

Minutes of the Meeting of **Holme Pierrepont & Gamston Parish Council**
Monday 9th December 2024 at 7.15pm in **Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road**

Members Present: Cynthia Stacey, Melvyn Tisbury, John Mason, Janet Hackett, Alun Owen, Richard Fairgrieve (Acting Chair) & Maria Ubhi

In attendance: Julia Barnes (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Roger Upton, Borough Cllr Jonathan Wheeler & Peter Stansbury (West Bridgford Colts FC Chairman)

6110. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Fairgrieve addressed the meeting as the Acting Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Cllr Prett sent his apologies due to ill health.

Borough Cllr Viridi gave his apologies as Borough Cllr Wheeler was attending as RBC representative.

6111. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

6112. ORDER OF BUSINESS

No changes to the order of business were made.

6113. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public present.

6114. MINUTES

TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 11th NOVEMBER 2024

Cllr Fairgrieve proposed, and Cllr Ubhi seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried and Minutes were adopted.

Cllr Fairgrieve to upload November '24 Parish Council Meeting Minutes to the HP&G PC website.

6115. WEST BRIDGFORD COLTS FC

West Bridgford Colts Football Club Chairman Peter Stansbury introduced himself to the meeting. Peter gave an overview of the history of WB Colts FC and spoke about the fact that Regatta Way within our parish has been their home ground for 17 years.

Peter Stansbury spoke about the clubs plans to invest in a 3G artificial ATP (All Terrain Pitch), funded by grants and fundraising. Peter noted that an extension to the lease of the ground for 30 years from now was imminent, and it was hoped that completion of the new ATP pitch will take place within the next 18 months to 3 years.

Discussion took place regarding the parking provision at Regatta Way and vehicles spilling over onto the roadside.

Cllr Fairgrieve asked Peter Stansbury to keep the Parish Council informed about any fundraising efforts that we could help advertise on behalf of WB Colts FC.

Peter Stansbury to forward WB Colts FC information to Clerk for circulating to Cllrs.

7.40pm Peter Stansbury left the meeting.

6116. COUNTY REPORT

County Cllr Upton explained that he had send a photo of the condition of the unmade road at Holme Pierrepont to Neil Lewis who explained that the closure of Holme Lane was going through the final legalities and it was anticipated that works would begin during this financial year, so before the end of March '25.

Cllr Upton spoke about complaints that have been received from residents of the Bel-Air mobile home park in Gamston regarding the perceived dangerous height of trees bordering the park on the A52.

Cllr Upton spoke about the drainage issue on the junction of the A52 and Bassingfield Lane and the house that has been recently flooded whose occupants were emergency evacuated from their property.

Cllr Upton told the meeting that three tender prices had been received from contractors for the remedial work required to reopen the mineral line leisure route. Cllr Upton explained that there were a number of logistical issues including access to adjacent landowners to carry out the work required that would need to be overcome before work could start.

Cllr Mason raised the issue of potholes and the lack of action to resolve this issue. Cllr Upton explained that he shared Cllr Mason's concern, and he continued to do everything in his power to improve the state of the county's roads.

6117. DISTRICT REPORT

Borough Cllr Wheeler told the meeting that Adam Hill would be taking the post of RBC Chief Executive in the new year, replacing Kath Marriott who is taking the Chief Executive role at North Kesteven District Council.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the dangerous car cruising that has been taking place around the Nottingham Knight and Wheatcroft roundabouts. Cllr Wheeler noted the need for increased police powers to deter this behaviour.

Cllr Wheeler announced that RBC have been awarded the Gold Award from the Armed Forces covenant defence employer recognition scheme acknowledging the commitment to support members of the Armed Forces within the workplace and wider community.

Cllr Wheeler updated the meeting on the proposed land East of Gamston development explaining that a meeting with the developers is scheduled for the end of January '25. Cllr Wheeler explained that the developers are keen for immediate movement on the project but an agreed masterplan for the required infrastructure is an essential component for a successful scheme. Cllr Tisbury noted that the required infrastructure was essential as the houses will undoubtedly sell quickly but the supporting facilities need to be in place too.

Cllr Tisbury told the meeting that as part of the scheme, documents proposing a bridge over Lings Bar to link the new development and Gamston had been uploaded to the application. Cllr Wheeler agreed that a bridge was an essential part of the scheme. Cllr Wheeler confirmed that there was no transport modelling as yet.

Cllr Mason asked about progress with the proposed footbridge from Lady Bay across the River Trent.

Cllr Wheeler spoke about the approved plans to replace Haveli restaurant on A52 eastbound with Starbucks.

Cllr Wheeler explained that a formal announcement was imminent regarding the new household recycling centre in Gamston, replacing the facility on Rugby Road. Cllr Wheeler confirmed that new wheelie bins for glass recycling and food waste recycling would be introduced in Rushcliffe. From January 2026 a monthly glass recycling collection will be established, and later that year a fortnightly food waste recycling collection will be launched.

Discussion took place regarding recycling rates and levels of blue bin contamination, which Cllr Wheeler noted is particularly bad in the communal bin area at Stavely Way.

Cllr Wheeler answered the question raised at the last Parish Council meeting regarding the newly introduced small electrical appliance recycling with RBC blue bins and confirmed that the items are not repaired for reuse but broken down into component parts and recycled accordingly.

Cllr Fairgrieve asked if the new recycling centre site would be accessible on foot or cycle, as the current Rugby Road site does not facilitate this. Cllr Wheeler confirmed that the new recycling centre would be accessible by car, cycle or on foot and explained that the recycling centre at Newark-on-Trent would form the blueprint for the Gamston facility. Cllr Wheeler also confirmed that the Rugby Road site will close once the new facility is operational.

6118. PLANNING

- i) 20/03244/OUT Taylor Wimpey UK & Rockspring Barwood Gamston Ltd
Land East of Gamston & North of Tollerton Lane, Tollerton Lane, Tollerton, Nottinghamshire.

Update included in Minute 6117. District Report.

6119. VILLAGE HALL

Monthly Update

Cllr Fairgrieve read out the Bookings Clerk Monthly Update.

'The hall is quiet at the moment. Had a party last weekend and we have one this weekend, (4pm-8pm) and that's all until next year. Enquiries slowly coming in for next year too, which is great.

Clay Creators enquired about dates over the Christmas holidays but unfortunately didn't get enough interest to make it profitable for them. Most of the regular bookings will stop for the holidays in the next week, except Aebal on Thursdays.

Ann who runs Friday morning Pilates is doing really well and looking to book for next term and possibly extend her time slot too.

I will ensure as always that all payments are up to date before the end of the year and if the weather gets really cold over the festive season I'll pop down and make sure everything's ok and pop the heating on low for a while.'

Clerk still to amend Booking Form wording to include damages and cleaning deposit and forward .pdf copy to Cllr Fairgrieve to upload to the website.

Warm Hub Coffee Morning

Cllr Hackett told the meeting that the first couple of weeks of the Warm Hub Coffee Morning had gone well with 7 attendees at the first session. Cllr Hackett explained that some of the attendees were also Free Spirits group members, who have dwindling numbers attending their group, and are finding it increasingly difficult physically to run their sessions. Cllr Owen added that it was a very pleasant group and that he hoped attendance would grow by word of mouth within the community.

Discussion took place regarding an advertising banner for the Village Hall banner space. Clerk stressed that changing the banner was not a small task, so would be onerous to carry out on a weekly basis. Cllr Fairgrieve suggested a new banner combining advertising for the Warm Hub Coffee Morning and the generic Village Hall information could be created that could stay in situ throughout.

Cllr Tisbury suggested that a leaflet drop could be carried out at the Bel-Air mobile home park in Gamston and maybe also liaising with Sarah Sharpe from Connect Gamston church regarding possible attendees.

Cllr Fairgrieve to continue to advertise the Warm Hub Coffee Morning on Gamston Community Facebook page.

Clerk to create Warm Hub posters for Parish noticeboards.

8.50pm County Cllr Upton & Borough Cllr Wheeler left the meeting.

Village Hall Hedge

Clerk thanked Cllr Stacey for arranging for the cutting of the Village Hall hedge. Clerk noted that the significant reduction in height was welcomed and would hopefully improve visibility of the Village Hall grounds and deter any anti-social behaviour therein.

Clerk still to arrange application of ‘Wet & Forget’ to the Village Hall decking and balustrade.

Clerk to arrange for the outdoor power point cover at the front of the Village Hall to be replaced.

Clerk still to produce a key deposit form for new regular hall users when issued with a Village Hall key.

Clerk still to check insurance policy regarding liability for accidents if the large Village Hall gates and/or Village Hall door are accessible to hall hirers via a key stored in an outdoor keypad.

Concrete drop bolt base still to be created in order to prop open large Village Hall gates.

Clerk and Bookings Clerk still to arrange washing of the curtains at a launderette at a convenient time.

6120. PLAY PARK

Phase 2 Inclusive Play Equipment Update

Clerk explained that the Phase 2 equipment installation and relocation of the two Play Park notice boards was due to take place before Christmas.

Astro Surface around bull & dragonfly

Clerk confirmed that the work to level and resurface around the wooden play park features had been carried out to a very high standard.

Path Works

Clerk explained that she and Cllr Prett had spent a considerable amount of time attempting to acquire 3 quotes for the required path works at the Play Park, the scope of which involves replacement of the paved path from Ambleside with tarmac, new tarmac paths in order to access the large boulders and wheelchair accessible picnic table and repairs to existing playground tarmac where damage has been caused by tree roots, removed gate and removed bin.

Clerk explained that two quotations had been received so far and that in order to meet the strict time deadlines for receipt of grant payments, Clerk and Cllr Prett must make a decision by the end of the week for the preferred contractor.

Clerk and Cllr Prett to decide upon path works contractor to be employed by Friday 13th December '24.

Clerk to liaise with preferred path works provider regarding date for works to commence.

Clerk to inform unsuccessful contractors of the PC decision.

Football Pitch Interim Clean

Clerk explained that whilst working on the astro surface works, Bingham Ground Services had noticed that the MUGA and play park wet pour surface were particularly dirty and would benefit from a clean.

Clerk said that she agreed but had explained that these activities were not included in this year's budget. Bingham Ground Services explained that an interim MUGA clean could be carried out for £350 + VAT, less than half the price of a full clean and re-sand that takes place early each summer.

Discussion took place and Clerk noted that a standalone opening event was required for the Phase 2 play park equipment before the end of March '25, and a MUGA interim clean before this would be beneficial. Cllr Tisbury proposed, and Cllr Owen seconded the motion that an interim MUGA clean by Bingham Ground Services be carried out to coincide with the Phase 2 equipment opening event. Vote taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

Clerk to arrange interim MUGA clean by Bingham Ground Services to coincide with the Phase 2 equipment opening event.

Bench Outside Park Railings

Clerk still to forward a proposal to County Cllr Upton for supply and installation of seating for dog owners with children to rest outside the Play Park area.

Clerk to arrange for a concrete base for the bench, similar to the Buddy Bench base, to be created.

Clerk to arrange purchase and installation of bench.

Play Park Path Coloured Graphics

Cllr Prett and Clerk still to further investigate and obtain quotations for the addition of brightly coloured graphics on the Play Park tarmac paths once they have been created.

6121. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Christmastime Event

Cllr Stacey congratulated and thanked all the Cllrs and helpers involved in the highly successful Christmastime event. Cllr Stacey explained that she had distributed the prizes to winners of the quiz, dingbats and guessing game, around the parish.

Cllr Stacey noted some learning points for future events including the provision of seating for older people that are not involved with the children's crafts. Cllr Owen explained that some older people were apologising for taking seats at the craft tables but needed to sit down. Clerk explained that there were benches situated in the foyer area of the hall. Cllr Ubhi suggested that the craft tables could be used without chairs with the children standing. Cllr Hackett agreed that the venue was jam packed and suggested perhaps reconfiguring the layout in future, maybe to serve refreshments out of the kitchen window and move the choir to where the balloon modeller is situated. Clerk expressed concern over a bottleneck on the decking area as there is a narrow entrance. Also this would move the choir away from the band. Clerk noted that it was the great attendance at the event that had caused the congestion, which was brilliant in terms of the success of the event. Clerk also noted that the mulled wine order should be increased for 2025 as it ran out before the end of the event this year!

Village Hall Hedge

Cllr Stacey explained that she had arranged for Mark Winter to cut the Village Hall hedge and had thanked him on behalf of the Parish Council for all his hard work over the year. Mark Winter explained that it had been a particularly difficult year for outdoor maintenance work due to the excessive wet weather.

Holme Lane

Cllr Owen reiterated that he was supporting County Cllr Upton regarding the Holme Lane initiative and hoped a conclusion was reached during this financial year.

Bassingfield Notice Board

Cllr Ubhi explained that the Parish Council notice board in Bassingfield was situated in an awkward position, obscured by a tree and it is impossible to see the notices through the perspex window. Cllr Ubhi questioned as to whether anyone actually looked at the notice board and if they did were they actually able to read anything. Cllr Ubhi also explained that the functionality of the notice board, lifting the heavy window and supporting it on your head to change the notices, was not ideal.

Clerk explained that the majority of Parish Council notice boards were exactly the same and agreed that the functionality was problematic and the quality of the perspex had degraded over time on numerous parish notice boards. Clerk also explained that the notice boards were expensive items. Cllr Stacey noted that the Holme Pierrepont notice board had a glass window and functionality was good.

Cllr Fairgrieve agreed to visit each of the Parish notice boards and report back on their condition and functionality.

Clerk to provide Cllr Fairgrieve with location details of Parish notice boards and spare keys in order to carry out independent assessment and report back to a future PC meeting.

Cllr Ubhi confirmed that all the Parish defibrillators had been checked ahead of the meeting.

Clerk to update Parish defibrillators status on The Circuit website after Cllr Ubhi's monthly check.

Cllr Hackett to carry out further investigation regarding inclusion of EpiPens in our defibrillator cabinets.

Vision ICT HP&G PC Website

Cllr Fairgrieve explained that he and Cllr Prett had attended a zoom meeting last week with Vision ICT, our website provider and host, regarding the decommissioning of our website at the end of June '26. Vision ICT have made this decision due to increased maintenance difficulty, heightened security risks and rising operational costs.

Cllr Fairgrieve explained that the £240 annual hosting fee will not change, but we must move our website to a new platform and that will incur a fee estimated at between £600 and £1000. Cllr Fairgrieve noted that we were not compelled to stay with Vision ICT as a website provider, but they were one of the recognised sector specialists.

Clerk explained that there was a legal requirement for Parish Councils to have a website.

Clerk to add £750 in precept budget for new website.

Cllr Fairgrieve to investigate costs and functionality of alternative Parish Council website providers over the next year.

Cllr Fairgrieve asked the meeting if they had seen recent Gamston Community Facebook posts from 'The Village Idiot' who is visiting and video reviewing every civic parish in England and has recently travelled through our Parish. Clerk confirmed that she had seen them, and they provided entertaining viewing.

Cllr Fairgrieve to share links to ‘The Village Idiot’ Facebook posts pertaining to our parish with Parish Councillors.

Clerk still to contact Mervin Oddjobber to ascertain if they could fit if we supply the bench materials for the metal bench at the canal side.

Clerk to arrange purchase of Option 2 metal bench materials.

Quotations still to be obtained for the paving work required to the Millennium Garden at Holme Pierrepont, possibly combining with the work to close Holme Lane as and when that occurs.

Clerk still to make contact with Tara’s Angels in the first instance as they are a charity local to Gamston regarding gifting summer play day sports equipment.

6122. FINANCE

Financial Statements & Payments for Approval

Clerk issued copies of the month’s financial transactions and details of payments and presented a summary of the finances.

Cllrs Stacey & Prett kindly agreed to sign off and authorise month’s payments online.

Clerk to provide Cllrs Stacey & Prett with copies of all invoices in order for them to sign off and authorise the month’s payments online.

Employee Wage Review

After discussion regarding the previously circulated email wage review recommendations, Cllr Tisbury proposed that on 1st January 2025 the Bookings Clerk hourly rate increases to £14. Cllr Owen seconded the motion. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

Cllr Tisbury proposed that from 1st January 2025 the payment to Susan Toon for her work on each Parish Newsletter increase to £290. Cllr Stacey seconded the motion. Vote was taken, unanimously in favour. Motion carried.

Parish Clerk wages move one SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) spine point from 33 to 34 on 1st January as per Minute 5958. December 2023.

2025/2026 Financial Year First Draft Precept Request

Clerk issued Cllrs with first draft precept request for review and suggested amendments for discussion and sign off at January 2025 Parish Council meeting.

Clerk still to provide Conclusion of Audit file for Cllr Fairgrieve to upload to the Accounts area of the HP&G PC website.

Clerk still to submit paperwork to add Cllr Owen as Unity Trust Bank signatory.

Clerk still to generate documentation to add Cllrs Fairgrieve and Ubhi as Unity Trust Bank Account signatories.

Clerk to submit VAT reclaim for financial year ended 31st March 2024.

6123. CLERKS REPORT

No additional items in Clerks report.

Clerk still to help organise a work party to clear nettles on path leading up to bridge near Morrisons.

6124. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as **Monday 13th January 2025 at 7.15pm in Gamston Village Hall, Old Tollerton Road.**

Cllr Ubhi agreed to chair this meeting.

Cllr Fairgrieve closed the meeting by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

The meeting ended at approximately 9.45pm.