation into whether Sunshine's EGM was properly constituted and its decisions legally binding. Councillors expressed appreciation for the efforts of the prospective new committee who they know tried very hard to help. These volunteers are still willing to help in some way if they have plenty of support. KW asked what the shortfall in provision would be. SK explained that the other Pre-School providers in the village have no vacancies and that County Council, as the responsible authority, is in a difficult position. A meeting has been arranged this week to get a wider view of Pre-School provision in Gamlingay. SK would support a proposal for some of the First School to become an Early Learning Centre with accommodation for all those providers who wished to move there. CAT has suggested it may install a porta cabin on the old GVC site as an Early Years classroom. It was resolved to write to the existing Pre-School committee (in the absence of any formal notification of a change of members) to ask for an update post EGM and state that the debt for rent arrears is still outstanding. A list of questions/statements from the Parish Council will be drafted for the CAT/CCC meeting. These will emphasize that although GPC has no authority for education, it is concerned that those who do ensure prompt and sufficient early years provision for its current and future residents. The closure date of the WI hall is to be restated. 2 members of the public left the meeting.

- ii. Old Methodist Chapel –minutes of MCMC meeting 19th June- for information, roof material enquiry-SCDC (replacement for concrete tile) and further actions. Noted SCDC pre-application advice is that good quality synthetic slate tiles could be used. Clerks can now seek quotations based on this. Quotations for the bracing work to F and GP if available.
 - iii. Eco Hub – closure Friday 28th July noted.
- 46.2 **Recreational Spaces**
- i. Bowls Club- notes of meeting for information. Noted difficulty of assessing how much remedial work to authorize with current uncertainty about future location. Information about timescales to be communicated to Bowls Club as soon as available.
 - ii. Northfield Close- tree height /growth detail for information. Noted. Tree close to boundary of 27 needs trimming back in the autumn. PW expressed concern about possible root problems. Clerk and KW shortly to attend course on tree safety and legal matters.
 - iii. Chapelfields- response to proposal on open spaces- further action proposed. Noted residents approve of scheme to install bollards – quotations being sought.
 - iv. Millbridge Brook Meadows-update from JW. Several trees identified as dead – advice being sought on reasons and cost of replacement with intention of submitting grant application to fund. Willowherb is problematic. Some general maintenance work needed. Path has some weed growth.JW is attending river warden training – other attendees welcome. Generally felt that the community take good care to maintain the area.
 - v. Risk Assessment Areas- Quarterly reporting and actions resulting. Chapelfields and Gateway – no issues. Churchyards and cemeteries – report received. Quotations being sought for remedial work to wall. Tree outside Baptist



churchyard and in St Mary's require trimming – Clerk to ask KW. Conifers at Cinques overhanging parking – resident to be asked to remedy. SG and PW to report on benches and bins when checks complete, no issues noted. T Goss – hedge at Green End allotments needs cutting down in height – Clerk to ask contractors.

- 46.3 **Cemeteries and Churchyards**
 i. **St Mary's Field cemetery** – meeting with Bottisham PC-August. Noted.
 ii. Stocks Lane Cemetery-no items
- 46.4 **Library** – recent figures. Noted.
47. **Information and communications** and Press –i) resignation of community page correspondent-Biggleswade Chronicle to note. Clerk to send general information direct to Chronicle for publication. ii) NHW launch press release. Noted. iii) Advertisement of new PC Councillor surgeries starting on 12th September 6.30pm at Eco Hub. Noted, rota to be circulated to SG.
48. **Community news**
 i. Forward Gamlingay! – monthly report. BS – art group has been great success and attendees have given positive feedback. To be extended and repeated if funding can be found. Business app – will launch in Sept, FG! contributing £10k to development work and advertising. KW asked if this is a potential commercial opportunity – BS said this was still being investigated as constraints of grant funding may prohibit commercial gain, but there is potential.
 ii. Neighbourhood Plan –a) Minutes of Steering group meeting 20th June 2017 noted, Waresley are co-operating with regard to cycle paths etc. They discussed some concerns about identified commercial development site on Drove Rd. b) **webhosting contribution for determination**. Resolved to approve £15 cost. c) Application for Locality funding-Housing Needs Survey (noted).
 iii. Village Show-16th September at GFS- topics for display, manning the table. SG, JW, MB, GB and SM volunteered. Topics – NHW, Speed Watch (JW suggested getting a screen to display S Walder's presentation on loop). Who does what? Display board needed.
 iv. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme update – M Brown. Very encouraged by initial responses – several coordinators have already come forward and MB has several more to speak to. Intention is to communicate electronically as physical meetings proved poorly attended in past. NHW stickers in windows are good deterrent. Lamppost signs at £14 each can be ordered once enough residents are signed up to scheme.
49. **Financial**
 i. Resolved to approve- Cheques list BACS and Direct debits vouchers 105 to 108
 ii. Latest on Scribe, bank reconciliation reporting. Progressing – April now done, report to F and GP.
50. **South Cambridgeshire District Council**
 50.1 Planning Policy Monthly update- noted to be circulated.
 50.2 Local Green Space Policy- news concerning the Lupin Field proposed designation, and further actions to future meeting. Noted email is difficult to follow and not specific to Gamlingay sites but that a report is due on the 18th July. Concern expressed that the Lupin field may not be given the level of protection that the Parish Council has been



- seeking. Evidence of wildlife and the value of the site to the local community was submitted to the local plan.
- 50.3 Central Beds- consultation on new Local Plan- Tempsford New Town-meeting with SCDC and actions-August (KR). Noted.
51. **Cambridgeshire County Council**
- 51.1 **Highways and footpaths**
- i. Everton Rd footpath Scheme proposal- financial implications and resolve viring/funding arrangements for approval. Funding options limited by lack of sufficient unallocated funds to meet shortfall. S106 community transport allocation for Station Rd cannot be used due to distance of scheme from the development. Other S106 cannot be re – allocated – must be spent on identified projects. May be opportunity to vire community building reserve funds once WI situation is resolved. Suggested contacting County to explain situation and ask if any more funding can be released. Timescales– update to F and GP.
 - ii Church St parking improvements- request for total project costs/new officer contact. SK is chasing an update on this.
 - iii. Footpath diversion –St Mary’s Field- latest. Resolved to approve diversion to kissing gate on lower field.
 - iv.Charnocks walk/Holly Lane- bramble report and actions taken. Noted.
52. **Staffing and Councillor matters** –i) Annual Leave requests and office closures Summer 2017 noted. Additional closure this Friday approved. ii) Handyman- review of electric vehicle arrangements-latest – referred to F and GP. iii. Training Annual Chair and Clerks catch up session- Fri 22nd September at Hemmingford Abbots-notification. Noted.
53. **General Correspondence** –to note
54. **Items for the next agenda – none.**
55. **Noted the dates of the next Parish Council and Committee meetings**
Full Council September 12th at 7.30pm in the Kier suite, F and GP 25th July
Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings.
56. **Resolved closure of Meeting.** In accordance with section 1(2) of the Public bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted at item 16. it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press are temporarily excluded from the meeting and asked to withdraw.
- i. Project Officer report- proposal D&H Barford Ltd. Resolved that BS will seek additional quotation for comparison at September meeting.
57. To formally record the **time of closure** of the Parish Council Meeting at 9.50pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....