



GAMLINGAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Gamlingay parish council held at Gamlingay Eco Hub Kier Suite on Tuesday 12th October 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present: H Gould (Chair), W Boyne (Vice Chair), A Kirby, J Darcy, R Petch, S Martin (delayed), K Warburton, D Hooper, A Foster. Clerks L Bacon and K Rayner. County Councillor S Kindersley and District Councillor B Smith were delayed (previous engagement) and 0 members of the public

71. 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 receive any applications for co-option to fill vacancy.
Apologies from TG,PW,LN,DF.
72. 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.
No representations
73. To approve as a correct record the **Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council 14th September 2021 and F&GP meeting 28th September** and to note any issues arising.
Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting 14th September. Noted F&GP minutes and Risk assessment walkaround date/time – 13.10.21 16:45- additional councillors needed- KW,BP,HG and CS volunteered. 6 Free trees- one large tree approved- referred to Grow Gamlingay.
74. **To receive correspondence/reports** from:
 - i. Cllr Smith- South Cambs District Council
Avenells path resurfacing- should go ahead this week. Blythe way- resurfacing of road- apparently not in poor enough condition. BP to take photos and report pot holes which are

deeper than 50mm on the website. Well done on Neighbourhood Plan submission. Hub bub event was excellent- well done. Mayor transport strategy metro has been scrapped, reconsulting light touch. Busses- pushing on hourly busses to get people out of their cars- will be consulting soon. Funding this could be expensive. SCDC Local Plan out for consultation – like to hear community views on what you think of the strategy. OxCam arc- unimpressive document and limited way to engage meaningful feedback. Limited democratic involvement proposed going forward- a concern.

Gamlingay Gym- formally closed. BP advised awaiting sight of lease documentation. Parking- civil enforcement is being pursued district wide- costings being worked up as it cant be funded through council tax. Larger villages with rail stations are very keen on this. 7 homes offered to Afghan families, 1,000 visits to help shops be covid safe. Covid rates high for the area-150 a day-not getting better at present.

ii. Cllr Kindersley – Cambridgeshire County Council

Returned from First School where fire engine practice is taking place. First school- was identified to temporarily house a special needs school- this has now been resolved and is no longer required. County Council can now progress the lease. Covid figures are rocketing due to children at school. -situation is being monitored. Some vaccine supply issues have been identified for senior schools-which is being addressed. Virtual meetings coming to an end- Alconbury County Council building not big enough to house council meetings. County asking for local climate leaders to be nominated -item for next agenda. Pot holes- 50mm deep not 50cm. highways committee-dragon patcher potentially being replaced with newer machine. SM- pavements in Manor Way/Murfitt Way- crossovers not marked- are they being replaced. SK- yes- Clerk- similar marking when School Close was resurfaced. SK thanked for attendance and left the meeting.

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

iv. Speed watch – to receive a report and to resolve future use of second speed sign
No response from Primary school, speed watch signage has moved location.

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

75.1 **Gamlingay Guardians – to note committee meeting 19.10.2021**

Scheme has limited take up. Guardians meeting to be held 19th October to resolve future of the scheme. Significant increase in volunteer activity supporting the vulnerable in the community-new hot meals scheme-Baptist Church.

75.2 **Community Buildings and recreation spaces**

i. Eco Hub – a) bench – to note adjustments required to facilitate drainage
Wood carver delayed- likely to be in the next 2 weeks

b) HubBub event feedback

Excellent feedback- thanks to DH -event ran smoothly, with lots of good feedback. Well attended -approx.. 500 people. Costs of £2k-additional contingency £200. New amp bought and mikes which can be used at future events. Refill bottles and shopping bags

funded by GCT Ltd. Ice cream vendor happy. Well done to Leanne and Sarah, and WB/AF on clearing up duties. SM arrived at the meeting.

- ii. Cemeteries and churchyards – a. quotations for arbor replacement St Mary’s and railings Stocks Lane for consideration.

£3,500 quote for arbor replacement- and discussed need for new climbing plants/relocation of raspberry plants, with trellis/mesh to assist establishment over structure. Clerk to raise with carpenter and seek advice on climbing plants. Project potentially can start earlier than April 2022, as funds in this years budget. **Resolved £5k allocated and quote accepted.** Replacement railings- **quotation accepted for £597.60 to replace 11 railings around Stocks Lane cemetery.**

- b. To note tree works required in St Mary’s.

Limb fall in churchyard- tree works contractor will assess tree health on visit this week- **noted.** SK arrived at the meeting.

- iii. Old Methodist Chapel – request for rent refund to compensate for enforced closure due to external highways works

Replacement footpath installation outside the Old Chapel -significant noise and concern expressed by preschool Manager, whacker plate in use. Preschool closed for 1 day- and requested a refund in rent -**resolved to approve.** Clerk to pursue a claim with the Highways Authority -business disruption for the period affected.

- iv. Annual Tree works- to note date for works

This week, either Thursday or Friday- date will be confirmed by clerks.

- v. To receive report and request for funding for Ash tree work at Cinques Common – The Wildlife Trust

Clerk advised that 4 diseased ash were visited in May this year. WT requesting contribution to cost, as removal is £1000+. Clerk advised that Council has allocated general contribution to WT which has not yet been paid. **Resolved- to forward a general donation of £200 to the Wildlife Trust.** Tree policy- request WT identify and allocate 4 additional trees and plant them elsewhere in the parish to comply with tree policy. Clerk to check debris reported in 2018 (CS) has been removed from site.

SK arrived and gave his report (recorded under item 74 (ii))

75.3 Library – to note opening hours

Noted

76. Information, communications and consultations

- i. Climate Emergency working party – to resolve terms of reference and meetings schedule.

Terms of reference circulated. **Resolved to approve TOR.** KW will now bring together a group and commence meetings. Climate Change Officer has been in contact with the clerks, to help with action plan.

- ii. Action Plan 2022-23. Summary of community action points and draft Action Plan to inform budget 2022-23.

Action plan informs the budget. KR identified the summary of community actions from the Neighbourhood Plan consultations, and identified lack of public transport, dissatisfaction with the service of the Doctors surgery, particularly about gaining appointments and being able to

contact/standard of service, and speeding, in particular Church Street, Mill Street, and at The Cinques/Drove Rd. Poor broadband was also a common gripe, also poor mobile phone signal. Items for budget- limited actions, pursue s.106 contributions for additional consulting room and additional doctor. Clerks to pursue options for service assessment. Clerks to encourage residents to report problems to the MP, and the PAS.

- iii. Gamlingay to Potton cycleway – request for letter to MP and meeting with Potton Town Council

Resolved to set up a meeting to discuss joint working on project to extend Sustrans national route Bedford Sandy-Potton Gamlingay-Waresley-Gransden-Cambourne. AK asked if any feedback from CCC concerning Mill Hill path- costs are expected shortly. 77.

Community news

- i. Village show – feedback

HG attended the show and dealt with some enquiries, shared a stall with the library. Thanks to HG and BP

- ii. Queens Platinum Jubilee beacons – invitation to participate in scheme
Previous beacons have been lit on top of the Church tower. Clerks to contact the PCC about whether they are participating on 2nd June 2022. KW suggested a lighting display rather than lighting big burners- to respond to climate change issue. Jubilee celebrations 2-5 June 2022-DH- keen on street party and separate community party/evening entertainment to mark jubilee celebrations - bands and a DJ costs could be £8k. Clerk advised job for a working party/gala committee- not purely parish council remit, could offer a part grant, but should be community led. Matter to be further discussed at F&GP. BS joined the meeting. Item 74 (i) presented.

78. Financial

- i. To be approved- payments list -vouchers 164-171.

Hub bub bills mainly, with grass cutting monthly bill-**Approved.**

- ii. To note closure of audit 2020-21 and arrangements for internal audit 2021-22. **Noted**

- iii. To consider quotation for remedial works and annual maintenance inspection of skatepark (deferred from F and GP).

Resolved to approve quotation for replacement boards and annual safety assessment- £4,661.04 incl VAT. Budget- will require vire of resources from contingency to cover costs (£2k in playground budget)

79. South Cambridgeshire District Council

- i. Development pressures- feedback from session on 11th October- see iii.
Street trader licensing policy consultation.

Proposal to ensure safety of the public and ensuring all street traders are treated the same with regard to enforcement, anywhere within the South Cambs/Cambridge district area

- ii. Code of Conduct adoption –

SCDC adopted the new code. Parish Council review and adopt the code every May and will present any changes at that meeting.

- iii. Infrastructure workshops 4.10.21 and 11.10.21 – feedback WB/KW and KR
A great many infrastructure projects were listed and process was advised to parishes attending the two meetings. Issues such as East West Rail, OX Cam arc, Whittlesford rail improvements, Thakeham proposal, etc. KR mentioned how to get support for strategic cycle route network from Bedford to Cambourne, via Sandy/Potton/Gamlingay. KR to respond to up-coming consultations on transport issues. Meeting with Potton and MP to be pursued.
- iv. Area meeting 3 feedback 5.10.2021 – LB
LB advised session about Local Plan- development proposals will still come forward and be dealt with under current Local plan. Developers who have had sites rejected under proposed new Local plan can question the basis of the proposed strategy. Reported issue at Old Methodist Chapel, and was advised to put in a claim to the Highways Authority, copying in enforcement team.

80. **Cambridgeshire County Council**

- i. Lease/purchase of First School Field- report on progress
Awaiting feedback on valuation of field. . Council not expecting to pay County Councils legal fees, as have in house team. Option to break- not supported, land not linked to building, don't need option to break as entirely separate. Clerks to prepare budget estimates of £8.5k for resolving lease/purchase costs for Precept meeting.
- ii. Footway closure-Footpath 10- update on re opening.
Await further information concerning reopening, which is due by January 2022.

81. **Staffing and Councillor matters**

- i. Training – to note CAPALC October bulletin-noted

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

83. **Items for the next agenda –**

Climate Leader nominations to County Council-HG
Grow Gamlingay- site for mini forest
Wildflower verge review of verge experiment 2021

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

Full Council 9th November at 7.30pm, F&GP 26th October and budget 23rd November (budget setting/precept meeting) 7.30pm.
Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings.

85. **To formally record the time of closure of the Parish Council Meeting**
Meeting closed 9pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....