



Minutes of a Meeting of **Gamlingay Parish Council** held at the Kier Suite, Eco Hub, Stocks Lane, on **Tuesday 13th November 2018 at 7.30pm**

Present: Chair C Smith, Councillors J Wright, S Jones, A Goss, P Webb, K Warburton, A Kirby, S Martin, A Foster, J Newman, M Brown, P Webb and S Hemmings. Clerks L Bacon and K Rayner. County Councillor Sebastian Kindersley, District Councillor B Smith and 19 members of the public.

90. Resolved to accept apologies of absence from D Finnigan – previous engagement.
91. To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda:- None
 - 74.1 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.
 - 74.2 To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate. None received
92. 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.

A member of the public addressed the Council concerning the alarming increase in the crime rate and lack of general police presence, concern that there have been refusals to log 101 calls/reported incidents and a failure to respond to crimes in progress, rise in illegal parking and dangerous driving and the impacts on village life. Another resident has placed petitions for signature in all shops- understand that the public sector is under strain but all pay taxes and do expect some kind of service. 1 MOP arrived at the meeting. Group has formed and want to look at helping the village to do something for themselves- request to form a Crime Working Party to apply pressure to police authority to provide a more relevant service to this community. Residents want to feel 'safe'. Only 3 PCSO's covering 23 villages- is not sufficient. MB- runs Neighbourhood Watch- happy to be involved. KW-attending Police and Crime Commissioners address on Friday- important to compile historic records of reporting and the outcomes- something the group could do to gather evidence. JW added reporting tool online also useful, if you don't want to stay on the phone for a long period of time. BS advised she was meeting Crime Commissioner tomorrow to raise concerns. Chair advised that the constant reporting of issues to the police is the only way to get them to come out. The Council will take forward the request and discuss it under item 95 (ii)b. SK advised important to liaise also with Bedfordshire Police due to the specific location on the boundary between authorities. A member of the public interested in data relating to response times, recent thefts from cars was a concern.

A resident addressed the Council regarding something that he considers is questionable that the Parish Council should be involved in – Solution Gamlingay or the Business App. This has been referred to as a Forward Gamlingay project and a Parish Council project. Substantial payments have been made to B Smith, to Kwik Trade (he thinks now refunded) and to Ebase Technology totaling by his calculations over £39k recorded in the Register of Payments published on the Parish Council website. Also FG! has funds designated to economic development – a payment of £62,400 is registered. FG is not subject to the same level of scrutiny as the Parish Council but has no discernable track record in economic development. There has been £100k of public money allocated to projects the population of Gamlingay know next to nothing about. There is no information



about intellectual property rights. Even if fully grant funded, he considers that these sums could have been used on other projects, for better good, rather than used as risk capital. He thinks the time has come for the Parish Council to restrict itself to matters within the basic skill set of its councillors and staff. The public needs to see a little selflessness in future projects. Parish Council should distance itself from the District Council and form a normal relationship with its Councillors, with no elected councilors or employees placed in a official position to receive financial gain from here onward. Chair responded – Solution Gamlingay is on the agenda during closed session later and a comprehensive response will be given subsequently (item 108). A local business owner responded to the resident – he is happy to endorse Solution Gamlingay as an excellent initiative for the village, specifically helping residents with small businesses. It is fully grant funded to specifically support the initiative and a huge amount of work has been done by B Smith, even before she became District Councillor. It is wrong to say it is unreasonable for public officials to earn money. The resident himself is a banker, working for Santander and earning around £120k per annum and was previously with the Bank of Scotland. Parish Council is highly regarded by some residents-only small amounts of money from village funds. Chair added none of the parish councilors are paid or benefit by one farthing from parish council funds.

S Groom, manager of Gamlingay Eco Hub. Would like to encourage Council to accept request from GCC Ltd to site a Salvation Army clothing recycling bank in the Eco Hub car park for a trial period of 3 months as it will bring in some monthly revenue for the Eco Hub. It will be on a trial 3 month basis, and time spent on maintenance of the site will be monitored to ensure it does not create extra work for the pc handyman.

93. Resolved to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of 9th October 2018 - **Resolved and signed.** To note draft minutes of F&GP 6th November 2018-these will be circulated via email.
94. To consider Any Matters Arising from these minutes.
95. **Correspondence from Local MP, District and County Councillors and Police reports-** i. Reports from Cllr Smith, and Cllr Kindersley (District and County representatives). SK – Was very disturbed by matters raised in public open session. Completely inappropriate for individuals’ wages to be discussed. He is unhappy that confusion about S106 contributions has not been corrected on other Facebook pages– he can understand why the Parish Council has not responded – very much regrets to see the irresponsible trolling, barrage of abuse and inaccurate postings on various Gamlingay Facebook pages. They are being very poorly used. For evil to triumph, good people stand silent. JW – councillors should not get involved in arguments on social media. Councillors are privy to confidential information and it is a breach of the Nolan Principles to abuse this. SK hopes he never again has to hear an abusive speech such as the one heard in public session earlier and hopes the Parish Council will be speaking about it. Other matters – SK asked for the Parish Council to approach the land owners responsible for the access road to the new cemetery (Merton College) to ask for it to be repaired as it is in a very poor state. Monthly Councillors report has been circulated. All members of the public left the meeting, except 2 MOP, BS and SK. Gamlingay Village Primary is moving to Station Rd – opening in January. Ministerial support has been given to the reversion of the first school site for educational purposes. CCC has now requested the appointment of a Project Manager for the first school site to become nursery/special needs provision, a £2.2m plan. KR asked if there would be public consultation on this – SK responded that there would be. SK – is also a member of the Fire Authority and



detailed some statistics – including 58 large fires and 10 rescues from water. It has been a busy summer and these statistics will be mirrored by the other emergency services. Drains – the gully clearing in the village has been completed but the drain at the junction of Charnocks Close and Stocks Lane is still blocked as the cover is broken and needs replacement. A repair bid has been put in. Church St is now marvelous. BS and 1 member of public rejoined the meeting. Fostering on the up, empty nesters being targeted. BS – cap on borrowing for District Councils has been lifted. SCDC has delivered 120 houses in last 4 years. Grant opening of Robinson Court was very successful and a new resident will feature on the front cover of the next SCDC magazine. FG! (item 98(i)) Set up originally by two parish councilors, and a few other residents- as a community initiative- and until May this year always had a parish council representative on the board. Council always has had complete oversight of the charity’s management and delivery of projects. Meeting last night trustees extremely upset by criticisms leveled at their door- if not resolved quickly it will be disbanded, with the loss of three jobs, and youth club supporting over 80 children, and work with lonely, isolated elderly people will cease. County currently doing targeted work on teenage suicides, as there have been 2 recently. CS- fully aware of the essential impact the work of FG! Has and the work you put in is an essential part of the community. KW offered to speak to BS regarding PC representation.

ii. a. Police – feedback from surgery 26th October. BS and SK left the meeting. Date of next surgery – 20th November. Noted. Police say all those who attended have been contacted or that the matters they raised were satisfied at the surgery. Report from one member of public that no notes were taken of concerns. Parking was the major issue raised. S Jones attended the surgery – her concerns were dealt with. Timings to be circulated (clerks) AK left the meeting.

b. Petition for increased Police presence and proposals for addressing issues of local crime. **It was resolved to form a working group as suggested in public session**, to include all stakeholders. MB, SH and KW will participate. Clerks will contact A Webb to arrange. Suggestions for discussion – where to send the petition – MB suggested to Heidi Allen, JW felt the Police should be given an opportunity to address the issues raised before it went to the MP. AF felt this would be a waste of time as Police resources are already committed to Cambridge Peterborough and Cambourne as a priority. BS returned to the meeting . JW – we must have accurate statistics, not go by Facebook, which can be scaremongering. Residents must report actual incidents, rather than chatting on Facebook.. Shouldn’t rubbish PCSO’s – their resources are stretched very thin. She thinks the petition should go to the Chief Constable first. Tasks- decision where petition is going, terms of reference, compilation of data, what types of things a community can do themselves?-KW example Whats Ap SOS group mooted as an idea. Working Party to define purpose and objectives/role.

iii. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and crime report – update - M Brown- MB putting up Neighbourhood Watch signage- 15 so far-5 left to use. Window stickers popular- has a supply-recent glut of requests.

- 96. **To receive reports on other** Parish Council responsibilities and projects: -
- 96.1 Planning application S/3868/18/1RM – 29 dwellings at West Road, Gamlingay.



i. To resolve response to application based on recommendation from Planning committee and consideration of community benefits package. Material considerations were read out. AG advised that plans showing amendments to front properties (plots 13,14,15 had not officially been lodged with South Cambs and were not therefore discussed. Community Benefits package comprehensive. **Resolved- to make no recommendation on the current application and endorse the recommendations made by Planning Committee.**

96.2 **Community Buildings**

i. Old Methodist Chapel – to note any items-tell tale- no movement recorded.
ii. Eco Hub – a. Feedback on meeting to discuss possible use of car park by parents accessing Gamlingay Primary from 2019- ‘passionate’ meeting with no resolutions, further meeting planned- no current resolutions. Car parking arrangements for parents not provided by County Council-concern about wear and tear on car park at Eco Hub not designed for drop off and pick up. Ongoing costs and insurance risk/health and safety main concerns. b. Proposal to locate clothing bank in car park- Financial contribution a significant factor due to loss of tenant- 3 month trial fair- insurance risk sits entirely with GCC Ltd. Planned emptying weekly. **Resolved- Agreement for trustees to proceed with three month trial.**

96.2 **Recreational Spaces**

i. The Butts Playground and recreation field – skatepark repair full quotation for consideration. Still awaiting replacement tarmacking costs- deferred. Steps to playground – **Resolved to accept recommendation from F&GP to replace steps with quotation from Lattenbury (Specialist services)** To note quotation sought for replacement of steps to plaza and potential use of S106 community transport funds- agreed to request further quote from Lattenbury and other provider(s) if possible for replacement costs of sleepers with permanent steps. Possibility funds can be used due to the proximity to the Station Rd site (s.106 funds).
ii. The Cinques. Issues – report S Jones. Very dark at night- edging on paths uneven and raised entry to path uneven. Drug dealing occurring-needs to be reported- cloned number plated, sanitary wear and condoms found. More cars -residents don’t feel safe. Car park not being used by residents due to this. Police surgery- suggestions included low level lighting, CCTV cameras/fake or real, signage and reinstatement of gates for residents to lock and unlock. UPS parcel dumped there. Options- residents need to have consensus on what would make the car park ‘safer’ for them to use- options could involve solar studs similar to Recreation field path - not obtrusive. MB- N watch signs to be erected. SJ to discuss options with residents.
iii. “Walking of the paths” – proposal K Warbuton- KW summarized community project proposal- bringing the ‘Beating of the Bounds’ into the 21st century. 30th May is traditional date when this occurred. KW contacting local groups interested in walking , District Councils Healthy Living team,-County Footpaths co-ordinator may be able to provide some assistance. Option for grant funding-KW to arrange a meeting with interested parties.
iv. “Man Shed” proposal for community project – R Gorton. Proposal suggested at the First School site- premature as County have not discussed options for site with the community at present. Clerks to ask what level of response was received from Gazette request.



- 96.3 **Cemeteries and Churchyards**
- i. To formally resolve approval of interment of cremated remains on a Sunday as an exception to standard policy-**Resolved to approve on this occasion.**
 - ii. Additional hedge planting suggestion St Mary's churchyard – P M Gorton. SH and handyman to arrange a site meeting to assess proposal and report back.
- 96.4 **Library** – to note latest figures- not supplied- deferred.
97. **Information and communications**
- i. Publications Committee- 13th November – verbal report. JN- Gazette AGM -now formed a committee of 9, with extra helpers. Will circulate round the minutes via email soon. Request for PC reports every month-SM- planning calendar-10 reports-PC minutes- too slow in publication so article type reports/replication of Facebook posts to cut down on additional work required. Previous year most months had something in the magazine. Publications committee still to meet 4 times a year. Drafts to be sent to Councillors to approve-clerks to finalise to send to Gazette. AK returned to meeting.
 - ii. Gazette AGM report and suggestion for future contributions – J Newman (covered above)
98. **Community news**
- i. Forward Gamlingay! Report- received under item 95 (i)
 - ii Remembrance Day – report and feedback on event- went very well-parade down Church St very well done- goo turn out, followed by good service at the Baptist chapel. Issues regarding photos of children in uniform-Parish Council has not published any photos which have children in uniform as this could identify them.
 - iii Neighbourhood Plan and Village Design Statement – feedback from meeting 8.11.18 regarding Green End – new developer-providing scheme with bare minimum to fulfil South Cambs policies-open space scattered throughout scheme- requested new site for Bowls Club, possibility entry point could provide additional allotments. Types of housing not taking into account local needs. BS- bungalows- requested. Consultation day 16.11.18- consultant wanting to get community views on design aspects which characterize Gamlingay- open morning session -all welcome. Clerks to get Facebook post listed.
 - iv. Christmas lights – to note arrangements-24th November lights to be installed, donation of Christmas trees -P Middlicott has agreed to provide three trees this year- one for the Baptist Chapel and date for switch on – 1st December 2018- small group to be contacted, LB try and get timers looked at by Balfour Beatty. **Resolved to use Christmas lights fund to provide a set of lights for the tree at the Baptist Chapel.** No fundraising has been arranged/recieved this year yet – usually make collections on the day of switch on.
 - v. CamBedRoadRail public meeting 15.11.18 at the Eco Hub (7pm). PC paying costs of hire of room and CS to introduce the meeting- noted.
99. **Financial**
- i. Payments list for approval/to note-**Resolved 245-253.** Credit note required from Buchans to allocate to voucher number 248 due to overpayment.
100. **South Cambridgeshire District Council**
- 100.1 Planning Policy Monthly update- noted
- 100.2 To sign S106 agreement relating to Robinson Court and note community benefits- **Agreed and signed by C Smith and A Goss, witnessed by KR.**
101. **Cambridgeshire County Council**
- 101.1 **Highways**



- i Church St parking improvements – a) Final report and costs- yet to be received. Loading bay- 7.30am to 1pm- blocks light of adjacent Hairdressers at times- reasons for location of bay to be confirmed and communicated to tenant. Lorries parking on path- this is to be taken up with distribution centre. Road width- now an improved as passing width safer for traffic. Next publication- report on Church St, request formal visit from funders once financials are settled.
 - ii. To note complaints about parking and turning in Poppyfields – noted. To request result of investigations from KMG whether lorries were attending site.
 - iii. Proposal and request for support for new parking restrictions near Gamlingay Primary – Comberton Academy Trust – not received-deferred.
- 101.2 Sustainable energy schemes – latest -KR to attend- dates supplied when available.
103. **Staffing and councillor matters**
- i. Training – upcoming courses and dates -SM/JN-finance, AK-general- courses awaited.
 - ii.CPALC – to consider membership and annual fees- councillors happy with current service by LCPAS- £684 per annum too expensive.
104. **General Correspondence** – available in the office -noted.
105. **Items for the next agenda -Precept 27th November- all councillors invited to attend (F&GP)**
106. **To note the dates of the next Parish Council and Committee meetings**
Full Council December 11th at 7.30pm in the Kier suite, F and GP November 27th
Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings. 1 member of the public left the meeting.
107. **To resolve 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 for the next item it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press are temporarily excluded from the meeting and asked to withdraw.
108. To consider Solution Gamlingay Project completion report, to resolve content of material for publication to address queries and promote project.
109. To formally record the **time of closure** of the Parish Council Meeting -10.10pm

Signature.....Date.....



Closed session minute-13-11-18

Item 108:-

CS purpose to hear Project Completion report (BS) and respond to matters raised in public open session by a member of public.

BS read out report- clarifying project costs -full cost recovery principle. Lots of consultations with local businesses, 100% LEADER funding, managed by the RPA. Project management role clarified in grant application-BRCC independent assessment of appropriate charging, software development and user testing, workshops etc. Not all costs were eligible- report identified methods of recharge, with partner charity FG!. Administration 1hour a week- £2000 costs covered by FG! in 2nd year. Framework- other local authorities can adopt the framework at no cost once the model is set and launched . Soft role out- Ebase to deliver hard launch in January 2019. BRCC happy that all conditions of the grant are complied with. Random RPA audit on 20th November is planned. Solution Gamlingay Ap belongs to GPC, who is responsible for administration and monitoring role. No revenue will be raised within 5 years of the project start (previously approved by Council- condition of the grant). Annual hosting £4400 in grant year 1, £4400 year 2 (FG!) years 3-5 funding required (Parish Council). Recent meeting with EBase- to reduce ongoing financial burden- BS has intellectual property rights, as it was her idea. The report identified that BS has agreed in principle to Ebase technology having use of her intellectual property in order to secure life time free hosting of Solution Gamlingay for Gamlingay Parish Council.

Council resolved to support this proposal.

Launch- post cards, banners, pop ups being prepared for marketing the Ap. Other businesses are uploading information now. Breakfast meeting/early PM drop in sessions being run. SCDC -next magazine feature- Spring 2019. KW- discussed intellectual property rights- concern that information has been mis-used from meeting.

Response to queries 1-9 (two N08's) for clerk to respond to:-

- 1) Covered in FAQ's
- 2) Commercially sensitive information- no response
- 3) GPC not paid for Ap development
- 4) Clerk time-from year 3 onwards administration costs only
- 5) Parish Clerk- is allowed to hold other employment duties, works part time
- 6) Monitoring Officer- at South Cambs District Council- information already supplied
- 7) There are to date no contracts with regard to this project
- 8) Bridget Smith is working on a community development consultancy basis, to deliver this project, fully cost recoverable
- 8ii) Consultation- significant consultation has already taken place with businesses in the community, launch details will go to every household (January 2019).
- 9) It is best practice to work closely together with both District and County Councillors , for benefit of residents in Gamlingay.

Clerk to write response to the queries made by the member of public.

Meeting closed 10.10pm