



Minutes of a Full Council Meeting of Gamlingay Parish Council held at the Kier Suite, Eco Hub, Stocks Lane, on Tuesday 14th February 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors J McGeady, C Smith, A Foster, C Sale, J Wright, T Gurney, G Burne, A Goss, P Webb and M Brown. District and County Councillors B Smith and S Kindersley. Clerks K Rayner and L Bacon and 5 members of the public

166. Resolved to accept **apologies** for absence from G Brass, D Finnigan and S Groom.
167. To receive **declarations of interest** from councillors on items on the agenda:- None.
- 167.1 To receive written requests for dispensations for disc losable pecuniary interests.
- 167.2 To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.
168. To receive any **representations from Members of the Public and Press** relating to items of business on this agenda during a ten minute Open Forum. Members of the Drove Road residents group gave their opinions on the signage and other measures proposed by County Council. These comments will be forwarded to the County officer. Council was pleased to hear that the residents consider the 50mph limit has had a positive impact and is largely being adhered to. Since the junction white lining has been repainted there have been no accidents. 5 members of the public left the meeting.
169. Resolved to **approve and sign as a correct record the meeting minutes** the Full Council meeting of 10th January 2017, and to note F&GP draft minutes of 24th January 2017.
170. To consider Any **Matters Arising** from these minutes. 154-Response to Heidi Allen-Public transport-noted. 156.2 (ii) Northfield Close-awaiting resident feedback for meeting date. Resolved to extend response deadline to the end of the month.
171. **Monthly round up from village groups-** i. Forward Gamlingay! Art course now launched – leaflets distributed and visits made to local sheltered housing community rooms to promote this. ii.GEAG – no report.
172. **Correspondence from Local MP, District and County Councillors and Police reports-** i. Reports from Cllr Smith, and Cllr Kindersley (District and County representative). SK – County has today finalized its budget, which will add 2% to adult social care but no increases elsewhere. This will inevitably mean that County will have to make savings on many of its services. SK will provide more information on the proposal to allow Parish Councils to effect pothole repairs to the March meeting (TGoss request). BS – SCDC is proposing the maximum Council tax increase it can of £5 per band D property. SCDC is moving into more commercial ventures to raise revenue – for example Renewable energy schemes, Ermine Housing and more recently Shire Homes which aims to target homelessness by subsidizing properties for those in danger of being made homeless. SCDC is currently promoting “dementia friendly working”. The A428 busway project – 22 parishes along the route have put together an option for consideration using the old Hardwick Road. BS has requested a ramp/drop kerb to assist mobility scooter access from the path linking Church St to Avenalls Way. SK and BS have written to the MP with regard to “landbanking” - around 10k of active planning permissions have been granted but developers are not building out. This means that SCDC continues to show a 5 year housing shortage, which developers can use as evidence when making further applications. SCDC Planning Department has been threatened with “designation”, due to poor performance over the last 2 years (although this has improved significantly



recently). If this designation is applied, special measures will be enforced meaning SCDC will no longer be the local Planning Authority and all planning applications will be determined instead by the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol. ii. Report from Floyd Matthews (Police Special). No report. SK left the meeting.

173. **To receive reports on other** Parish Council responsibilities and projects:-

173.1 **Community Buildings**

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 in item 3, it is in the public interest that press and public be excluded from the meeting and are therefore asked to withdraw.

- i. Council resolved to invite the Project Officer (PO), B Smith to remain for the closed session. WI Hall – S106 group – brainstorming notes for consideration. Resolved to approve recommendation i. relating to the disposal of the site for best consideration. Legal advice is that best consideration should be sought unless Council can prove that the social/environmental/economic wellbeing benefit outweighs this. It was agreed that alternative uses of the site explored at the brainstorming session would provide limited benefit and that - “Council should aim to gain maximum value for the site as its priority should be to service/pay off the PWLB loan” (vote recorded 8 for, 1 against, 1 abstention). Resolved to approve recommendation ii. “That the PO has an informal conversation with SCDC planners to ascertain the likelihood of obtaining planning consent for the site and what type of housing would be most acceptable in planning terms.” It was noted and approved that the PO has already made some investigations and had some initial discussions. It was resolved to approve that she continues with these – PO invited CS as Chair of Planning to accompany her to a meeting on the 24th Feb at SCDC.
- ii. Interim report on early consultations regarding the WI Hall (BS). PO outlined services SCDC and land values could offer and the potential options for the site to achieve best consideration (as in i. above). Relocation options for users of the hall will be a complex process– discussions are at very early stages but some positive discussions have taken place. As the Education Authority, County Council is ultimately responsible for ensuring the accommodation of sufficient Early Years provision in the village.
- iii. Staffing- To approve the recommendations in the staffing minutes dated 6th February 2017. Resolved to approve the recommendations 1-4 and note that a further meeting of Staffing Committee has been arranged for the 27th February to finalize PO’s new job description for recommendation to March Full Council for approval.

Meeting to be re-opened to members of the public (none present)

- iv. Old Methodist Chapel –MCMC meeting 9th February 2017 – verbal report. Rear window sills need repair – KR to seek quotations. Heating system malfunctioning – contractors called to attend in half term. System serviced at the end of October 16.
- v. The Eco Hub- any matters. No items.

173.2 **Recreational Spaces**

- i. The Butts Playground – new wall completion and publicity. Landscaping works quotation for hedge reduction and bank works from current grass cutting contractor – resolved to approve, noting works need doing before bird nesting season. Funded from



- remaining S106 playground budget. Photo with Brogan Group (funders of new wall) to be arranged in spring.
- ii. The Village Show 2017- venue suggestion-Recreation Field and Plaza 16th Sept 2017. Committee has now decided to use First School grounds.
- iii. Millbridge Meadows Park- i)Volunteer River Wardens Scheme-28th Feb. Noted need for volunteers to register interest in attending,ii) Bank Flail – contractors have not yet done this season – will be done in next 6 weeks on near side bank only. Volunteers to try and tidy far bank. Grass cutting contractors to spray plantain grass (weed) establishing in new cemetery. Dead hedge plants – awaiting original contractors site visit. willowherb issue (JW) – bank flail will assist, dock will be sprayed once per annum.
- iv. Cinques Common- awaiting Wildlife Trust response on draft lease.
- 173.3 **Cemeteries and Churchyards**
- i. **St Mary's Field cemetery-** dog issue-latest, resident email for consideration. Noted with regret that there have been further problems. Resolved to order permanent no dogs signage, to get quotations to place planting at end of central path to form visual blockage and to seek quotations for gravelling side path and diverting public footpath (to F and GP). ; Valuation Office Agency- additional information supplied. Noted.
- ii. **Stocks Lane-** path patching works to commence shortly. Clerks to query this – may be Church Lane?
- 173.4 **Neighbourhood Plan** i) Summary results of Neighbourhood Plan survey (November 2016)- for information. Noted interesting statistics in chart format. ii) Policy writing training-22nd February-draft policies submitted. Noted. Non disclosure agreement for NHP volunteer was counter signed.
- 173.5 **Library** – latest visitor figures noted. Councillors encouraged to participate in survey to determine which daily paper should be ordered.
174. **Information and communications** i. Publications committee –minutes and submission. Noted. ii. New Website – now live. Noted and displayed on screen. Training to be completed in next two weeks then website will be officially launched once document archive is populated.
175. **Financial**
- i. Resolved to be approve- Cheques list BACS and Direct debit
- ii. Resolved to re-appoint B Huett as internal auditor for 2016-17
176. **South Cambridgeshire District Council**
- 176.1 Local Green Space submission to LDF – summary of Local Plan Inquiry session for info. Noted decision will be in Autumn.
- 176.2 Assets of community value – i) notice of disposal The Wheatsheaf. Noted community group contacted felt building would not suit its needs. ii) First School Field- registration. Noted an objection has been received.
- 176.3 South West Parishes Patch meeting- 18th January-Transport- clerks briefing note. Noted.
- 176.4 Planning Policy Monthly update-February 2017 noted
- 176.5 SCDC Cabinet meeting- minutes 30th November 2016 and next dates – noted.
177. **Cambridgeshire County Council**
- 177.1 **Highways** i. Drove Rd – latest update on road improvements. Comments made in open session will be passed on to officer at County.
- ii Church St parking improvements. Timeline, scheme details reminder and update. County has now scheduled core sampling for next month – resolved to approve at cost of



£1359.58. Noted scheme estimated costs provided – but many costly risks against this. Within S106 project fund budget.
iii. Minor Highways bid- new pathway-Everton Rd The Heath- decision 14th March 2017. Noted.

178. **Staffing and Councillor matters** - i) Note with regret passing of Mr A Knibbs (ex Councillor). Councillors expressed condolences to his family and noted his enthusiastic contribution during his time on the Parish Council – particularly championing the problems caused by uneven pavements for those with mobility problems and the issues of potholes and dog fouling. ii) Clerks annual leave requests (1) – resolved to approve iii) Clerks training-Land ownership-SLCC at Cambourne 17 March and LCPAS similar training 21st March. Noted both clerks to attend SLCC training at £5/SLCC member.
179. **General Correspondence** –i)Community Co-Operatives- The Plunkett Foundation Noted ii) NALC- New Chairman briefing 13th January 2017. Noted. iii) Greensand Country Landscape grants- details. JW suggested possibility of funding for new cemetery side path iv)Other general correspondence available in the office. Noted. Invitation to SCDC Community Awards passed to Chair.
180. **Items for the next agenda. None.**
181. **Noted the dates of the next Parish Council and Committee meetings**
F&GP Tues 28th February 2017 at 7.30pm
Full Council 14th March 2017
Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings.
182. To formally record the **time of closure** of the Parish Council Meeting – 9.47pm

Signed.....

Dated.....