



GAMLINGAY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GAMLINGAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 13th April 2021 at 7.30pm via ZOOM

Present: Chair C Smith, councillors J Wright, H Gould, K Warburton, L New, R Petch, W Boyne, A Kirby, J Darcy, P Webb, S Martin. District Councillor B Smith, County Councillor S Kindersley (delayed), Clerks L Bacon and K Rayner and 2 members of the public.- John McKee and Becca Neal (Wildlife Trust)

176. To receive **apologies for absence and to receive declarations of interest** from councillors on items on the agenda. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any) and to grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate. To note one vacancy can be filled by co-option. Chair announced one minutes silence on consideration of death of HRH Duke of Edinburgh. Meeting was reopened. Apologies from DF, TG, AF-previous engagement/internet connection problems. SK to join later.
177. 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.
- John McKee advised Council that Fast Fibre scheme finished in March and has been relaunched with slightly different parameters this financial year. Cambridgeshire has been selected for first counties for complete roll out, but Gamlingay is unlikely to be in the target area. If we want to do apply for the £210m scheme-we can still apply as before. Mill Hill application successful- £24k upgrade for this area can be covered by the grants. Church St Church End Dutter End scheme more complex as far larger area covered by sub base – not currently cost effective £150k cost with £40k grants from those signed up. JM requested PC decide whether to apply for entire village scheme under £210m programme and launch with a public meeting and

information giving sessions to get people to sign up or to pursue smaller scheme/s. Matter 181.1 (I) was brought forward. **Council resolved to pursue a village wide scheme and engage with residents to sign up.** Further discussions to be held with JM on publicity and possible APM later in the Summer. Openreach to be asked to present. HG- asked about concern to be fixed to one provider. JM advised Openreach deal with the infrastructure implementation, residents can choose which provider to use once the system is installed. Preference was to deliver the scheme in one go rather than piecemeal over a number of years (disturbance /traffic and access issues when system is being implemented).

178. To approve as a correct record the **Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council 9th March 2021 and to note any issues arising.**

Minutes approved.-No issues arising.

To note minutes of F and GP 23rd March 2021- noted

179. **To receive correspondence/reports** from:

i. Cllr Smith- South Cambs District Council

55 currently in hospital in S Cambs with covid,37/100,000 is the national average infection rate, SCDC is below this. Outbreaks mainly in schoolchildren. Vaccine uptake is high, community strategy is to keep taking precautions. Grants Covid recovery- grant application in from GPC for community event. Keep shopping local -keep to keep everyone supporting local business and reducing carbon footprint.20 mobile wardens in S Cambs now. Concern about untaxed cars-West Rd being dealt with. Holly Walk- power supply problem identified. Business grants being offered for retail, hospitality leisure £1.5m are discretionary. Have to demonstrate hardship. Return to work- suggest two lateral flow tests per week per individual to curtail non- symptomatic transmission of virus. A428 route- Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet- BS attended poor presentation from Dept Transport -BS concerns about lack of cycling infrastructure, no digital infrastructure going in, and loss of 'rationalization' of footpaths reducing options for walkers. EW Rail- route consultation announced- route south of Abbotsley – will be able to hear it in Gamlingay. Harston/Haslingfield-sweep into the south 10 plus 2m incline to climb over existing infrastructure. Combined authority £45m of affordable housing money has been frozen by HCLG. Gamlingay Gym- progress with the school-agreed facility to stay on site-but not legally

allowed to run it. BS advised a local organization is continuing discussions about management options. SK arrived at the meeting. CS -advised the question was asked four times at a previous parish council meeting and was not answered, regarding its retention on site. BS- SCDC Officers continue to work hard to identify a partner to manage the facility- could be the users may have to set up a management body. Progress is being made. MUGA booking in half term declined- BS asked officers of SCDC to investigate. Good news there is a 6.1 years of housing land supply at present.

ii. Cllr Kindersley – Cambridgeshire County Council representative.

Bus cuts- asked to bring the matter to the Parish Councils attention- current service is reduced, numbers of residents unable to access Cambridge. Busses needed in both directions. Potential to access via Ashwell station .2001 17% no access to private car- lost significant number of busses since then. JW- 18 bus into Cambridge took 1 hour 20 mins. Now goes from Toft. More kids access Cambridge for 6th form. SK suggested a survey of residents needs would be useful - online/paper format. JW- need for buses to Bedford as well as Cambridge. SK- the combined authority is responsible for managing bus services from 1st April. EW Rail proposal 80m across 10m high viaduct engineering scar across 10-12 parishes -must be a better way. Requested PC to submit a consultation response by 9th June. Still no transparency on why the route must turn south after Cambourne station (agreed North station better position than at Croxton). CS asked SK why they continue with this, SK says that they have been too embarrassed to replan the route approach. KR advised that the A14 crossing is being quoted as a reason to go South. PW- Tempsford- station will be a new settlement?-SK yes possibly 50k, or 15k houses in this area.

HG – northern route is obvious, how is it planned through Fens? SK box section -waterproof 'raft like' a good description, HG- this is similar to section west of Peterborough. KW first train line for The Stevenson Rocket built on cotton bales section between Manchester and Liverpool (Chat Moss) SK the current route is fracturing local communities- opens up land for further development.

SK and BS left the meeting.

Item 183 Wildlife trust brought forward- BN introduced herself in a new role with WT Community and Wildlife team-arranging advice sessions for

children, adults and families. Cambourne and in West Hundreds woods is her area- will run events and do newsletter reports in gazette, facebook and be email contact. JW to arrange meeting and walk with BN and mini forest co-ordinator. BN advised footfall increased significantly, wettest winter on record, lots of damage to rides to sides of pathways. Some pathways impassable due to wear had to be closed. CS parking and access issues- BN not in control of WT as it doesn't own the access way. BN thanked and left the meeting.

iii. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Community Safety Group, Police. WB no meetings, rural crimewatch facebook system up and running and useful. Recent stolen van was reported and recovered. JW reported crime activity at the Cross car park, near Londis, no CCTV. Residents filming and putting information on facebook. **Resolved clerks to write to the Residents Association asking whether they can consider installing CCTV, and possibility of residents joining Neighbourhood Watch.** Further update at next meeting.

iv. Speedwatch – update -moveable sign now been placed at new location. Data to be reported at next meeting. Speedwatch group can start operating again on 1st May. No further news on the school's license (attachments policy request to County Council).

180. **To receive reports** on other Parish Council matters:

180.1 Gamlingay Guardians

i. To note update from Head Guardian and date for next committee meeting 18.5.2021 – no sign ups yet, Guardians other job workload may increase in September. 3 enquiries to join the scheme so far.

180.2 **Community Buildings**

i. Eco Hub – a) GCC Opening arrangements/dates- bookings now starting to come in and open to prebooked events,- LB advised post covid joint grant for community event to SCDC £2k has been made. b) Gateway feature- resolution of scheme, costs, and timescales- KR advised division of features-council to cover water fountain purchase and installation, and if budget allows fencing improvements, GSC/Beds RCC to do bench, block paving and large wooden signboard feature from their fund. **Resolved clerks to purchase water fountain Elke model, £4,195 ex VAT plus installation costs, and review budget**

- for fencing improvements if possible. Agreed scheme proposal other elements for GSC Gateway feature for delivery by GSC/Beds RCC.
- ii. Cemeteries and churchyards – signage-has been installed. Further report of scooting reported by councillor. JW school have written to all parents requesting no scooting in cemetery. SM left the meeting.
 - iii. Old Methodist Chapel –to note completed volunteer risk assessment for garden maintenance-supplied to Rainbow- not yet received completed form.

180.3 Recreational Spaces

- i. Grow Gamlingay project – SWOC analysis-available sites for consideration. SWOC analysis completed by ELG and annotated by clerk. Red, amber, green classifications have been given to all sites, sites were discussed in detail. A site needs to be identified for this project to commence. Preferred site is First school field, concern related to space available without impinging on land needed for football pitch or potential for a new potential bowling green. Trees do not have to be in a regulated square, and could perhaps be located surrounding the nature pond. Consultation needed with the football Club and the County Council. Other trees need to be planted on the site (Cherry). **Resolved to approach CC about mini forest location on the field and furtherance of a long-term lease for the PC. If not supported by CC , reserve site location will be Lower field.** KW concerned about not being able to contribute to the debate. The area of Lower Field which does not flood would be suitable. Clerk to change classification of Lower field on SWOC analysis from amber to green, as a fallback position. Tree trail leaflet for information- noted
- ii. Wildlife Trust -New community and Wildlife Officer Rebecca Neal- introduction- brought forward to 179.

180.4 **Library** – Operating hours update- noted -now can select own books from the library shelves!

181. Information, communications and consultations

- i. Fast Fibre- review of current scheme and options for future scheme- Update from J McKee-brought forward to item 177.
- ii. Neighbourhood Plan -update, proposed costings for additional work- KR advised further piece of work required as evidence to support

views. Locality grant for £3100 to be applied for when scheme funding reopens.

182. **Community news**

- i. Annual Parish Meeting – postponed, Consultation committee (policy review)-27th April at 7.30pm-noted
- ii. Cambridge Gliding Club consultative meeting 7.4.2021– report KW-evening flying to 7pm, displays to finish 30 mins after sunset. No right of way across airfield-signs to be erected. Competitions in August are planned.
- iii. Greensand Country forward plan – feedback KR- summary provided in packs- to be launched shortly.
- iv. Boundary treatment queries – KMG. To note correspondence with residents of Poppyfields and actions taken. Noted. Not strictly a Parish Council matter-matters relating to noise and light referred to the District Councils enforcement team. LB to supply details of enforcement team to HG. Noted that planting within fence line should grow through fence in fullness of time.

183. **Financial**

- i. To be approved- payments list -vouchers 1- 10-**Agreed**
- ii. To note completion of internal audit and date of external audit of 2020-21 accounts-noted.

184. **South Cambridgeshire District Council**

- i. Gypsy Roma Traveller course– LN and RP summary on training- Part one training on Romas and travelling community and difficulties that they face. Discussed what the parish councils role should be. LN mainly covered the issue of temporary encampments, not permanent encampments. Discussed parish councils being the ‘first point of contact’. Guidance on how should approach the situation. Identified that those communities may need help with education and health issues. Education/Health role is outside PC remit (County Councils responsibility). 100% goodwill needed on both sides to get communication going. Workbook and slides being sent through- questions requested by 1st May and full toolkit to be sent out on 10th May. There was a request for a working party to be formed to prepare how to respond/key contact details. LN Safer Communities Bill may make temporary encampments illegal- will change the training information provided and

make this purely a police matter. WB spoke of extensive experience as a police officer attending temporary encampments. Full site risk assessment needs to occur before any member of the public should approach an encampment. LN said training was well intentioned but not realistic. All councillors to submit questions on topic to clerk for response by 1st May. WB to feedback to LN BP and clerks with PC hat on.

ii. Next round of Zero Carbon Programme- for consideration-noted no application.

185. **Cambridgeshire County Council**

i. LHI scheme- provisional result (Mill Hill). Selection to next stage- clerk to contact Farm Shop to discuss the scheme/implications.PW- scheme to CC standards, and CC to get contractor to undertake the work- yes.

ii. Micro Asphalt programme – reinstatement of works to 2021 programme- slight delay due to cold snap- further information to follow.

186. **Staffing and Councillor matters**

i. Training – Updates on recent training activities -LB and KR recently attended virtual training (various matters)

ii. Meetings – latest NALC advice on meetings after May 2021- noted legal challenge results should be announced by end of April.

187. **General Correspondence** – available in the office.

188. **Items for the next agenda**

189. **To note the dates of the next Parish Council and Committee meetings**

Full Council 25th May 2021 at 7.30pm, F and GP 11th May 2021 (to be confirmed).

Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings.

190. To formally record the **time of closure** of the Parish Council Meeting
Meeting closed at 9.55pm

Signed.....

Dated.....