Girton Parish Council

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

Minutes of the meeting of Girton Parish Council held on Tuesday 19th June, 2018 at St Vincent's Close Community Centre, Girton, at 7.00 p.m.

Residents in the parish were invited to attend this meeting and to speak at Item 18/66.3

Present: (Cllrs) H Williams (Chairman), Buckler, Cockley, Dashwood, de Lacey, Godby, Hickford, Kettle, Townshend, L Williams.

Cllr L Harford (Cambs County Council)

Ms S Rooke & Mr J Tyrell (Cambridgeshire Highways) (until end of item 18/66.1)

9 members of the public

In attendance: S Cumming (Clerk)

18/63 Welcome from the Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Cllr Harford, representatives from Cambs Highways, and members of the public.

18/64 Apologies and Reasons for Absence Apologies had been received from District Councillor Bygott, Cllrs Griffin and Thorrold and Ms Z Kirby, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence.

18/65 Members' declarations for items on the agenda. None.

18/66 Public Participation session on agenda items and matters of mutual interest:

1. Presentation from Cambridgeshire County Council on cycling and walking provision between Girton and Oakington. Ms S Rooke and Mr J Tyrell spoke about funding for possible cycleway and walkway improvements between Girton and Oakington. There are S106 monies available and suggestions are welcomed. The projects would need to be in place for starting in a year to 18 months' time. Suggestions included possible widening of the cycle path at the New Road/Oakington Road junction, and the pinch point at Beck Brook Bridge. It was proposed to consult with the village through Girton Parish News.

The Chairman thanked Ms Rooke and Mr Tyrell, who left the meeting at this point.

- 2. Presentation on village-wide litter-picking initiative as undertaken in Histon & Impington, and Oakington. Mr C Foster, a former Histon & Impington Parish Councillor, spoke about the Litter-Picking Scheme in these villages. The scheme evolved from the Big Clear Up instigated by Keep Britain Tidy. There is a road adoption scheme where individuals undertake to look after one road each. They collect litter and also look out for road defects such as overhanging vegetation, fly-tipping, fly-posting and pot-holes. Over 100 people have adopted a road, open space or bridleway, with Histon Junior School and Impington Village College plus companies on the Vision Park also involved. A Big Tidy Up is organised every three months. The Parish Council provides all the kit (hi-vis, gloves, pickers etc). The Chairman thanked Mr Foster.
- 3. Members of the Public. Ms Z Kirk and Ms L Vile of Arlington Grange Care Home introduced themselves and invited Councillors to look round the home. They are currently recruiting staff, and will have a stall at Girton Feast Fun Day.
- 4. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*) There were no further updates to the main report and addendum circulated. Cllr Harford will try to find more information on smart electricity networks because the grid is not capable of spare capacity this will be used by businesses as

back-up batteries. Rooves over the car park will charge electric cars and use solar energy for local projects. The 2011 Village Plan showed support for 20mph limit. Cllr Harford has sent the Education Officer details and Cllr Hickford is leading on Local Highway Improvements grant application. An awareness campaign is needed that this village encourages pedestrians, cyclists and motorists to share space. Discussion is needed to develop a plan. Cllr Harford spoke about the County Council move to Alconbury.

- 5. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*) No report had been received from Cllr Bygott. Cllr de Lacey spoke of the 5-year housing land supply, meaning enough housing can be built over the next five years. The Inspector of the Local Plan has not yet commented on this. The Chairman congratulated Cllr de Lacey on his appointment as Chairman of South Cambs District Council.
- 6. Police Report (*Appendix C*) There's been mindless vandalism of the cricket covers at the Recreation Ground. The issue of drug-use in Girton was brought up at Neighbourhood Watch and Cllr Godby will investigate.
- 18/67 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15th May, 2018 (previously circulated). In item 18/57.5f, 'Irving' should read 'Irvine'. With this correction, the Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Kettle and approved with one abstention.

18/68 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

18/57.7 Girton Village Celebrations have been notified of approvals of lifting of selected by-laws for Girton Feast Day.

18/57.8 The applicant has been notified of the Council's decision regarding coffee sales. 18/57.9 SCDC have been notified of the Council's decision regarding the street trading consent application.

18/57.10 Å metal storage container is to be delivered to Girton Recreation Ground on 29th June

Noted by the Council. Regarding item 18/62, SCDC will remove bikes from lamp-posts but Cllr de Lacey needs locations.

18/69 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council.

- 1. To co-opt new members to Girton Parish Council. Mrs V Godby and Ms Z Kirby had applied to be co-opted to the Parish Council. Ms Kirby had sent apologies and was co-opted in her absence. She will sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting. Cllr Godby signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined Councillors at the table.
- 2. To approve refined costs for works at Girton Recreation Ground Car Park. These costings are yet to be produced.
- 3. To approve the draft Annual Return for 2017-18 (*tabled at the meeting*) The current accountant is to provide documentation for the last year as well. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr de Lacey and approved with two abstentions.
- 4. To approve a fee for Girton Village Celebrations' use of Girton Parish Council facilities during Girton Feast Week. Girton Village Celebrations are to fund works at Dovehouse Close in lieu of fees for last year's Feast. The Chairman proposed a fee of £50, seconded by Cllr Cockley and approved unanimously.
- 5. To consider a request for a memorial bench plus siting of such at one of the following locations: Orchard Close, Girton Recreation Ground, Church Lane or Hicks Lane, all costs of installation and maintenance to be met by the applicants (*Appendix D*) Cllr de Lacey proposed that Councillors walk the route with the family to find a site, seconded by Cllr H Williams, and approved unanimously.
- 6. To appoint Mr I Jones as a Parish Council appointed Cotton Hall trustee. Cllr Godby explained the background to the issue. This item was adjourned so more information may be requested from Cotton Hall and a written application received.
- 7. To appoint a Task & Finish Group to develop a Data Protection Policy for the Parish Council. The Chairman proposed that the Human Resources Committee undertake this

project.

18/70 Finance and Resource Management

1. To approve the payments schedule for the past month (*Appendix E*) The payments schedule had been checked before the meeting by Cllr Dashwood. Girton Town Charity are to reimburse electricity and water charges for the Community Hall at Wellbrook Way. Proposed by Cllr Dashwood, seconded by the Chairman and approved unanimously.

18/71 Correspondence (to be received)

1. Consultation on Histon Road improvement plans Received by the Council.

18/72 To receive reports

- 1. Chairman's Report (Appendix F)
- 2 Girton Town Charity. Report in Girton Parish News.
- 3. Girton Youth Project.
- 4. Footpaths. No report this month. Cllr de Lacey was thanked for mowing the grass at Dovehouse Close.
- 5. Water Management. No report this month.

18/73 To receive unconfirmed Committee Minutes. None.

18/74 Items which the Council need to discuss at the next meeting.

Cllr Dashwood had circulated a report on the Amey Cespa meeting. She'll put a leaflet in the Parish Office and will keep the Council updated about this.

The meeting closed at 8.18pm

APPENDIX A

Cambridgeshire County Councillor's Report June 2018

The most contentious item on the agenda for full *Council* in May was the proposal to relocate its headquarters to Alconbury but at the end of a very long debate the recommendation from Commercial & Investment Committee was approved. Arguments against the recommendation included prematurity [will the County Council even exist by the time the building is built?] the desire not to move and maintain the status quo [although this had been ruled out at the previous Council meeting in March and discomfort with the basis upon which the decision had been taken [the fact that a report by an outside consultant had confused Newmarket, Suffolk with Newmarket, Canada had raised questions about the competence of the authors].

Meeting agenda pack: https://bit.ly/2kP6cfi

Having gained endorsement for its recommendation on the relocation, at its May meeting *Commercial & Investment Committee* moved on to approve the outline business cases for two smart energy grids at the park and ride sites at Trumpington and Babraham. This proposal builds on development work for a smart energy grid at the St Ives park and ride site, the objective being to generate income over the medium to long term. The St Ives smart energy grid is scheduled for construction during 2018 once grant from Government is secured. It will act as a demonstrator project identifying a new business model for local energy projects in areas where access to the local distribution network is heavily constrained. In agreeing the outline business cases members also approved a budget of £150,000 for each site to fund the development costs to the first stage of an investment grade proposal. Committee also received a report summarising progress of sales of County Council owned land to the Council's development company, This Land. Fourteen sales with a value of £22.835m completed in April and a further seven with a value of £6.1m were expected to complete by the end of May. There is nothing included in either sale list that is in our division. Meeting agenda pack: https://bit.ly/2suc164

The scrutiny items on the *Health Committee*'s May agenda included a briefing for members on the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group's [CCG] 2017/18 financial position and its planning for 2018/19. The Acting Interim Accountable Officer and the Chief Clinical Officer attended the meeting and the recommendation to committee was to note the update on financial performance and the challenging yet achievable plan for this year. In agreeing to note the recommendation members also requested that the CCG supply written clarification of the apparent discrepancy of £21m in figures quoted in the 2018/19 Financial Plan and attend the committee's meeting in six months time to provide a further update particularly on the budget and improvement plan. Meeting agenda pack: https://bit.ly/2LVAtoS

At a time when the number of children being taken into care is increasing a report was made to *Children & Young People Committee* reviewing progress on the Children's Change programme which in 2016/17 introduced a number of changes to the way in which children's services are organised in Cambridgeshire. Some of the changes have been positive but there are also learning points from three external reviews. One carried out by Oxford Brookes included feedback from staff. The second was a focused visit made in March by Ofsted and the third was a peer review. Whilst the report set out proposals to make some quite significant changes to the way in which services are delivered, many strengths were identified in the outcomes of all of the external reviews. These particularly related to the skills, competency and knowledge of staff and managers. The changes proposed seek to build on the strengths identified and members were asked to endorse the eight recommendations and agree that a progress report on implementation be made to committee at its September meeting. Meeting agenda pack: https://bit.lv/2swfG3h

The work of the Council's **Road Safety** Team with school pupils and young drivers was rewarded twice in the past month or so. Barnabas Oley C of E Primary School was named National STARS School Travel Planning Primary School of the Year 2018 for its efforts to increase levels of walking,

cycling and other forms of sustainable transport for journeys to and from school. The school has been taking part in the Council's modeshift STARS [Sustainable Travel Accreditation & Recognition] school travel planning programme and qualified for entry to the national award by gaining the gold level of accreditation in July 2016. At the First Car Road Safety Awards held at the Royal Automobile Club in Pall Mall, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Road Safety Partnership won The Best Education & Training Initiative of the year 2018. It was also highly commended in the Best Partnership Scheme of the year 2018 at the same event. I am increasingly contacted by residents concerned about different aspects of road safety many of which reflect on poor driver behaviour. The Council is making a valuable investment in our young people through cycling and driving initiatives and I shall be talking to our primary schools about the STARS programme. I know that at least one is already participating in the scheme and I will be encouraging all three of our local schools to promote the benefits that the scheme affords.

Schools and pre-schools are just two of the beneficiaries of a social enterprise scheme in which the County Council partnered with Cambridgeshire Community Reuse and Recycling Network [CCORRN] on a scheme called Cambridgeshire Community Repaint. The scheme facilitates the reuse of waste paint. Cambridgeshire residents can take unused, unwanted paint to one of six household recycling centres in the county from which it is then collected by CCORRN. Following appropriate sorting and treatment the paint is distributed either on a nominal charge basis or through a monthly award programme. To date 159 charities, community groups, support workers, schools and pre-schools as well as low income households have benefitted from accessing this resource to provide improvements to the environments and facilities of around 21,000 people. Additionally the scheme has provided work experience, volunteering opportunities and community payback placements for over 70 individuals. This creative way of disposing of waste paint has also seen the cost of the service to the Council reduce by some 42% over the six years of its existence and the decision has now been taken to extend the arrangement for another two years. For anyone wanting to use the service to dispose of unwanted paint, Milton is the nearest Household Recycling Centre and details of the types of paint that are accepted can be found at: http://www.ccorrn.org.uk/community-repaint

The Council's *Community Protection* Team has been acknowledged by the National Trading Standards Scams Team for its work in delivering Friends Against Scams training. Sixteen session have been delivered across the county since January providing knowledge for over 150 'friends' to use in helping to protect their communities against this ever increasing and evolving crime. Friday 01 June marked the start of a national Scams Awareness Month. Following the success of last year's campaign, the aim this year will be to reduce the stigma around reporting scams. A further thirteen events are planned in June. For anyone interested in attending the nearest one for our villages is at Cambridge Central Library on Wednesday 27 June from 10.00-12.00. No need to book, you can just turn up.

A word of warning to anyone driving to Cambridge station to drop someone off: bus lane cameras went live at Cambridge railway station on 01 June. Similar enforcement equipment has already been installed to replace the out of date rising bollards at Emmanuel Road, Bridge Street and Regent Street/St Andrews Street. Described as 'bus gates' they restrict unauthorised traffic through the use of automatic number plate recognition cameras. After the initial two week period when transgressors will simply receive a warning notice, fixed penalties will come into force.

I look forward to receiving any questions or comments that you have about these or any other matters either at your meetings or by email.

hmdsharford@icloud.com: 01954 251775/07889 131022; Follow me on Twitter: @ 2whit2whoo

Lunda

Addendum to County Councillor's Report for Girton Parish Council meeting, 19 June 2018

As is almost always the case these days the largest number of communications I have had over the past month have been about highways related issues. The condition of many of the roads and footpaths in the village leave a lot to be desired and, as you know, I continue to press for work to be done. The latest update from Highways Officers is that works are planned to deal with the defects on the entire length of Cambridge Road from Wellbrook Way to the High Street. A closure will be required for the works on the corner of High Street/Cambridge Road. This will probably be for a day and the work is currently scheduled to be done in August. I believe that the remainder of the work will be completed using stop/go boards at the various locations requiring attention. As soon as I have further news I will let you know. As you will all have seen some of the holes in the table near the pavilion have been filled. A crack sealing treatment is also to be applied which will form a new surface over the table. Officers are still awaiting a confirmed date for this from the specialist contractor.

Some of the residents living near the table close to the junction with Pepys Way have complained about its condition, its inefficiency as a speed deterrent and the environmental pollution caused particularly by the increasing number of HCVs that drive through the village. The resident who has been in touch with me on this subject has also asked about traffic calming measures so I imagine he and his neighbours will support any appropriate project for which the parish council decides to submit an LHI application this year. I have included the following in my report for GPN this month:

"I am currently working with the Parish Council on making an appropriate application to the County Council's Local Highways Improvements scheme for funding for a project that would benefit the village. Speeding is a major concern so something to address this might be a project that many of you would support. A bid is not guaranteed to be successful but one of the criteria against which bids are judged is community engagement and the value of the proposal to the community as a whole. Please do let the Parish Council or me know your views."

Residents continue to contact me about matters relating to road safety. We all know that Girton has a large cycling community and I am concerned about conflicts between motorists and cyclists particularly when children are involved. Whilst there are some physical highways improvements that would help with safety issues, there is also the matter of behaviour. Notably this is something that residents increasingly point to when complaining to me about road safety, some even suggesting that this is something on which the community could work together to address. I have now spoken with one of the County Council's Road Safety/Education team to see whether or not the community, with the support of that team, start a 'Safer Girton' campaign. Again in the GPN I have asked residents to contact me with their views and would also like to hear from you whether or not this is something you feel the Parish Council would support.

With regard to the road safety signs designed by Girton Glebe pupils I have now obtained an updated quote from the company that supplied the signs for other villages and I am delighted to say that Girton Town Charity has agreed in principle to fund this project. The headteacher and parents of school pupils are very keen to progress and I believe that the Parish Council has already indicated its support too. I hope that we might now progress with this so that signs can be in place early in the autumn school term.

APPENDIX B

i) Report from District Councillor Douglas de Lacey 19. 6. 2018

As you may know I am now Chairman of South Cambridgeshire District Council and settling into the post. I have already laid a wreath at Madingley cemetery, been briefed on the NATO intelligence control work at RAF Alconbury, attended the Bishop of Ely's garden party and caused a constitutional crisis since the constitution obliges me to chair a meeting I have no right to be on. I also remain on the JDCC which meets tomorrow.

I have had a day's planning training, an essential prerequisite to serving on the JDCC, and a day on licensing.

The City's `North-West Sub-Group' was given updates on the development on 6 June, and discussed allocations of funds to start-up community groups. It is clear that a community is already developing and we hope to nurture and encourage it. Though there have also been a number of complaints which I need to ensure the University's team are addressing.

The really good news of the past month is that we now believe we can demonstrate that we fulfil the Government's criteria for a 5-year housing land supply, even before the Local Plan is approved. This means that those whose planning applications we reject are no longer likely to have them almost automatically approved on appeal as has been the case up to now.

The Mayor of Cambridgeshire has put a temporary stop to the Greater Cambridge Partnership's transport plans, a hint of how poorly the two are integrated. When the Combined Authority's scrutiny committee was convened to discuss this, Tory members boycotted it, leaving it inquorate. Of course they could have out-voted the other groups, but clearly they would rather stifle all discussion of these key issues.

I recently mowed the sides of Dovehouse Close footpath (between High Street and Church Lane). We appear to have residents who think it appropriate to bag their dog mess and then drop it into the grass. I wish they had he task of cleaning the mower. I also see that some think it right to leave bags of dog mess outside the dog bins like offerings at a shrine. Please, if the bin is full, take the bag home and put it in your black bin, and encourage your neighbours likewise.

Douglas de Lacey

District Councillor's Report - Cllr Tom Bygott

Advice and support for local businesses

Free drop-in sessions and practical workshops centred around starting a company, or growing an existing one, are being offered to residents and businesses in South Cambridgeshire. These are being provided during regular times at the District Council's Cambourne offices by experts at Nwes, the UK's largest not-for-profit enterprise agency, and are aimed at South Cambridgeshire residents who are thinking of starting a business, and owners and managers of existing local firms. They will focus on either start-up companies or growing a business. One-to-one advice sessions last for around 30 minutes, and participants might also be able to sign-up for a further programme of support.

Additionally, a free workshop called 'first steps to start-up' is being made available. This will offer detailed insights into starting a business, and is tailored towards those considering ideas for new ventures. This will cover elements such as calculating start-up costs, registering with HMRC and the legal side of naming a firm. They'll also run through how to plan and present financial forecasts.

Separate free workshops aimed at existing business owners or managers are also being offered. These sessions will include practical and tutored sessions to help delegates spot, manage and maximise opportunities for their companies to grow. Topics will include learning styles, disruption and innovation, how to build strong teams and effective communication.

To register, visit www.scambs.gov.uk/content/latest-news-workshops-events-support-awardsfunding-and-grants-0

New train timetable

A new railway timetable was introduced by Thameslink and Great Northern in May. Despite problems in other parts of the country, it has dramatically improved services at Cambridge North Station. For most of the day, Mondays to Saturdays, there are four services to London an hour - two fast services to King's Cross on the hour and half hour, and a slow service each to Liverpool St and King's Cross in the gaps in between. On Sundays, there are two trains to London per hour - a fast service to King's Cross and a slow service to Liverpool St. Trains start at 5.30am Mon-Sat and 9.12am on Sunday, the last return train departs King's Cross just after 11pm every day.

Despite this, Stagecoach is still only offering an hourly service to Cambridge North on the busway.

Check these times before you leave at ojp.nationalrail.co.uk and www.thebusway.info.

Be well project

This is a project being promoted by Cambridgeshire County Council to mark Diabetes Week in June. Cambridgeshire residents are being encouraged to eat healthily and lead a more active lifestyle to reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes. Being overweight increases the risk of type 2 diabetes, a common condition that can lead to heart disease, stroke and kidney problems as well as vision loss and blindness.

Health experts in the County are encouraging people aged 40-74 years, if invited, to book in at their local GP clinic for a free NHS Health Check. These are funded by Cambridgeshire County Council's Public Health Grant, and tell you not only whether you're at higher risk of getting type 2 diabetes or if you already have the condition, but can also spot early signs of heart disease, stroke, kidney disease and some types of dementia.

The short 20-30 minute check on blood pressure, weight, cholesterol, and the lifestyle factors that affect your risk of developing these conditions, also gives you advice on how to prevent them. For more information, please visit: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/be-well/

Cllr Tom Bygott cllr@bygott.net 07765 475 513

APPENDIX C

Police Report for May/June 2018

Girton – Girton Road

Burglary – Residential

Between 0800 hours and 1330 hours on the 16/5/2018 a small window at the side of the property has been forced open. Offender(s) have conducted an untidy search of the property. A small amount of cash has been stolen from the property.

Girton - Recreation Ground

Criminal Damage

Between 26th May at 10:00hrs and 29th May at 10:00hrs, unknown offender/s have slashed cricket plastic covers causing permanent damage.

Girton – Wellbrook Way

Theft of motor vehicle at 02:20 on 08/06/18. The victim has heard his BMW engine and woken up. Moments later he has seen his vehicle being driven away. The vehicle was parked on the driveway facing the street. The lock from the driver's side door was found nearby on the floor with a large screw in it.

APPENDIX D

Proposal for a bench in the village of Girton in memory of Richenda and Henry Starr

Reason: Richenda and Henry Starr lived in the village of Girton since 1958, firstly at 2 Dodford Lane, where they raised six children, who all went to the local school. Then Richenda moved to 3 Orchard Close, in 1999, where she lived until 2016. (Then she moved into a residential home). Although she moved into a home, we still came to Girton on a regular basis, to see friends, family and just enjoy the village.

They were Girton people, they saw it as their home village.

Both Richenda and Henry walked in the village, But Richenda since she has lived at 3 Orchard Close, has walked daily around the village, walking out as far as the old Littleton House School, Oakington Road, down Dodford Lane, back towards High street, down to Duck End and up Church Lane and through either the passage or Hicks lane, up to the Co-Op, sometimes going down Pepys Way and round St Vincent Close, and through the walkway. She always stopped at the Recreation Ground and the church. In more recent times, she walked with a walker that had a small seat. However she loved to sit and rest a while on a bench and see the village life go by.

When we visited our Mum, if her bungalow was locked, we knew which route to take to find her, and at times, it was a shame, that more benches were not about to sit, rest, relax and watch the life in the village.

The bench would be a resting place for others to sit and take in the beauty of the village. It would be a place, where her friends who still live in the village come sit and have a fond reminder of her.

We still have family living in the village and we shall still come to see some of Mum's friends, so we would also have a seat on the bench and have those good memories of our childhood in the village.

It would be an extra amenity for the village

We would like to discuss, where the Parish Council feel that a new bench is most needed. We would like to have some words on the bench in memory of our Mum and Dad. We would like the bench to be a St Georges day bench, see attached (unless the parish council have guidelines that we need to follow).

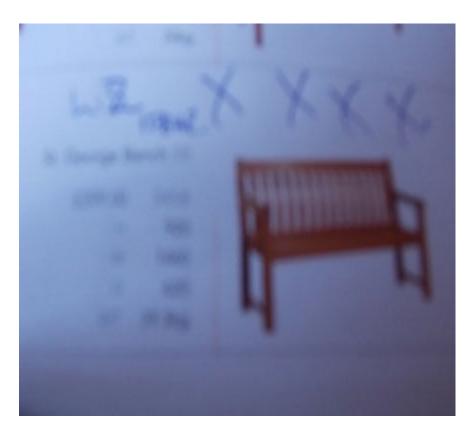
Everyone, at some time or other likes to rest a while and relax, and to sit and read about people who loved life in the village, and we see this as a beautiful way to remember our Mum and Dad.

Helen Rollin, Graham Starr, Sara Starr, on behalf of our sisters.

Height 92cm Width 1.46m Depth 62cm Weight 29.5kg

We understand that we would have to meet the cost and maintenance of the bench and seek approval of the bench.

Kind regards, Sara and Graham Starr



APPENDIX E
Payments Schedule for June 2018

(please see separate document)

APPENDIX F

Chairman's Report 12th June 2018

After considerable pressing Northmores have obtained more detailed costs from Mead and are in the process of negotiating cost reductions, which they hope to conclude by the end of this week. Whether this will result in a level of cost that we can approve remains to be seen however. In spite of my explanations of where we are in progressing the carpark and footpath refurbishment, the parent group Facebook petition was begun and has, to date, garnered about 90 signatures.

Councillors will be aware that, as expressed at the Annual Parish Meeting, the High Street residents group are still unhappy with GTC's plans for development of alms houses in Michael's Close. While they seem reluctant to accept that the planning application has been submitted, I have since written to them urging them to base their objections on planning law and to make them known to Parish and District Councils at the appropriate time.

After repeated attempts to contact SCDC Tree Officer concerning the replacement to the Holm Oak near Cotton Hall, I have finally received a response that 'the matter is in hand but that nothing can be expected until the autumn planting season is upon us'!

The Organisation behind the new care home in Wellbrook Way, Arlington Manor, have written offering financial or resource/manpower assistance to any village community group projects to the level of about £500. Any suggestions of suitable projects would be welcomed. Village educational establishments and older people's charity groups have been informed. I was pleased to accept an invitation to Gretton Court's 50th Anniversary celebrations on June 7th. Lamentably I failed to remember to attend however! An embarrassing 'senior moment' for which I have sent profuse apologies.

Councillors will have noticed that a very modest amount of hole patching has been carried out on the Cambridge Road near the Pavilion. It is not clear why many other holes have not been deemed worthy of repair however. Lynda Harford has been asked to follow up on this. The time for submission of the Annual Return is rapidly approaching and it is hoped that the finalised document will be available for our approval at the June Council meeting.

Haydn Williams