



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Gamlingay Parish Council ¹ held virtually ², on Tuesday 12th May 2020 at 7.45pm.

Present: Chair C Smith, councillors A Kirby, J Wright, J Darcy, W Boyne, P Webb, K Warburton, S Martin and T Gurney. Clerks L Bacon and K Rayner. County Councillor S Kindersley and District Councillor B Smith.

1. Resolved to approve – As per The Coronavirus Act of 19.3.2020 - To re appoint Chairman C Smith and vice Chair A Goss to the Council.
Noted resignation of councilor M Brown and prohibition on holding election to fill vacancy until May 2021 (NALC advise co-option is possible).
Reminder to councillors to update Register of Interest forms as necessary.
2. Noted. Apologies for absence from councillors D Finnigan, A Foster, S Jones, J Newman and A Goss.
3. Noted declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda:-none
 - 3.1 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.
 - 3.2 To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.
4. Noted. 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. None.
5. Resolved to Approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of 28th April 2020.
6. Noted. Any Matters Arising from these minutes. None
7. Note Correspondence from Local MP, District and County Councillors, Police and reports from local groups
 - i. Cllr Smith- South Cambs District Council. Green bin collections now resumed. £160k in business grants awarded to businesses in Gamlingay to assist during Covid – 19 pandemic. 800 volunteers working to help residents in South Cambridgeshire. Universal credit applications increased 6 fold. Decrease in crime reported nationally and locally. Cannabis factories in Gamlingay , Bassingbourn and Arrington recently exposed by Police. Cashflow – council tax collections only down by 1%, less than anticipated. Staff within SCDC redeployed. Business rates down 16% in May, 19% in April. Mayor has spoke to Prime Minister about creating more opportunities for cycling in the UK. 5 year housing land supply under threat as developers do not anticipate building out more than 60% of housing already approved. Out of control development would be a tragic unintended consequence of Covid -19.
 - ii. Cllr Kindersley – Cambridgeshire County Council representative. 208 shielded people across Gamlingay and Hatley. Gamlingay Coronavirus Support Group has done an amazingly impressive job in providing support. Budget at County level is a massive issue – savings of up to £8m were needed before pandemic hit. CCC has costs it is unable to quantify for example huge increases in children in care and increases in PPE equipment needed for care givers. Unknown if Government will meet the shortfall in funding. SK referred councillors to www.gov.uk site for clear explanation of Governments “plan to

¹ This meeting will be recorded

² Members of the public should email clerk@gamlingay-pc.gov.uk at least 1 day prior to the meeting to access the meeting password.



- rebuild". Impact of potential return of younger pupils to primary schools will have big impact locally – Gamlingay Village Primary will be expected to work out how to operate safely.
- iii. MP Anthony Browne – feedback from Zoom conference for Parish Councils 8th May (Chair). 12-15 parishes took part. High level of opposition from parish councils to planning applications not being considered at district council committee level. Feeling of isolation seemed to be a common theme – many councils had not heard of new THINK communities initiative. Chair made the point that in Gamlingay, both the County and District councillors are accessible and approachable – this is not always the case elsewhere. SK advice is for people to go high and contact chief executives of organizations if they feel remote and need answers/action. BS said people should be encouraged to approach her or SK as local representatives during the pandemic. KW asked SK to clarify what he meant by remote- SK – large County area, few officers and perhaps queries from small parish councils are not prioritized.
- iv. Gamlingay Coronavirus Support Group. Council was extremely impressed with the organization and commitment of this group, which has been supporting the local community so well. A grant has been given and more offered. Letter of thanks passed on to group.
- v. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Gamlingay Community Safety Group and Rural Watch. WB gave update following resignation of MB. No meetings recently – has not heard whether MB will continue with NHW as co-ordinator.
- vi. Speedwatch. Co-ordinator provided speeding data to support cycleway LHI bid for Mill Hill. Clerks to enquire whether method statement and risk assessment for flashing speed signs can progress.
- vii. Neighbourhood Plan – SM. Rachel has been very busy. Now moving towards R regulation 14 consultation after lockdown but unknown how this can take place due to social distancing regulations. Group will need 2 months head start for promotion and advertising.
- viii. Forward Gamlingay!- Has furloughed 4 staff. Is providing support to GCSG, particularly in terms of handling finances.
- ix. Police – report of cannabis factory discovery. Noted.
- x. Discuss – any items raised in reports. None.
8. Resolved to approve – As per the Coronavirus Act of 19.3.2020 – To re-appoint members to serve on Committees and groups. Vote – to appoint additional members to fill vacancies.
- i. Approved members for groups -Police Panel (WB), Allotments (vacant), Gamlingay Community Safety Group (WB).ii. Risk assessment areas – St Mary's and Stocks Lane cemeteries and war memorial, Chapelfield, St Mary's field and copse (outside cemetery boundaries). Clerks to circulate more detail about requirements to inform volunteers.
- 8.3 Resolved – To Approve Standing Orders and Financial Regulations – available at www.gamlingay-pc.gov.uk
- 8.4 Resolved– To Adopt the Equalities Policy and the current General Code of Conduct
9. Noted - reports from other initiatives involving the Parish:-
- 9.1 Library – latest on re introduction of services. Library manager is following lead of County library service.
10. Noted – Information, communications and consultations -



- i) Publications – June Gazette deadline 14th May. Discuss idea for submission. Resolved to submit thanks to GCSG and details of Council activities under lockdown (virtual meetings.)
- 11. Financial
 - i) Resolved – To approve payments list 24-26
 - ii) Resolved to approve - Skatepark refurbishment –release of retention payment £500
- 12. Land and Buildings
 - 12.1 Noted - Grass cutting – request for reduced cutting and response with invitation to join ecology group.
 - 12.2 Resolved to approve Clerk to seek quotations for urgent repair –to receive report of further damage to footbridge at Merton field.
- 13. South Cambridgeshire District Council-
 - i) Noted. Planning Policy monthly update. ii. Resolved to approve Large Scale Planning Application S/4085/19/RM – Green End as per recommendation from Planning Committee
- 14. Cambs County Council
 - i). Noted. Covid-19 Communities update (sent by email)
- 15. Staffing and Councillor matters
 - i. Resolved to approve working arrangements moving out of lockdown – library, grounds man, cleaner and clerks. Clerks continuing to work from home where possible, but attending office periodically to process burials etc. Cleaning and social distancing protocols will be followed.
 - ii. Noted - Cancellation of annual leave (clerks).
- 17. General Correspondence
 - Noted – available on request
- 18. Noted. Items for the next agenda. None.
- 19. Noted the dates of the next Parish Council and Committee meetings
 - Next Full Council meeting Tues 9th June at 7.30pm
 - F&GP Tues 26th May 2020 at 7.30pm
 - Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings.
- 20. Noted - to formally record the time of closure of the Parish Council Meeting. 21.08

Signed.....

Dated.....