



Minutes of a Meeting of Gamlingay parish council held at Gamlingay Eco Hub Main Hall on Tuesday 8th June 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present: H Gould (Chair), W Boyne (Vice Chair), C Smith, J Darcy, P Webb, R Petch, S Martin, K Warburton. District Councillor B Smith, Clerks L Bacon and K Rayner and 3 members of the public.

19. Resolved to receive **apologies for absence from D Finnigan, T Gurney, L New, A Kirby and A Foster** and to receive **no 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 receive the resignation of Cllr Jayne Wright. Resolved to write to JW to formally thank her for her service to the community. Noted one vacancy can be filled by co-option.
20. 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. Chair brought forward item 23.5 as members of Friends of the Village Primary were in attendance.
21. Resolved to approve as a correct record the **Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council 25th May 2021 and to note any issues arising**. EW Rail- consultation response has been made. Deadline is tomorrow. HG asked that her thanks to C Smith be recorded (item 16.)
22. **To receive correspondence/reports** from:
 - i. Cllr Smith- South Cambs District Council. SK sends apologies. Thanked the PC for inviting SCDC officers to speak about the gym at the May meeting – quite a bit of interest in a CIC has resulted and is being progressed. Anyone who doesn't receive the SCDC magazine should notify BS – HG has never received one. Noise complaints recently from Morris Homes development at Downing Gardens are now resolved – pile driving completed. BS attended a site meeting re boundary treatments – a shortage of fencing panels

nationwide has caused difficulties, but now being sorted out. SCDC is dealing with the surfacing of the path to Avenalls Way from Church St – a resident had a nasty fall. CS commented that the PC tried to rectify this surface along with the Church ST works but was prevented by confusion about ownership at the time. Restart grants been awarded to many local businesses. Asked the PC if it could do anything about speeding cars on Church End in particular – KW pointed out this is outside PC's remit, a Police matter. County Council has given out £30k of food vouchers to children in receipt of free school meals. Schools in Bedfordshire are now moving to two tier – way later than the rest of the county – will mean lots of changes. Has been driven by the expansion of Biggleswade. Rats were seen on old First School site – County Council has dealt with this. Boundary Commission has published its consultation on boundary changes – South Cambs constituency is cut in two to equalize numbers of electors.

ii. Cllr Kindersley – Cambridgeshire County Council representative. Apologies noted.

iii. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Community Safety Group, Police. No reports.

iv. Speedwatch – results-Station Road. Noted of 59 vehicles assessed during recent exercise, none were exceeding speed limit.

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

23.1 **Gamlingay Guardians**

i. To note SCDC resolution to scheme amendment and funding ends October 2022. Noted SCDC has approved revisions and Head Guardian will now relaunch scheme. PW – any members signed up yet? None to date but no report from HG available prior to this meeting, hopeful that revised scheme will attract clients.

23.2 **Community Buildings**

i. Eco Hub – a) Provisional location of water fountain (Gateway feature). Noted site visit suggested soak away on grass with fountain towards back of allocated area. Resolved to accept quotation from G and S Hutchinson Ltd for £2,133.99 plus VAT – funds are available in the budget to cover this. PW asked if CCTV covered this – clerks did not think so, but fountain is very robust. HG – PC should not curtail plans for improvements just in case of vandalism – should be positive.

- ii. Cemeteries and churchyards – no items
- iii. Old Methodist Chapel –MCMC meeting to be arranged. Noted KW, AF and TG on committee.

23.3 **Recreational Spaces**

- i. Grow Gamlingay project – latest. Invoice for leaflet approved. Site meeting this week to look at PC's preferred location on old First School grounds.

23.4 **Library** – latest. Users appreciating opportunity to select own books now Covid restrictions have eased.

23.5 **Gamlingay Village Primary- friends of-** funding request to support Fireworks event- (insurance for volunteers and risk assessment)-to resolve. D Twydell has been involved in the event for 20 years and has been able to offer discounts but is now stepping back and costs will rise. Gamlingay event is very well thought of, now looking to make future events more pet and ecofriendly. Event raises £7-£8k in funds for Friends group to subsidize trips etc. for all pupils. Funds are not held by GVP. Fundraising has been more difficult due to Covid. Looking for around £2k donation, may become an annual request. Have not approached other funders as they support different aspects of Friends. PW – clarified that the PC already supports Friends by not charging for use of field. Resolved to support a donation in principle this year, subject to availability of funds – level will be discussed at next F and GP committee. Friends to contact Council prior to budget setting so that annual request can be considered for precept.

23.6 **Women's Institute commemorative seat-** request correspondence. Resolved to approve location just off path to match other benches near maze and looking down to stepping stones area. Bench will be metal, no cost to PC for supply or installation.

23.7 **Bowls Club-** correspondence- meeting to discuss future of Gamlingay Bowls Club-to note. Noted letter was received between meetings. Bowls Club members invited to attend May meeting to hear discussions about the gym as future sustainability and robust business plans are pertinent to both recreational activities. The PC has around £200k of S106 funding available for capital costs to improve or deliver a new facility but not for ongoing costs. The Bowls club has a small membership. It was suggested some 5 years ago that the Bowls club registered with a national organization in

order to be able to access large funding pots – such as Sport England. It is not thought that this has been done. KW – considers that the Bowls Club is looking to the PC as lender of first resource – they should be investigating other options. CS agreed – the Bowls committee has the expertise to tap into other potential resources. PW asked if the PC funding was time limited – yes, although it has not been received yet – it will come to the PC when the trigger points on new developments at West Rd and Downing Gardens are reached. There is a risk that funding could be lost or reallocated. Meeting to be arranged with Bowls Club to discuss options.

24. **Information, communications and consultations**

- i. Greenspaces/volunteers article submitted to gazette- noted. KW (as editor of the Gazette) had added photos to illustrate article.
- ii. Neighbourhood Plan -grant approved, work update- noted. The work on special views will be part of the evidence base for policy GAM3. Hedgerow mapping is being amended to include all hedgerows to be protected. Hopeful of submission of NHP by September.

25. **Community news**

- i. Annual Parish Meeting – 22nd June- confirmed speakers and subject matter-to receive an update. 20's plenty campaign – have offered a virtual presentation. Resolved – to decline. No response from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mayor to date. Resolved to hold a pared down APM to cover essential elements and to invite Gamlingay Community Eco Group to make a short presentation. CS to prepare Chair's statement (as outgoing Chair) to cover 2 years. Apologies noted from SM and KW.

26. **Financial**

- i. To be approved- payments list -vouchers 45 to 71 were approved.

27. **South Cambridgeshire District Council.** No items.

28. **Cambridgeshire County Council**

- i. Community speed signage -Station Road- correspondence and way forward-Gamlingay Village Primary. Clerk outlined the background to the matter. GVP formed a working group to look at traffic issues and asked the PC to purchase a flashing speed sign (cost £2500) in 2019. The Governing body says GVP does not feel it is appropriate for the school to take

responsibility for it and Community Speed Watch should be offered it as an additional one. May be confusion as it was intended that the working group and not a school employee should be taking responsibility. KW – disappointing that GVP appears to have gone back on its word of taking responsibly for the sign. Not fair to put additional responsibility to the small Speed Watch group. HG and PW agree that County requirement for the sign to be moved around seems ridiculous. RP suggested the sign could be sold and the money given to the Friends of GVP instead. Resolved – to respond to the Governors that it should be the working group and not a school employee who is responsible for the sign and to ask them to find volunteers if the original ones are no longer willing to do so. Also to contact County to ask if the requirement to move it can be changed.

29. **Staffing and Councillor matters**

i. Training – requirements, planning. Noted clerks had circulated training dates – councillors to let them know what course and dates are required. KR willing to do basic planning overview training in house – RP and WB interested.

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

Request to become a member of the Greensand Country member Charter- Resolved to sign up.

31. **Items for the next agenda.** HG – GCT grant application by resident failed due to lack of official permission from Council on some aspects – Council needs to consider suggestions for wildflower planting on its land in July and resolve whether this can be included in resident’s September re submission to GCT for grant. Clerk KR will contact resident prior to meeting to clarify requirements. HG – can PC request more speed limit signs for bins from SCDC? Clerks will ask. PW – progress on footpath to farm shop. Clerk KR – no further information to date, application reached final 10. GAGA – committee wants to offer PC a donation to thank it for provision of allotments. To be discussed.

32. **Noted the dates of the next Parish Council and Committee meetings**

Annual Parish Meeting- 22nd June 2021 at 7.30pm, Full Council 13th July at 7.30pm, F&GP 27th July 7.30pm.

Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings.

33. To formally record the **time of closure** of the Parish Council Meeting. 20.47

Signed.....

Dated.....