



## GAMLINGAY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GAMLINGAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.30pm at The Main Hall, Gamlingay Eco Hub, Stocks Lane, Gamlingay.

Present: C Smith, J Wright, H Gould, K Warburton, L New, R Petch, W Boyne, A Kirby, J Darcy, P Webb, A Foster. District Councillor B Smith, County Councillor S Kindersley, Clerks L Bacon and K Rayner and 5 members of the public, and SCDC Officer Gareth Bell and CAT representative-Stephen Munday

1. To elect a Chair and Vice Chair of the Council.  
CS stood down, HG proposed, seconded and **elected as Chair of Council**. LN and WB proposed as vice chair , **resolved WB elected as vice chair**. Acceptance of office form to be completed by HG/clerks.
2. To receive apologies for absence and to receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. Apologies from SM,DF and TG.
3. To receive written requests for dispensations for disc losable pecuniary interests (if any) and to grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate. No matters raised.  
Reminder to councillors to update Register of Interest forms as necessary-noted.
4. To approve and sign the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and to consider any matters arising. **Minutes agreed and signed. Matters arising** JW bus transportation assessment of need- clarification sought who was to lead with this?, - suggestion that MOP who uses busses would be best placed-appeal on social media? SK- suggested should be PC initiative, to be discussed further at next meeting. JW- Londs- request re CCTV- no response received to date. To note the F&GP minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021-noted, and Consultation minutes 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021-noted.

#### **Item 10 (ii) brought forward by chair**-Gamlingay Gym and MuGA.

Gareth Bell advised SCDC involvement as both facilities should be accessible by the community. S Munday advised brief history of CAT, 11 schools, mainly in Cambridgeshire, taken over Village College site, and dual use agreement. Gym not suitable for use for years 5 and 6, so not being used by the school. Unable to fund non education related activities, can not subsidize from educational funding-educate

young people. Viability waning prior to pandemic, membership low and falling, in March 2020 decision to close the gym-staff on furlough. Option for third party to run the gym, identified by SCDC report, subject to the third party taking on the financial risk. Process has not concluded.

KW – identify why and when the change came from self-sustaining gym to failing gym? SM-membership levels fell, and accounting of costs were reassessed. KW why are the principles different for the gym and the MUGA? Previously allocated income from the MUGA to subsidize the gym. A MOP asked where has the money from the MUGA hire gone? CS asked if the facility is still available, is the quality of equipment still useable? SM advised some income generation for the school is required, and factoring a 'reasonable' rent for the gym from a third party. G Bell securing community use through the dual use agreement-options identified by Strategic Leisure consultants -identified a CIC as the way forward. GCC Ltd have had discussions about the gym, but does not fit with their objectives. Business Plan has been prepared -who might want to step forward to set up a CIC. Matter needs to be concluded, furloughed staff need a conclusion.

BS-Villagers ran the facility in the past- pandemic makes you value local facilities more-importance of fitness and health for residents. Facilities need to remain within local communities. FG! meeting -can offer possible grants/support for CIC through FG!. Need 4-6 people to set up a CIC. Capital investment options- grants available from SCDC and elsewhere. BS previously a fundraiser. Equipment needs updating. SK advised business community keen to invest in local gym- secured £5,000 for two years to re-establish the facility. JW disappointed- GCC not an option to take on the gym, outside their remit, figures from the doctors surgery on referrals -not attained. Gym on the school site not an ideal situation-school could use the space for SENCO children. MUGA built on school land, as insisted by SCDC. MUGA profits not identified, sinking fund not transparent. MOP stated revenue from MUGA being pocketed by school. JW- Gamlingay First school site ideal for relocation of gym-need some joined up thinking. SK every sympathy with JW -County will not make any decision on the First school site until there is a decision whether it has been identified for development in the SCDC call for sites (Local Plan)-no decision until the end of 2021. Time is not on our side. Facility is available for rent. Need a groundswell of people to get involved in setting up a CIC. KW-read through documentation and the requirement is to run the gym and manage the MUGA-have to be on one site-staffing requirement. KW questions -cost of replacing MUGA carpet/maintenance, £10,000 factored in to replace the floor, £5,000 business sponsorship- SK explained one company is committed, two others waiting to see community commitment. GB- both facilities work together-CAT is happy with that. Package is both facilities are to be managed together. SG asked whether the profit from the MUGA can be used to subsidize the gym-GB- seen as a package. LR-Should the school pay rent for the MUGA/wear and tear?/running costs? SM stated owned the facility-not appropriate.

RP volunteered to become a CIC Trustee. Manager of facility potentially could also be a trustee. MOP asked question about skill sets of trustees- BS advised she and SCDC willing to offer training and support for the new body. CAT and SCDC will issue a joint statement to appeal to community to set up a CIC invite volunteers. SM and GB left the meeting.

5. 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. -no items
6. Note Correspondence from Local MP, District and County Councillors, Police and reports from local groups.

I. Cllr B Smith-District

CS- outgoing chair has been a huge support and will miss working with Jayne and all her efforts over a significant period of time, especially working on Millbridge Meadows and the school. Congratulations to the new chair on appointment- SCDC improving figures on covid cases- no patients in Addenbrookes with covid at present. Must be on guard- 2 lateral flow tests a week, these are free from the chemists. SCDC-strong financial base-income increased from £1m to £5.6m – commercial investments. Northstowe, SCDC bought up employment buildings to ensure build out will support job creation in new town. SCDC good track record of handing out covid grants-£13m handed out. Council tax revenue increased from £5m to £9m. Unemployment predicted to double by Christmas. Kickstart apprentice programme has not been successful. Community volunteer response has been amazing- all 103 villages set up schemes.LR huge thanks continues to support local residents , amongst others. Built 66 new council homes, turning bin fleet to electric vehicles and converting street lights to LED- saving 60% energy costs. Green Initiatives- £100,000 handed out in grants. This programme continues. A428 upgrade-not contentious- apart from ‘rationalised bridleways’. EW Rail- a big issue for South Cambs communities-debate about whether the station should be north or south of Cambourne. Query-S Cambs should not be expected to build any more houses on top of their housing requirement ‘unless they want to’. Housing supply currently 6.1 years. SK added parking outside Green End- ‘Downing Gardens’ -site manager contact forwarded by the clerks. HG asked about SCDC debt- BS explained it was from repurchasing housing stock as SCDC decided to retain stock rather than transferring it to a housing association- current debt is £204m.

II. Cllr S Kindersley -County

SK honoured to be returned to represent Gamlingay residents as your County Councillor- County Council now no overall control -Liberal democrat/labour independent working together. 2 MOP left the meeting. Some very close voting led to results influencing make up of the new county council. Duxford first meeting, SK made Vice chair of County Council, will sit on Planning and Fire Authority representative. Mayor-newly elected local and has dismissed tunnelling option of Cambs Metro and is keen on northern approach for EW rail. Surgery- numerous

complaints about access to doctors have been received-patents fed up with phone appointments. CS- specific concerns about knowledge of their own systems on reception.

III. Gamlingay Community Safety Group, Neighbourhood Watch -BP/WB  
SK and BS left the meeting. 8c crimes- theft from motor vehicles common-Heath Rd, Cinques Rd/Little Heath. Also shed break ins at present.

IV. Speed watch - Church End, Waresley Road, Cinques Rd and Drove Road  
All reports were noted- raw data 94mph at Drove Rd-good evidence base to require further action /traffic calming. 2 speed signs purchased- one deployed by speed watch, one meant for the school. Concern that school has not managed to sort out licence for signage- very frustrated about how Highways works and the fact that the sign has to be moved every 6 weeks. Bureaucracy gone mad. School wants to be part of community-but must concentrate on educating children. JW suggests mobile school sign be reassigned, school wants a permanent sign like they have in Bedfordshire. Issue for discussion at next FC meeting. Requests road safety for topic for the APM.

V. Forward Gamlingay!- to receive a verbal report on activity.  
BS updated – previously potential support for CIC available. Organisation not sufficient capacity to have active role in the CIC.

VI. Neighbourhood Plan- verbal update KR- Grant has been applied for from Locality for additional work on views and for mapping updates. New work on hedge mapping has been agreed to be funded from the precept/existing budget.

VII. Gamlingay Food Project - new initiative to note  
Food donations- being managed by both churches in the village, and Almshouses running a community fridge. Need volunteers to man the facility-to make the project more accessible. HG involved with Hilary and Adrian.

VIII. Gliding Club- latest minutes -noted.

IX. Wildlife Trust- access to Woods and Cinques Common-notes of meeting for information. JW- Becca new role-appraised of feeling in the village-parking still not reinstated at the woods- concern that local residents who have mobility problems, or mothers with young children unable to access the woods without some form of local parking. Landowner in principle does not object to local parking. Wildlife trust concerned about access being blocked on occasions where access is needed for management/maintenance purposes. SSSI designation-WT not interested in local access- AF WT discriminating against those with mobility issues/young and old- AF writing to main funders about this issue. Wood is an asset should be available to all local people-invaluable for mental health.

7. To re-appoint members to serve on Committees and groups and to appoint additional members to fill vacancies.

PW standing down from Planning Committee, and from F&GP chairmanship, but happy to stay on F&GP. JW- suggested HG take on MBM park, handover notes to be prepared on liaison with

the school and Gamlingay Wood. CS-happy to stay on Planning and F&GP. If you are interested in a vacancy on any committee, please contact the clerks.

8. To approve Standing Orders and Financial Regulations – available at [www.gamlingay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.gamlingay-pc.gov.uk) -**Approved**

9. To approve the Equality Policy (revised- 4 (i) Consultation Committee) and the current General Code of Conduct **Revised equality policy amendments agreed and approved. General Code of conduct- approved.**

10. To receive reports from other initiatives involving the Parish:-

I. Library – latest on re introduction of services

Story time for small children has started again, books now being able to be selected off shelf by members.

II. SCDC- report and presentation on Gamlingay Gym/MUGA -Gareth Bell (SCDC)and Stephen Munday (CAT)-As discussed item 4.

III. Gamlingay Guardians- minutes of meeting 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and report from Head Guardian.

Revised scheme considered-**Agreed a revised scheme of one paid employee and £10 per month charging for twice weekly contact. This is subject to funders SCDC agreeing scheme changes.**

11. Information, communications and consultations

I Publications – July Gazette deadline. Discuss ideas for submission for Publications subcommittee.

Article on grass cutting submitted to Publications Committee. KW- likely to be published. JW-Mary Bell recently passed away-JW worked with her and another volunteer and invested a lot of time and purchased wildflower seed for the meadows. JW to ask volunteer whether there should be some recognition of her contribution to the village, in relation to her skill as a botanist. Other articles- perhaps advertise the vacancies at Parish Council. Notices are placed on noticeboards and on social media to advertise all vacancies.

II East West Rail- resolve response as discussed at Consultation Committee 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021-**Agreed response addition- need questioned as commuting requirements changing following pandemic, and existing need without new housing development makes the project unsustainable.**

III Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet- A428 consultation response (Highways England)-No action required-noted.

IV 20 is Plenty Campaign- request to support approach within central village limits (30mph) Discussed the implementation of 20mph making Speed Watch redundant- as can not operate below 30mph. CS left the meeting. Debate about most effective method of slowing down traffic. CS returned to the meeting. **Resolved in principle support for 20's plenty campaign.**

- V Litter picking. i. To note report from bronze Duke of Edinburgh award scheme participant T Hunt. Greatly appreciated. Thank Thomas and Hayley for their efforts. Clerks to ask them whether they would be interested in having a piece in the Gamlingay gazette- to contact KW. ii. Great British Spring Clean- 28<sup>th</sup> May-13<sup>th</sup> June-**Agreed to sign up- clerks to try to arrange litter pick 12/13<sup>th</sup> June weekend. JW willing to attend. Clerks to put something on facebook.**

12. Financial

I Financial year end 31.3.2021:

i. To review the effectiveness of the system of internal control.**Agreed**

ii. To approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Statement (section 1)-**Agreed and signed**

iii. To approve the Accounting Statements (section 2)-**Agreed and signed**

II Vote – To approve payments 35-44-LN checked-**Agreed**

III To consider proposal/estimated costs for rabbit control on recreation field. **Agreed to instruct Buchans to clear the brambles in the area concerned. Bugs and Things to be made aware of badger sett in proximity, and advise of quote for works to next meeting.**

13. Cambridgeshire County Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council items
  - I Zero Carbon grants and briefing note (SCDC)-noted
14. Staff and Councillor matters
  - I Requirement for Annual Parish meeting- provisional date and topics for discussion- **Faster broadband, Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough- busses to Cambridge/rural busses, JW suggested Road Safety, Greensands Medical Practice- access to services-agreed to go ahead 22<sup>nd</sup> June with 40 capacity (subject to regulation change)**
  - II Mission Statement- proposed amendment (LN) for consideration (Consultation Committee 29<sup>th</sup> April item 5 (ii))- LN requested the word 'management' to add. Clerk explained that mission statement referred to PC owned land and buildings, not all Gamlingay facilities. **It was agreed not to amend the mission statement** for the time being.
  - III Annual Leave requests-clerks-none
15. Routine Correspondence – available in the office- noted
16. Items for the next meeting. JW- LHI update, public correspondence concerning Green Acres visibility splay. HG thanked Jayne for 13 years of service with the Parish Council.
17. Dates of next meetings: -Planning and Full Council Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021, Annual Parish Meeting will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021, following Planning Committee.
18. Record Closure time of meeting- **9.40pm**

Signed.....Dated.....