



Minutes of a Full Council Meeting of Gamlingay parish council held at Gamlingay Eco Hub Kier Suite on Tuesday 12th April 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: Chair H Gould, Councillors W Boyne, P Webb, A Foster, C Smith, R Petch, A Kirby, K Warburton, D Hooper, J Darcy, L New and S Martin. District Councillor B Smith. Clerk L Bacon and one member of the public.

161. Resolved to receive **apologies for absence** from D Finnigan, T Gurney, R Stanton and clerk K Rayner, to receive resignation of C Smith (effective after this meeting) and to receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda (none). Chair thanked C Smith for the 12-14 years he has served on the Council including term as Chair. Noted that RS, PW and DF have not stood for election, all three were thanked for the time they have given to serve their community. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any) and to grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate. None received.
162. 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 items.
163. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council 8th March 2022 and to note any issues arising. PW was present, AK had sent apologies. Item 151.2 – amendment proposed by KW and resolved that the action was for HG to produce a written note/report prior to the following meeting to inform councillors. HG provided a verbal update instead – a joint approach by way of a letter from the MP's of Beds and South Cambs to the practice will be sought. CS – considers that the medical centre is not being transparent about the availability of appointments. KW – the current service is not good enough.
164. **To receive correspondence/reports** from:
 - i. Cllr Smith- South Cambs District Council. Residents are starting to notice aircraft noise – the new stacking pattern is becoming intrusive. Many people had made representations against the plans but nothing will change

now. KW – stacking patterns have not started yet, will be even more impact once it does. BS happy to support PC’s grant application for Jubilee commemorative mugs. Decision will be on the 29.4.2022. District Council has had many enquiries to the hardship fund – families are particularly struggling with fuel prices. County family support provides fuel vouchers. Footpath 10 – BS understands a temporary route will be open soon. In the public domain is the news that SCDC is providing 34 new affordable homes in Gamlingay for people with a local connection, she can’t give more details due to it being in the pre election period. PW asked if there was any news on the First School Site. BS – a lot going on behind the scenes, driven by SK. Still conversations about identifying an educational use for the site. Still work in progress. PW – it should be prioritized, it has been empty for 5 years. BS – SEND educational use is an idea to retain it, a shortage of pre school places. Montessori nursery is up for sale, she understands that GVP is looking at the provision of pre school places.

ii. Cllr Kindersley – Cambridgeshire County Council. Apologies given.

iii. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – WB is registered coordinator of the scheme. KW – disappointing that residents don’t seem to introduce themselves to each other anymore. He has found this recently in Chapelfield – a localized Facebook group is dormant. Community Safety Group – no update, Police – no update, Speedwatch update – recent exercise did not register any speeding vehicles on Church End. KW – perception is that vehicles are travelling very fast, visibility is a problem for pedestrians crossing the road. RP – considers that speeding is an issue at Church End and it is fortunate that no accidents have resulted.

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

165.1 **Community Buildings and recreation spaces**

- i. Eco Hub a. Long Term Maintenance fund -review update -meeting. Noted PCLC meeting is on the 25th April when an update will be given.
b. Noted completion of gateway feature (Lottery Heritage Fund). There has been much interest in the new feature.
- ii. Cemeteries and churchyards – a. Common Beech- removal September. Noted.

- b. Pergola replacement St Mary's field- work commenced. Noted B Perry has completed the pergola and it has been much admired.
- c. Sensory Garden – need for new maintenance arrangements. Noted and thanks to Mrs Gorton for the hard work she has put in over the years. Gardening club has been approached to see if they would be interested in taking the sensory planters on.
- iii. Old Methodist Chapel – MCMC meeting to be arranged. Noted. Surveyor has visited to check crack in linoleum (reported by preschool manager). No concerns about underlying floor damage or movement.
- iv. Bowls Club – Tree removal and fencing specification. Noted awaiting response from the Bowls club.
- v. Ground works – report on progress. Clerk has chased contractor but no response to date.
- vi. New Ponds Initiative- information, funding implications and consideration of suitable sites. Resolved to investigate if Gamlingay is suitable – noted funding is available. Long lane allotments and rear of Chapelfield estate were suggested alongside the Pitt as possible locations. Flooding and health and safety concerns will need to be addressed.
- vii. Lower Field- management plans- Tiny Forest and wildflower establishment-proposals (Autumn 2022). Resolved to approve the proposals.
- viii. To receive risk assessment reports – April. RP checked the closed churchyards and cemeteries, SM the recreation field, HG Millbrook Meadows, WB war memorial – clerk to inspect reports and produce list of works/quotes for consideration at F and GP.

165.2 **Library** – latest. School visits continue.

166. **Information, communications and consultations**

- i. Climate Action Group – update, draft minutes. No draft minutes available. New Facebook page will post hints/tips and will also do this through the Gazette and Village Show. A couple more volunteers have come forward.

- ii. Neighbourhood plan – latest. Clerk and NHP secretary KR will meet with SCDC to seek help with updates required by inspector. All meeting minutes are now published on NHP website following one request by a member of the public. Article in May Gazette written by SG.
- iii. NALC- Smaller Councils topics for consideration – SM suggested more support for NHP. HG - Planning matters ; Parish Councils could have greater power locally – linking with NH Plans. CS – PC’s used to have more influence but now many decisions are delegated to officers, far less are considered at committee level at District Council, although PC’s can still request this if they have many concerns about an application.
- iv. Gazette- attendance of clerk at committee meeting as observer-noted. Articles for submission – none at present.

167. **Community news**

- i. Gamlingay Jubilee Committee Saturday 4th June 2022 - update. DH and LN – plans are moving ahead, both for the micro parties for which free packs of ideas will be produced and the main event at the Eco Hub. All acts are now booked. Food vendors and a bar booked. Independent risk assessment being done. Marshalls and volunteers arranged. Instagram account set up to try and engage younger generation. Marketing is ramping up. 12 portaloos have been hired. A quiet space will be provided for those less able or with special needs. Performances will be from 3pm, food from 12pm. LN – it was heartening to see all the local groups come together with a joint vision, great community. HG – well done to the group.
- ii. EW Rail- final letter to Grant Shapps noted.
- iii. CAMSAR -correspondence -Ukraine. Noted. No support from GCC/GPC for an extra clothes recycling bin.
- iv. ACRE “Listening to Cambridgeshire” online event 21/26th April – any volunteers to attend? HG will attend – will let clerks know which session.

168. **Financial**

- i. To be approved- payments list -vouchers 313 -324 and 1-8 all approved

- ii. Community Chest grant – a) application-Jubilee mugs for children-to note. Noted that grant committee decision date may mean mug delivery will not be in time for actual Jubilee date (presuming application is successful) b) Application for Gym equipment-SF. Resolved to support.
- iii. To note date for submission of Annual Return to external auditor. Noted 30.6.2022. Accounts may be submitted to May meeting for approval.
- iv. To note drawdown of Forward Gamlingay grant 2021-22 and request 2022-23. Noted. FG! To be asked to apply to Potton Town Council for support as around 30% of children attend from there.
- v. To note cost of return of batteries and to approve alternative supplier of batteries for ALKE electric vehicle. Resolved to approve purchase of batteries from vehicle supplier – noted updated quotation is awaited.

169. **South Cambridgeshire District Council**

- i. Parish Council election-May 2022 – latest. Noted 11 Councillors submitted papers by deadline and will be returned unopposed. There will be 4 vacancies that can be filled by co-option after May.
- ii. Planning – 5-year housing land supply briefing note. Noted.
- iii. Recycle Day – to confirm 2022 date. To be advised.

170. **Cambridgeshire County Council**

- i. Local Highways Initiative fund - Mill Hill Footway/cycleway-agreement to proceed (F&GP -204 (vi)) community business support -report. Noted and thanks expressed to Brogan Group and Farm Shop for financial support offered to permit the scheme to proceed.
- ii. Gamlingay Footpath 10 permanent diversion-agree response (F&GP 207(ii)). Resolved to agree. AF – not happy that footpath 10 is to be rerouted beside the estate road – was previously off road.
- iii. No Mow May-letter seeking support-views/implications for grass cutting contract. Noted contractors have already agreed specifications for this seasons work and it is not possible or fair to make detailed adjustments that reduce or complicate this. County make a donation towards verge cutting that they may try to reduce. AF – if verges are not cut regularly then there will be a problem with visibility and then when the grass is cut, it will be more difficult and more cuttings to deal with. CS – when verges are left they look a mess. HG – GPC has already

agreed trial areas to leave uncut as wildflower verges and had requested that County provide detail of areas which must be kept cut for visibly splay purposes. Other verges were not considered suitable to be left due to safety implications. KW – When Station rd verges are left uncut, the brambles start to invade the footpath. Resolved – not to participate fully in No Mow May as GPC has already done all it can safely to limit its verge cutting to essential areas.

171. **Staffing and Councillor matters**

- i. Councillor training- HG- Chairmanship- feedback. Very interesting session, further training options – will be circulated to councillors as they are received.
- ii. Topics for Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 10th May 2022 at 7.30pm (draft agenda)-Forward Gamlingay!, Climate Action Group, other. RP – add Gamlingay Gym to agenda.
- iii. Annual leave - noted amendments.
- iv. Overtime – grounds man for approval. Resolve to approve up to 8 hours for work to assist with the pergola installation.

172. **General Correspondence** – available in the office. Noted.

173. **Items for the next agenda** – election of Chair and Vice Chair, filling vacancies on committees.

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

Full Council 24th May (AGM) at 7.30pm, F&GP 26th April 2022 7.30pm.
Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 10th May at 7.30pm
Planning meetings 7pm prior to all meetings.

175. To formally record the **time of closure** of the Parish Council Meeting. 20.48

Signed.....

Dated.....