



Minutes of a Full Council Meeting of Gamlingay parish council held at Gamlingay Eco Hub Kier Suite on Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: Chair H Gould, Vice Chair W Boyne, councillors A Foster, J Darcy, R Petch, K Warburton, D Hooper, L New, P Webb, S Martin, R Stanton and C Smith. Clerks L Bacon and K Rayner. County Councillor S Kindersley and South Cambridgeshire District Councillor B Smith (arrived late) . 1 member of the public.

131. Resolved to receive **apologies for absence from councillors A Kirby, D Finnigan and T Gurney 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.
132. 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 closed the meeting as a member of the public wished to address the council about problems he had heard about the local surgery, but this was not an item on the agenda.
133. Resolved to approve as a correct record the **Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council 11th January 2022 and to note any issues arising.**
134. **To receive correspondence/reports** from:
 - i. Cllr Smith- South Cambs District Council. Report was given after items 137ii as BS arrived late. Recent TELNOT notifications for new broadband poles – supporting paperwork appears incomplete so Voneus may need to resubmit. SCDC has approved its Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document. SCDC is taking on responsibility for civil enforcement of parking . Footpath 10 – SCDC enforcement officer has done site visit and path is partially reopened although requires extensive clearance of encroaching undergrowth. No application for diversion of the other section has yet been received. Chair pointed out that the clerks and councillors RP and WB had done much of the legwork in reporting this and putting pressure on the correct authorities, who have now got involved. Guardian article re

Cambridge Water and contaminants. None of contaminants reached peoples homes. SCDC is only responsible for testing boreholes and wells, not mains water. BS left the meeting after giving her report.

ii. Cllr Kindersley – Cambridgeshire County Council. Broadband provider Voneus failed to do any prior engagement with residents or highways authority but each proposed location does have to be checked by Highways to ensure it is not an obstruction. AF – our MP was not interested in getting involved in the debate about the proposed poles. SK suggested a meeting between Greensand Medical Practice/CQC and the Parish Council might be useful in the future to understand why they have not taken advantage of possible s106 funding. Noted the Practice is a private business. County annual budget was agreed 1.99% general increase, 3% adult social care. County continues to offer support such as free school meals through the holidays, “Catch up fund” for non-educational skills for children and the Household support fund. Some residents have had difficulty completing online application due to rejection of SG postcode. SK suggested the PC writes to the Acting Chief Executive to remind him that a postcode does not define the area. Croydon Hill – sorry to report a further weeks closure for Cambridge Water works. Supports appeal for continuation of virtual meetings. HG asked SK if he felt these were necessary. SK – yes, thinks it encourages public participation. HG has experienced some online meetings being closed to public participation. Fire service meeting soon to agree a 2% increase (£1.44 per band D property). PW asked SK for an update on the completion of the Greenacres resurfacing works – ironworks still marked for attention 4 months later. SK will chase. SK left the meeting.

iii. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Community Safety Group, Police, Speedwatch update. CSG meeting March 12Th. NHP – coordinator meeting planned to reinvigorate scheme. Speedwatch – AF, CS, RP and JD volunteered to assist with getting the second speed sign into operation.

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

135.1 **Community Buildings and recreation spaces**

- i. Eco Hub a. PCLC minutes noted. B. Items from Long Term Maintenance fund -expenditure for sanding floor and hearing loop repairs approved. Covid regulations updated - noted

- ii. Cemeteries and churchyards – a. Common beech-latest. Rev Hillary Young asked for the Diocese representative to be involved. Work due to be done end of Feb. Monolith may need to be reduced in height or not be left at all if rot is evident in base. Arisings are to be removed.
- iii. Old Methodist Chapel – floor inspection and replacement lock. Structural surveyor due to visit to assess floor shortly – GPC rep to be in attendance if possible. Door lock – was faulty and has been replaced. Delay in handing new keys to GPC due to Covid isolation requirements.
- iv. Log Field (Land off Park Lane-Merton College) correspondence relating to signage references in draft lease. Revised lease for consideration. (Deferred item). Resolved to accept £100 increase in annual rent as long as clause defining responsibility for new signage being with lessee is removed. CS not satisfied with the lease – feels signage is wrong, should not be marked as a permissive path as it has been an established right of way for many years.
- v. Bowls Club and recreation field-potential community event on recreation field -30th July- noted. Hirer will need their own public liability insurance and will need to contact GCC Ltd re access to parking and toilets.
- vi. Ground works – to note quotation for works (approved) and to consider quote for Cinques car park maintenance requirements. Works to Millbridge Brook Meadows and plaza have been started, some areas still need attention/completion e.g. kissing gate interior turning circle path surface on Station Road. Quote for Cinques car park work not yet received. Last remedial work was in 2016.
- vii. Risk Assessments for all areas (quarterly)- review volunteers list and what is involved. HG offered to do MBM and Lower Field, WB to take on St Mary's cemetery. RS to take over bins and benches (from PW). SM recreation field. Clerks to circulate spreadsheet of areas and things to check.

135.2 **Library** – latest. GVP classes have been visiting in turn over last two weeks. Library manager gives talk about library use.

136. **Information, communications and consultations**

- i. Climate Action Group – update, draft minutes and next meeting 17th February 2022. Noted. KW – campaign will be launched “22 climate action points for 2022”.
- ii. Neighbourhood plan – latest. Report from inspector due shortly. Hopeful no public enquiry required. By March Full Council the way forward should be clear. HG asked how the inspectors report relates to the objection from County about sustainable travel plan. KR – the inspector will decide whether the objection is reasonable. NHP has to be consistent with adopted Local Plan.
- iii. East West Rail- community quarterly online meetings-noted. KR to attend 9th Feb meeting (Zoom). KW felt the consultations are a box ticking exercise. HG considers that EW Rail does not need to happen. CS - had asked question at early consultation about whether it was needs or finance driven. HG responded that she feels it is not needs driven.

137. **Community news**

- i. Grow Gamlingay – site visit to Lower Field and report. Meeting later this week. SCDC tree officer invited to attend, along with any councillors.
- ii. Jubilee celebration Saturday 4th June- request for use of field, insurance proposal and report from community group (DH and RS). DH – would like agreement recorded in minutes that recreation field can be used for event – resolved. Car park use – GCC Ltd will need to permit this. Insurance – Clerk LB explained that PC insurers have advised that Jubilee group will need its own Public Liability insurance. DH – goal for event is for neighbours to connect. Plan in two parts: 1. Producing volunteer support packs, to help and inspire daytime street parties/gatherings. Idea to include theme of Commonwealth as well as Jubilee – quizzes, games, recipes from around the commonwealth. 2. Evening free to enter event on recreation field with large plasma screen showing live concert from BBC. Food stalls in car park. Finance – sponsorship appeals going out shortly. DH appealed to GPC to get involved. HG and KW asked what involvement was specifically being requested. DH felt GPC was being negative and that the village should pay for the event, he considers that there are “spare” funds in the budget that can be utilized, for example from allocated reserves and that it is not GPC’s

money, but the villages. PW/AF clarified that as the elected body, GPC is responsible for spending public money to the benefit of all residents. HG – her understanding is that the budget covers essential services for the village. Clerk LB assured DH that no funds are unallocated, but there is an allowance for grants that the Jubilee committee could apply for. Also there are external grants – for example SCDC’s community chest. DH he had checked this and it wasn’t for Jubilee events. Clerk LB explained that SCDC has made an amendment to specify that this is what it is for. CS asked DH if he wanted GPC to be the organizers of the event or would this be done by a Jubilee committee? DH suggested that he was concerned some on GPC would try and get false kudos for the event. Clerk LB offered to meet with DH to discuss finances in more detail. DH responded that he was disappointed. AF – councillors are elected to represent parishioners and decide how public money should be spent on their behalf. HG – councillors are supportive of the event, but proper processes need to be followed. SM - Council needs to have a concrete figure and reason for use of public funds to consider – a specific proposal should be made to the next finance committee.

138. Financial

- i. To be approved- payments list -vouchers 271-275 were approved.
- ii. Streetlight energy invoicing – to note queries submitted. Noted errors and complexity of small account which are yet to be resolved.
- iii. Community Chest grant – temporary change to criteria Feb – April 22. Noted.
- iv. To consider request for annual increase from grass cutting contractors. Clerk LB reminded councillors that they had awarded a 3 year contract in 2020 on agreed terms of 1% per annum increase. Resolved – to respond reminding contractors of the terms but offering further discussions on a small increase in recognition of the difficult circumstances of the last two years and their excellent service. To be discussed further at Finance committee.
- v. To consider quotation for replacement batteries for electric vehicle. Another quotation is being sought for comparison at finance committee.

139. South Cambridgeshire District Council

- i. SCDC bulletin -Climate Change action fortnight- training available. Clerk to re circulate details to councillors.
 - ii. Parish Council election-May 2022 what you need to know and general advice from SCDC. Noted. DH asked what the minimum number of councillors needed is – quorum is a third of members.
140. **Cambridgeshire County Council**
- i. LHI- Costs report and programme details- Mill Hill Footway/cycleway- resolve finance and programme implications-(deferred item)report. No update, County has not provided information.
 - ii. Gamlingay Footpath 10 to Green Acres/Green End closure- latest following visit by SCDC enforcement officer. Noted.
 - iii. Potton TC meeting about Bedford to Cambridge cycleway- link Potton and Gamlingay to Cambourne- meeting 17th February- and note response from the Combined Authority. Noted.
141. **Staffing and Councillor matters**
- i. Councillor training- LN finance course 23rd June (zoom), Chairmanship-HG Tuesday 15th February at 6.30pm (zoom) R Petch Mon 7th Feb - **Water Resource Management Plan 2024**. RP had been unable to log in – apologies.
 - ii. CAPALC – article submitted for March ebulletin. Noted.
 - iii. NALC Chief Executives bulletin. Noted.
142. **General Correspondence** – available in the office. Noted.
143. **Items for the next agenda** – Jubilee cost proposal for Finance Committee.
144. **To note the dates of the next Parish Council and Committee meetings.**
Noted dates are incorrect on agenda – should be 22nd Feb F and GP and 8th March Full Council. Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings.
145. To formally record the **time of closure** of the Parish Council Meeting. 21.29

Signed.....

Dated.....