



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GAMLINGAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Gamlingay Parish Council held at the Kier Suite, Eco Hub, Stocks Lane, on Tuesday 11th December 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, M Brown, M Ridler, P Webb and S Hemmings. Clerks L Bacon and K Rayner. County Councillor Sebastian Kindersley, District Councillor B Smith and 5 members of the public.

110. Resolved to receive apologies of absence from J Newman and T Gurney
111. To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda:- JW personal, non pecuniary interest declared as parent – item 116.1 ii.a)
- 74.1 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.
- 74.2 To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.
112. 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. Three neighbours of property applying for new premises license (item 120.2) presented their objections and concerns. Support local business and get on well with owners but this proposal for significant extension to opening hours and to allow sale of alcohol will have detrimental impact in terms of public nuisance – noise, parking, smells and also increase fire risk to adjacent listed property. Chair – has looked at original planning application and considers that the current proposal represents a material change, perhaps a change of classification for the premises.
- Gamlingay Village Primary Governors representative – explained that Cambridgeshire County Council hold the purse strings and the Governors have very little control. Governors had highlighted the issues of car parking and access. Funding was not available to make suitable provision. For safety the school car park will not be available for parents to drop off children. It is not the schools responsibility to provide car parking – it has tried its best to encourage other modes of transport but accepts that this will be difficult. Staff will have car parking on site. The Police have been consulted about possible road lining to restrict parking near the entrance. GVP are grateful to GPC for providing funding to lay a path to the rear entrance of the school for pedestrian access. GVP appreciates that use of the Eco Hub car park is problematic, B Smith had spoken to Governors about this some time ago when she was a Trustee of GCC Ltd. There will be increasing numbers of pupils from outside the village. As a school, GVP has done more than it legally needs to do to address the issue of parking and will continue to do so.
113. Resolved to approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of 13th November 2018. note draft minutes of F&GP 27th November 2018. Noted M Ridler was present on 13th Nov.
114. To consider Any Matters Arising from these minutes. MB – regarding photography at public events, there was an issue recently with someone photographing junior football players at a match. Who should this be reported to. Advised to contact Police if concerned



115. **Correspondence from Local MP, District and County Councillors and Police reports-** i. Reports from Cllr Smith, and Cllr Kindersley (District and County representatives). Written report circulated. Combined Authority Mayor has now lost a fourth Financial Director. SCDC is consulting on its business plan – BS encourages participation in this. SCDC is investigating the possibility of funding civil parking enforcement – will speak to Parish Councils at later date. SK – nothing much to add to report. Bad tempered meeting at CCC – officers have been forced to take 3 days unpaid leave over Christmas and New Year to cut costs. SK considers this is despicable. County Councillors voted recently to increase their own allowances above recommended level. CS pointed out that SK is one such councillor. County Council is operating at a £8m deficit in year now and needs to make even more cuts. ii. a. Police, Crime and Safety Working party and Neighborhood Watch Scheme i. feedback from meeting 6th December and date of next meeting. Very positive first meeting agreed Terms of Reference and some initial proposals to present to the Parish Council – asking for Police surgeries to be split so the PCSO's spend at least half the allocated time walking the village. Will request that GPC write a letter to Police Commissioner asking for statistics of Police resources spent locally to accompany petition highlighting concerns about crime in Gamlingay. SK suggested inviting the PCC to Annual Parish Meeting. KW could not attend first meeting but looked at some statistics – indicates that to Oct, Gamlingay saw a reduction in reported crime since last year. MG – key is to get people to report every crime. Meeting again in late January. ii. NHW update M Brown. 5 new coordinators signed up. Lamppost signs are up. Recent incident – theft of locksmith tools from van. No Police attendance – residents feeling disillusioned with Police responses to crime reports.
116. **To receive reports on other Parish Council responsibilities and projects:**
- 116.1 **Community Buildings**
- i. Old Methodist Chapel – to note any items. Management meeting tomorrow.
- ii. Eco Hub – a. Proposal from GVP Board, minutes of meetings 27th and 28th of November to discuss possible use of car park by parents accessing Gamlingay Primary from 2019. Copy of letter to County Council sent 16th Nov 2017 outlining the Parish Council's concerns about highways safety and lack of parking provision for information. MR – feels it is disturbing that CCC judges school car parks to be dangerous but now GVP are requesting to pass the risk to the Eco Hub by requesting to use its car park. CS – a councillor has expressed concern about predetermination as some councillors had been expressing opinions prior to the meeting on email. AF – is concerned it will take a fatality to make CCC take action, he considers it ludicrous that CCC/GVP haven't made any provision for parents driving their children to school. KW agrees, understands that GVP Governors have also pressed CCC on this matter. JW asked SK to explain why CCC don't allow car parks on school premises. SK – historically it is more dangerous, a serious injury occurred in school grounds with "in and out" vehicle access. SK – has heard all the comments and agrees to a large extent, but CCC is immovable on policy and finance basis. The parties involved have to make the best of the situation – they are key community organizations and have a responsibility to work together for the benefit of the community as a whole. A more positive process is needed. SK has approached KMG to request shared use of their car park, but this is not possible as their car park is busy at the times needed. CS asked SK – if County do not consider it safe for children to be dropped off in a car park on school premises, why should it be safe in the Eco Hub car park? If it is not County Council policy to provide car parking due to safety issues, why



should someone else be pressured to provide it? SK – the Travel to school plan produced by GVP has lots of options. If the Eco Hub car park is open and there is space, then parents will use it. If this is not allowed, it will be very unpopular – people will say that they pay taxes and are part of the community so should be allowed. CS – appreciates that people may choose to park in the Eco Hub car park but is very uncomfortable with the proposal to formalize this by inviting parents to use it. A formal arrangement implies an acceptance of responsibility and there are a number of issues involved with this – the terms of the Eco Hub lease, insurance liability and the fact that the car park was not designed for this type of use (only one entrance/exit). A member of the public suggested that there are other places to park in the village and perhaps it might be worth asking if this could be allowed – the doctors surgery and pubs for example. BS – when she was a Trustee of GCC, she met with the Governors of GVP about parents using the Hub car park – it was suggested at the time that this might be a positive thing - an opportunity for more people to get to know the Eco Hub and the facilities it has to offer. Jackie Mc Geady (GCC Trustee) – she was also present at this meeting and recalls that GVP were supposed to come back with some estimated figures of parents likely to require parking. JMG felt that SK's communications have implied that it was taken that parents could use the car park. JW has a timeline of communications about the parking. She considers that everyone has had an opportunity to air concerns but now everyone has to be creative and come up with a scenario that she admits won't be perfect. MB agreed that there will be a problem with parents parking – he had experienced this first hand. He asked if there was any plan to police the car park. CS – no, the school has not offered this. KM – GVP has asked for a lollipop person but CCC has assessed that the traffic flow is not bad enough to warrant this. SK – this will be reassessed in future. SK – understood that school caretaker would unlock Hub car park and parents would be told not to use it on days that the Hub need all the space. Councillors felt this would not work in practice. CS – it is for GCC Trustees to decide on whether to allow formal use of the car park for GVP parents. SK – asked what GPC was going to do in terms of traffic in Gamlingay. CS responded that this is not the responsibility of the Parish Council – County Council is the statutory Highways Authority. SM – she is open to the idea of a future agenda item to talk about community solutions.

116.2 **Recreational Spaces**

i. The Butts Playground and recreation field. Steps to playground – noted no additional quotations received so order placed as resolved at F and GP on 6th November 2018.

116.3 **Cemeteries and Churchyards**

i. To note feedback from Remembrance parade 2018. Noted reported at last meeting.

116.4 **Library** – to note latest figures. To be circulated.

117. **Information and communications**

i. Publications Committee- 13th November – minutes and submission for Jan/Feb edition. Noted.

ii. Solution Gamlingay – official launch. Publicity materials and report on response to date. 30 businesses now registered. All households and business should have received leaflet through door – delivered by local school pupils in return for donation to trip fund. This is soft launch – full launch in new year. Business breakfast and tea events were held last week in the Hub. Banners produced and displayed. Drop in sessions planned for late Jan for members of the public. There has been some useful feedback – designers are making some tweaks. SJ – couldn't find out how to load app on phone. BS - details of how to



download will be given on social media and on Solutiongamlingay itself. SJ commented that it was just a simple website. KW – feels this is a product that GPC has got behind and asked how many councillors had registered. BS offered to do a further presentation on Solutiongamlingay after Christmas.

118. **Community news**

- i. Forward Gamlingay! Report. BS – another Art project aimed at lonely and isolated residents is planned in the New Year – councillors urged to promote this.
- ii Neighbourhood Plan and Village Design Statement – Summary and progress report. S Martin gave a Powerpoint presentation. JW – thinks NHP will be a useful tool to show prospective developers to evidence local wishes with regards to design and type of houses. VDS will be an appendix to the NHP – it will hold weight like a supplementary planning document. R – is working slowly on justifying that the NHP is compliant with national and local plans. Hopes to produce the basic conditions document by Easter. SCDC has recently given detailed feedback on the draft NHP to date. Estimating to circulate a draft plan to the village in the Spring. Eventually there will be a referendum on the NHP. SM – encouraged all councillors to keep the NHP forward in peoples minds. KR has drawn up a list of 70 local groups to consult with. CS thanked all those involved with the NHP for their hard work to date.
- iii. Christmas lights – feedback on event. Noted. Resolved to make a nomination in next SCDC Community Awards.
- iv. GamArch- Gamlingay Saxons project. Request for ongoing support. Resolved to approve. KW felt this would add interest to the area. KW was concerned about possible vandalism.

119. **Financial**

- i. Payments list for approval/to note. Resolved to approve 267-278.
- ii. To consider draft budget version 2. To consider the impact of proposed precept on band D property. KW commented that at a recent meeting he attended the point was made that Parish Councils are the only tier of local government not to be capped. This presented an opportunity for GPC to consider if it wanted to fund any projects to assist its community. DF felt that the precept was high already and should not be raised any more. CS – residents are aware that the PWLB repayments are now reduced and will be looking for a reduced precept. SM – GPC could potentially use S106 community transport money to fund projects – ideas are needed. This would not impact on precept. KR – outlined proposal to provide £500 towards sustainable energy scheme project to install electric vehicle charging points in villages. DF felt this was a waste of money and time. KW felt it would show that GPC is serious about eco technology. Could ask residents how many have electric cars and if there are any problems charging them currently. Resolved to approve V2 of the budget – noting 0% increase on the precept, with a slight decrease per band D property (due to an increase in the number of properties in the village).
To note GCC Profit and Loss statement, Manager and Marketing Trustee Report and New Business and Building Existing Clients Report November 2018. AG/CS felt these documents showed how GCC is working hard to promote the Hub and improve things. To note Forward Gamlingay funding request. Noted that this is to cover core costs of Youth Club. PW felt that it should be made clear to residents that GPC pays for Youth Club. To consider match funding for Greensand Ridge gateway feature – further information. Resolved not to provide this funding. Bikeability funding request for consideration. Resolved not to support this at this time.



- 120. **South Cambridgeshire District Council**
- 120.1 Planning Policy Monthly update. Noted
- 120.2 Licencing – To consider proposal for new premises licence for LJ's Sandwich Bar and Barista and to determine any response to consultation. Resolved to respond objecting to proposal on grounds outlined in open session as councillors agreed that these were valid – clerk to draft response and circulate for final approval.
- 121. **Cambridgeshire County Council**
- 121.1 **Highways**
 - i Church St parking improvements. i. Report from site meeting 11th December, including discussion on loading bay issues. CS explained that double yellow lines will be installed as planned – no date yet given. Loading bay – highways engineer to investigate solution to camber of road issue – therefore lorries park with wheels on pavement. Loading bay location – this has not changed significantly. ii. Costs – update. Safety audit element needs to be amended. Additional works will be costed and implemented if funding is available. ii. Parking enforcement information. Noted. SCDC is looking into this (see 115.)
- 121.2 Sustainable energy schemes – verbal report on meeting to discuss electric vehicle charging point in car park. Discussed under 119.
- 123. **Staffing and Councillor matters**
 - i. Training – feedback from Local Council Conference (KW). Regional training seminar – 30th Jan 2019. Noted – KW encouraged councillors to read the paper he had provided.
 - ii. Leave request. Agreed.
- 124. **General Correspondence** – available in the office. Noted
- 125. **Items for the next agenda**
- 126. **To note the dates of the next Parish Council and Committee meetings. All noted.**
 - Full Council January 8th at 7.30pm in the Kier suite, F and GP January 22nd
 - Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings.
- 127. To formally record the **time of closure** of the Parish Council Meeting at 22.00

Signed.....

Dated.....