

Girton Parish Council

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The Pavilion
Girton Recreation Ground
Cambridge Road, Girton
Cambridge, CB3 0FH

Girton Parish Council Full Council Minutes Tuesday 19th October 2021 at 7pm St Vincent's Close, Girton

AGENDA

Present: (Cllrs) Williams, Cockley (Vice-Chair), Buckler, Dashwood, de Lacey, Godby, Muston, Rodger, Cllr E Murphy (Cambs County Council), Cllrs C Garvie & Cllr Bygott (SCDC)

In attendance: Yvonne Murray (Clerk)

#	Item Description	Action
21/23	Welcome from the Committee Chairman - The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting	
21/24	To Receive Apologies and Reasons for Absence Apologies received from Cllrs Kettle, de lima and Thorrold. Haydn Williams took a moment to remember George Thorpe, a valued former Councillor and leader of Girton Green team taking responsibility for Girton Nature Reserve at Townend Close and other green spaces. George was also responsible for laying a hedge from Histon to Girton in 2019, that was delayed due to COVID. A project dear to many people's hearts. The Council then held a minute's silence as a gesture of Thanks and Respect to George.	
21/25	To Receive Members' declarations of interest for Items on the agenda: None	
21/26	Public Participation 1. Members of the Public - 1 member of the public attended for co-option 2. County Councillor's Report Cllr Murphy gave an update to her report highlighting COVID figures and the impact of Education being a priority for the County Council. CEO was to provide an update at County meetings. The current situation was confirmed as serious. Cllr Murphy confirmed that Long COVID was likely to become a major health issue Other pressing issues for Cllr Murphy confirmed as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Widening of the path at Oakington Bridge- Street Lighting on the path from Oakington to Girton caused by a confusion by CCC officers. Both Cllr Williams and Cllr Murphy had placed a lot of time and attention to solve this issue. Cllr de lacey asked about volunteers for gritting from the Parish Council and whether training was available. There is a CCC volunteer scheme to which you can opt in. Apparently, there are schemes where CCC provide bins and volunteers told how to spread grit. Previously it had not been worth the trouble. Cllr Murphy to find out more.	Cllr Carney co-opted.

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3.	<p>Cllr de lacey asked about the availability of Food vouchers. Cllr Murphy confirmed they would be available as previous school holidays.</p> <p>Cllr Dashwood commented she would find meetings with Highways officers useful and asked for more detail on the logistics. James Broder, Highways likely to meet with three parishes together. Cllr Murphy will provide concrete proposals</p> <p>District Councillor’s Report</p> <p>Cllr Bygott gave apologies for late report.</p> <p>Cllr Bygott confirmed there was no further news on when A14 Hot Tub would be taken down, Hotel Felix or preparation of SCDC audited accounts. Cllr Bygott to work with Cllr Garvie is to write to the Secretary of State around preservation of the building. Cllr Garvie had not been involved to date. Cllr de lacy confirmed there would be no further discussion at Planning Committee until there was a new plan. Cllr Williams confirmed if this issue were to slide, it would indicate a failure of the systems.</p> <p>Cllr de lacy puzzled about Cllr Bygott’s criticism of SCDC officer for not preparing accounts. Cllr de lacey confirmed Office role may just have been one of contributing factors. Cllr Bygott confirmed he was not blaming officers. Cllr de lacy confirmed it was a broken system. Cllr Williams confirmed no further conversation on this topic in this forum.</p> <p>Cllr Garvie confirmed that progress has been made on submitting accounts. All items now re-evaluated, and council is now solvent.</p> <p>Corrin confirms COVID numbers are up significantly, and protection measures need to be maintained. School age 11-17 play a large part in infection, with primary school children’s numbers with COVID also up and vaccine update low. Emergency services (Policy and Fire) are copying well.</p> <p>Cllr Garvie confirmed there was a skills bootcamp available which would allow Girton Residents to acquire digital skills backed by the mayor.</p> <p>In addition, Cllr Garvie confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food vouchers available via the County Hub - 2 more Electric bin lorries were now in services - Cambourne Christmas market would take place on 5th December <p>Cllr Garvie confirmed the need to relinquish her role as Footpath officer. Cllr Carney volunteered and was appointed to the role. Cllr Garvie will contact Cllr Garvie to provide information.</p> <p>Cllr Williams confirmed received of Zero Carbon Grant to heat the pavilion, Girton Parish Council awarded £15k. Consideration of best option for heaters was considered, whether Air-source heat pumps could be used for underwater heading. A change to the Grant would be needed. Cllr Garvie to find out more. Cllr Williams thanked for good work in obtaining grant.</p>	
4	<p>Police Report – not available</p> <p>To be removed as we currently do not have a PCSO</p>	
21/27	<p>To approve Minutes of last Girton Parish Council Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st September</p>	<p>For Decision</p>

#	Item Description	Action
	<p>Cllr Rodger raised the new build at Eddington and the availability of Electric Charting points. Minutes approved</p> <p>Minutes approved</p>	
21/28	Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only) – None	
21/29	<p>Business items requiring a decision or consideration by Council</p> <p>1. To approve co-option of new Councillor to Girton Parish Council Cllr Carney already co-opted.</p> <p>2. To authorize Chairman plus one other Councillor to approve expedited payment of overdue invoices Clerk confirmed that many unpaid invoices had been identified and there was a large backlog of recent cheques that had not been cashed and confirmed by suppliers as not required. Following discussion with previous clerk decision was made to cancel original cheques and reissues. Clerk also asked to investigate water bill and to investigate card payments. Clerk, Cllr Cockley & Cllr Williams to discuss and agree next steps Proposal accepted.</p> <p>3. Approval of expenditure on Recreation ground repairs and play surface replacement A quote had been received for Recreation equipment which Cllr Williams felt was too high. Discussion was had on replacements/fixes that could be made by our Ground staff team and whether these fixes should be accompanied by a Risk Assessment. Discussion about issues raised by residents and possible dangerous equipment Cllr Williams had met with the resident who had conceded that the shoes she was wearing could be part of the problems. Proposal accepted to obtain three quotes.</p> <p>4. To authorize Clerk to obtain Expert advice on reclaim of VAT on expenditure There has been a recommendation from Street’s director to register for VAT to claim back VAT on Pavilion refurbishment. Cllr Williams stated he believed the only safe option was to register for VAT. Proposal approved</p> <p>5. Approval of purchase of MUGA goals etc Cllr Cockley confirmed that Council has one quote for MUGA goals and in fact three were needed. Cllr Cockley wished to involve users before making any decisions and bring proposal back to subsequent meeting</p> <p>6. To approve a donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Council confirmed last year as a special year a donation of £150 had been made. Proposal approved to contribute £100 to RBL.</p> <p>7. To formerly approve procedure for ‘management’ of village planters Council approved Carol Noble is appointed to manage planters. One broken planter at Girton Corner highlighted. Clerk to meet with Carol Noble to take this forward.</p>	-

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8.	<p>To discuss next steps on Oakington Road Bridge Scheme to make Oakington Road Bridge safe for cyclists was proposed and residents to be asked for comment via Girton Parish News. Cllr Muston proposed a photograph would help for more visual impact for our residents. Cllr Williams to provide photograph ahead of Girton Parish News deadline.</p> <p>Next steps confirmed as provision of photo, investigation of signate and review of wider next steps in consultation of our residents.</p>	
21/30	<p>Finance & Resource Management No payments schedule provided due to Clerk's work to understand outstanding invoices. Four cheques agreed for approval for Avocet Cleaning and Staff Payroll</p>	For decision
21/31	Correspondence (to be received) – None	For discussion
21/32 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.	<p>To receive reports Chairmen's Report</p> <p>Confirmed Zero Carbon grant had been covered earlier in meeting</p> <p>LHI application had been submitted</p> <p>Cllr Williams confirmed significant work carried out with Cllr Murphy on lighting near Oakington Bridge</p> <p>Unauthorized planning at 2 Duck end confirmed as a matter of concern as work was going on. No application yet submitted but a planning committee would be scheduled as a priority once application received.</p> <p>Cllrs Williams, Buckley & de lacey to meet with Clerk to access Online banking on Friday 22nd October.</p> <p>AGAR had been approved</p> <p>Clerk's Report Issues confirmed in line with earlier discussion by Haydn. Solutions being investigated over next month.</p> <p>Girton Town Charity Report – Not Available</p> <p>Girton Youth Project Report – Not Available</p> <p>Footpath Officer's Report – currently only available on request</p> <p>Water Management Report – Not Available</p> <p>Kiosk Plans Report – Not Available</p>	For discussion
21/33	<p>Items which Council need to discuss at next meeting Cllr Dashwood requested guidance to access Planning Portal</p> <p>Cllr Haydn mentioned consideration of volunteers for litter picking</p> <p>Cllr Williams mentioned use of Volunteer to help with IT systems, suggestions mentioned Online booking service, website development.</p> <p>Need for new Green Team leader following the death of George Thorpe</p> <p>Cllr Cockley raised the possibility of creating a Task & Finish Group to investigate Council policies and to recommend SCDC code of conduct</p>	For discussion

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	<p>Cllr de lacey mentioned need to ventilate room for all Council forums due to COVID risk</p> <p>Cllr Roger raised consideration for the Jubilee year</p> <p>Cllr Carney raised problems with pavement parking and need for solutions. Cllr Dashwood raised the problems of parking outside Gretton School and aim to meet with the head.</p>	
21/32	Date of next meeting(s)	

Yvonne Murray
Girton Parish Clerk
12th November 2021