

# Girton Parish Council

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The Pavilion  
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## **Minutes of the meeting of Girton Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th January, 2019 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 19/04.1*

**Present:** (Cllrs) Williams (Chairman), Buckler, Dashwood, de Lacey, Griffin, Kettle, Rodger.  
Cllr L Harford (Cambs County Council), Cllr T Bygott (SCDC) (both until end of item 19/04.3)

**In attendance:** S Cumming (Clerk)

**19/01 Welcome from the Chairman.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**19/02 Apologies and Reasons for Absence.** Apologies had been received from Cllrs Godby, Hickford and Thorold, and the Chairman accepted their reasons for absence. Further to Cllr Hickford's prolonged health problems, the members will send him a card and gift from personal donations.

**19/03 Members' declarations for items on the agenda.** None.

**19/04 Public Participation session on agenda items and matters of mutual interest:**

1. Members of the Public. There were no members of the public present at the meeting.
2. County Councillor's Report (*Appendix A*). Cllr Harford thanked Parish Councillors who attended the meeting at Girton Glebe School on 10<sup>th</sup> January. She will go through the completed questionnaires, and noted that one resposdee had expressed interest in joining Girton Parish Council. Cllr Harford has been chasing maintenance of the road next to the Recreation Ground Car Park, there being a document unequivocally stating that this is the responsibility of Cambs County Council. There are some issues with camber and scarring on the road at High Street/Cambridge Road corner which could possibly cause problems for cyclists. The Local Highways Officer reports that white-lining works are imminent when temperatures improve. The LHI grant application was discussed and in the light of the already agreed improvements to be carried out at the Language School corner it was felt that it did not address the next most critical road safety issues in the village. The Chairman proposed to withdraw the LHI application, seconded by Cllr Buckler and approved with one vote against. Cllr Harford will present the Council's decision to defer until next year when a new application will be developed.
3. District Councillors' Reports (*Appendix B*). Cllr Bygott has spoken to the Highways Agency about noise reduction surfacing on the A14. They have decided to only do this on narrow sections where housing comes up to the motorway. Cllr Harford has worked with Cllr Betson of Cambourne to argue for much larger stretches of noise reduction. The Homes for our Future consultation ends on 25<sup>th</sup> January. SCDC and Cambridge City Council are developing a high level strategy. CPIER Report suggests that an even higher number of homes is needed in addition to the 33,000 suggested. Cllr Bygott is concerned that there is not enough control over houses of multiple occupancy, with family homes simply being rented out. Cllr de Lacey reported on the tragic death of Cambridge Mayor Cllr Nigel Gawthrop whilst on holiday in South Africa. Cllr de Lacey and Cllr Gawthrop had been working together on several joint projects for SCDC and Cambridge City Council, and he'll be attending Cllr Gawthrop's memorial service, details of which are still to be finalised. The Chairman thanked Cllrs Harford and Bygott, who left the meeting at this point.

4. Police Report (*Appendix C*). The Clerk reported that PCSO Tony Martin has taken over policing duties in Girton from PCSO Bujar Mani. Cllr de Lacey updated the Council regarding the alleged 'bomb scare' at St Vincent's Close. This had been a science teacher undertaking an experiment for his son and posed zero danger to the public. The man had been arrested a week after the incident and alleges police brutality.

**19/05 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2018** (previously circulated). The Minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Griffin, and approved with one abstention.

**19/06 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)**

**19/07 Business items requiring a decision, or consideration by the Council.**

1. To consider suggestions for budget items which will impact the precept over the usual 3% increase. £3.5k has been set aside for a Tree Survey in this year's budget. Regarding the ownership of land at Duck End, this shouldn't be an issue which incurs legal costs. Cllr Dashwood agreed to look in the University Library at old maps of the area. The Chairman suggested that accrued reserves should be used to pay for Pavilion loft works this coming year, and there would also be S106 provision of £12k from the Pepys Way development. £6k from the car park reserve will go to the reserve for the loft conversion. A lift could be added at a later stage.

The Chairman proposed to add 5% to the precept and therefore ask for 105% of the 2018-19 precept. Seconded by Cllr Griffin, and approved unanimously.

2. To agree a response to Madingley Parish Council's plan to request a Local Highways Improvement project to put a permanent ban on motorised traffic using The Avenue (details to be circulated). Cllr Harford has spoken on behalf of Dry Drayton Parish Council, who are not in favour. Girton Parish Council should wait to say whether The Avenue needs to stay open, in relation to the new road layout, and we do not know what the alternatives would be. Cllr de Lacey proposed that more information is needed about options before making a decision, seconded by the Chairman, and approved unanimously.

3. To agree a response to Cambs County Council's consultation on changes to Council Tax and business planning. As individuals, Parish Councillors may give a response if they think appropriate.

4. To agree a response to Cambs County Council's consultation on borrow pits resulting from A14 works. The Chairman expressed dismay that such a seemingly trivial matter requires such extensive detailed review and consultation. It was proposed that there is no suitable response to be made at this time, seconded by Cllr Griffin, approved unanimously.

**19/08 Finance and Resource Management**

1. To approve the payments schedule for the past month (*Appendix D*). The Payments Schedule had been checked by Cllr Griffin before the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Griffin, seconded by the Chairman, and approved unanimously.

**19/09 Correspondence (to be received).** None.

**19/10 To receive reports**

1. Chairman's Report (*Appendix E*). Regarding spoof emails received purportedly from the Chairman's email address, the Chairman recommended that Councillors right click on email addresses of unusual looking emails to check for disguised identity.

2. Girton Town Charity Report (*Appendix F*).

3. Girton Youth Project (*Appendix G*).

4. Footpaths Officer. No report this month.

5. Water Management Report. No report this month.

6. Telephone kiosks projects. Cllr Buckler reported that she's contacted SCDC's North

Patch Officer, who has agreed to look into any planning restrictions on the Girton Corner kiosk. There are currently three residents interested in helping with the kiosk, and Cllr Buckler is happy to co-ordinate. She will bring a document to a future Parish Council meeting, outlining the group's plans for the kiosk. Cllr Rodger was thanked for the recent displays in the Open Gardens kiosk near St Andrew's Church. The displays are replanted every two months by Open Gardens volunteers, co-ordinated by Cllr Rodger.

**19/11 Items which the Council need to discuss at the next meeting.**

It was suggested that the Parish Council discuss donating to St Andrew's refurbishment fund.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

## APPENDIX A

### **Cambridgeshire County Councillor's Report December 2018 [For January 2019 Meetings]**

I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas break and offer you my best wishes for a happy and healthy 2019. I am sure that the coming year will present many challenges but look forward to working with you to address them.

The meeting of the *County Council* in December followed the usual format of a couple of business decisions and mostly uncompromising positioning on the motions that are put. Approval was given to the Treasury Management Report for Quarter 2 and to a proposal from *Constitution & Ethics Committee* that joint working should be established between Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Health & Wellbeing Boards. Approval was also given for the appointment of a replacement Cambridgeshire Chairman for the Board. The Chairman's announcements included news about awards made to the Council: the first was the achievement of a silver award in the Ministry of Defence's employer recognition scheme which the Council received for its support of the armed forces and their spouses/partners/families as well as reservists, service leavers, veterans, the wounded, injured and sick. This support is demonstrated through its employment of at least one service leaver and offering reservists the flexibility needed to plan and fulfil their annual training and mobilisation commitments and its role as a lead signatory to the Cambridgeshire Armed Forces Community Covenant. The Council's 'See the Difference' campaign, with its successful focus on the recruitment of staff to support people to live independently, saw it shortlisted from 420 national entries and awarded one of the 18 categories, that for best research and evaluation. The Council's summer programme for those with special educational needs won the National Citizen Service Award at the Children & Young People Now Awards. Now in its sixth year in Cambridgeshire, the programme is offered to all young people. The Council was recognised for its work in supporting 24 young people with special educational needs and disabilities who would not otherwise have been able to participate. Agenda pack: <https://bit.ly/2s8ifYA>

*General Purposes Committee* [GPC] approved the recommendation from *Children & Young People Committee* [C&YP] to continue funding the Positive Behaviour Support Project. This project was set up in April 2017 to run for 2 years using £240,000 from the Council's Transformation Fund. Its aim was to work intensively with 8 children identified as having severe learning disabilities, to reduce challenging behaviour, improve quality of life and prevent exclusion from local support resources. The financial case for the project was based on the high cost of out of county residential schools and the success of similar projects nationally in reducing the need for such placements. At any one time there are 15-20 young people with severe learning disabilities and challenging behaviour in 52 week out of county residential schools, using a significant proportion of local care, education and health budgets. The team is currently at full capacity working with 8 families. All 8 children continue to be supported locally, none has required a 52 week residential placement to date and the projected saving is £746,000. This further investment will contribute to the funding of a multi-disciplinary team to work across Cambridgeshire & Peterborough for 2 years and will build on the successful outcomes of the original project. Agenda Pack: <https://bit.ly/2s9TpaL> [GPC] <https://bit.ly/2AybG67> [C&YP].

**Adults Committee** considered the allocation of the additional funding for Health & Social Care recently announced by Government. Local authorities were given a total of £240m for social care services. The aim is to alleviate winter pressure on the NHS by reducing the delayed transfers of care that happen when people have to wait for the necessary package of support services. Getting patients home from hospital more quickly and reducing extended lengths of stay allows the release of beds for other patients. Members approved the use of the £2.395m allocated to Cambridgeshire to address the shortage of domiciliary care through the commissioning of an additional 2,956 hours per week of discharge car provision and an additional 230 hours per week of reablement provision. Agenda Pack: <https://bit.ly/2C096pE>

**Commercial & Investment Committee** was given feedback on the marketing and disposal of Shire Hall and provided with a copy of the sales brochure. <https://bit.ly/2F9eqKy>

As a member of the **Fire Authority** I was pleased to see recognition of Station Commander Farsh Raoufi in the Queen's new year's honours list for his service to equality and inclusion both in his role with Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service [CFRS] and as a volunteer. Inspired by the community support he received when he arrived in the UK at the age of 14, he spent time as a youth worker before joining CFRS in 1991. During 17 years of volunteering he has supported young people and vulnerable adults in a variety of situations.

The **Police** are offering an opportunity to shape the future of policing in Cambridgeshire at a series of events taking place over the coming weeks. Their focus continues to be on providing the public with the best possible service whilst striving to balance national, regional and local issues. They are looking to the public to play an active role in influencing local policing particularly in relation to crime prevention. Those wishing to attend a meeting at Swavesey Village College, Gibraltar Lane, Swavesey, CB24 4RS on Thursday 24 January 2019 [19.00-21.00] can book a place at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/your-chance-to-influence-policing-in-the-county-tickets-53902169841>

There will also be a Police Surgery on Wednesday 30 January 2019 between 10.30 and 12.30 at The Co-op, 273 High Street, Cottenham, CB24 8QP. Anyone wanting to meet the local policing team for a general chat about local issues or to seek general security advice can just pop along -no appointment required. In the last few weeks I have met twice with the **A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon**

**Improvement** team. As the councillor for one of the County Divisions most affected by this project I meet regularly with the team. At the first of these two recent meetings I was accompanied by Bar Hill's District Councillor, a senior Officer from the County's Traffic Management Team and our Local Highways Officer. We discussed the issues that are regularly brought to my attention by local residents. At the second meeting Heidi Allen and I discussed with the Project Director and the Project Managers for both the A14 and A428 improvement works, local issues and the need to learn, *really learn*, from the first 2 years of the A14 scheme. Afterwards I accepted the offer of a comprehensive tour of both the on-line and off-line works, at one point sitting watching traffic on the existing A14 from a vantage point on the new road.

As a member of the County Council's **Health Committee** I am one of a small group of councillors who meets quarterly with the CEOs of Cambridgeshire University Trust [Addenbrookes], North West Anglia Foundation Trust [Hinchingsbrook], the Clinical Commissioning Group and Foundation Trust for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough and Healthwatch. During December's meetings at Addenbrookes and Hinchingsbrook we discussed among other things their plans for spending the additional Government funding that had been recently been announced for each. Addenbrookes will use its £19m to create additional decant capacity [about 60 beds] to allow for vital fire safety and estates improvements to take place in parts of the existing building and Hinchingsbrooke will use its £25m to address some of the issues that were raised during a recent CQC inspection. I look forward to receiving any questions or comments that you have about the items in this report or any other matters either at your January meetings or by email.

Lynda

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**APPENDIX B**  
**Report from District Councillor Douglas de Lacey, 11. 1. 2019**

We began December with the Civic Affairs committee again being asked to increase and decrease the sizes of two Parish Councils. We were not convinced that the request to increase could be justified (or that the requisite volunteers would materialise) and so refused to approve it. The Parish Chairman was apparently very angry, but we are not just a rubber stamp and we need good evidence for our decisions. I am still trying to encourage people to stand in Girton!

I have been very keen to improve morale at South Cambs Hall, and to integrate Officers and Councillors; so I was delighted when one of our new Councillors agreed to run a quiz for me on the evening of my Officers' Reception. The whole day was a great success with my PA organising the catering for the reception and a fish-and-chips supper in the quiz. A staff team narrowly beat a team of LibDem Councillors, Father Christmas presided over the scoring, and a good time was had by all. Later in the week the Vice-Chairman and I visited every Officer with a bag of sweets and oranges to give a personal Thank-you. Many teams decorate their desks for the festive season, and we also had a very enjoyable afternoon exploring them and awarding prizes and certificates for the best.

Not the least of the various activities the staff have done over the year is to collect Christmas gifts for patients at Fulbourn hospital; they collected more gifts than there are patients and these were handed over in a short ceremony at our Christmas tree.

The County has laid on briefing to help us understand how the various parts of the planning system fit together in assessing large new developments; it is a shame that many members of the planning committees were conspicuous by their absence. We are assured that transport assessments should prevent traffic chaos: they produce an estimate of the number of viable trips on the current roads: if this is exceeded the development must stop until improvements are made -- for instance the dualling of the A10. I pointed out that such works would for an extensive period significantly reduce road capacity, a factor which apparently is beyond our ability to handle. However, it was generally agreed that we should encourage more local input into the desiderata of new developments, and that we must learn to do better.

The JDCC had no plans to consider at its monthly meeting, but was given a briefing on the new primary school for the Wing development. My greatest concern was the effect it might have on neighbouring schools: we were assured that there would be a cap on the number of pupils 'but financial viability is relevant'. This is remarkably similar to the assurances we were given about the University primary school at Eddington which has wreaked havoc in neighbouring schools. I was also sorry that there is only cycle/scooter parking for 50% of the pupils, in a very compact community whose residents will probably be very concerned about sustainability.

Douglas de Lacey

**APPENDIX C**  
**Police Report: December 2018 – January 2019**

There have been no reported crimes on the e-cops system for Girton.

**APPENDIX D**  
**Payments Schedule for January 2019**

(circulated separately)

## APPENDIX E

### **Chairman's Report 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2019**

In the week leading up to Christmas the new Artwork Fence commissioned by GTC was installed at the car park boundary. This has been a major talking point over the holiday season and the feedback received by the Council has been very positive. I am sure all will join me in congratulating GTC Trustees on an attractive addition to the village.

The car park is now all but complete with only the white lining remaining to be completed. Following clearance of the drain to the fore area of the car park, drainage appears to be effective without disturbing the existing soakaways. The contractors have therefore deferred any work on these until it proves necessary. The contract price is to be adjusted accordingly. We have received further expression of concern from Girton Glebe School about the state of the road adjacent to the car park leading to the School car park and playground. Cllr Harford and I are already chasing the County Council for action on this and will continue to do so. The original deed from 1950 clearly states that CCC will maintain the road so hopefully this can be resolved quickly.

Action to have the GTC Community Hall building contractors repair the playground fence at Wellbrook Way is still awaited but being chased on a weekly basis. Similarly a response from the insurance underwrites on their tree works adjacent to 1 Duck End is still awaited and being chased. Scheduled repairs to the rec. play equipment and to the pavilion hall floor were successfully completed.

An incidence of spoof emails being sent from the 'chairman' email address has been investigated. These could have originated anywhere and there is no evidence that the security of the Office or my personal computers have been compromised. Indeed the use of email addresses that I do not use means that a list of addresses has been obtained from somewhere else. This serves as a reminder that any 'odd' looking email should be checked by hovering over (or right clicking) the address to verify it is genuine before opening.

Following discussion at our last PC meeting I have questioned whether it is worthwhile our proceeding with our LHI application. Cllr. Hickford is unfortunately unavailable to present the application and I do not feel able to do so with any enthusiasm as it does not really address the real issues of speeding near the Co-op and in the Thorntons, nor the request for a reduced speed limit along Oakington Road. Best wishes to Roger for a speedy recovery.

Thanks to Cllr Andy Griffin for assistance in removing the Christmas lights from the Cotton Hall and Pavilion, and best wishes to all for a happy and successful 2019.

**Haydn Williams**

## APPENDIX F

### **Girton Town Charity Report – January 2019**

#### **Schemes and Grants to help you through the Winter**

##### **Hospital Taxi Scheme**

For Girton residents who have problems using public transport, do not have their own transport or find it difficult to use their own car, the Hospital Taxi Scheme enables them to get to outpatient appointments at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Brookfields Hospital or Chesterton Hospital. An annual registration fee of £6 is payable and then taxi fares are capped at £7 for each return trip. This service is carried out by the Girton taxi companies: Nelsons and Wendy Barrett to whom the Charity is very grateful.

##### **CarePlus Grant Scheme**

This is for people in the Village and their carers and is to assist independent living, providing short-term additional care to suit the individual's need over and above any statutory care to which the applicant is entitled. The Grant also aims to help residents return home from hospital as soon as possible, responding quickly at a time of need. Application is by referral, with care worth up to £1,700 per calendar year provided by one of two care professionals nominated by GTC – Avall and Home Instead. Over the last 12 months 17 residents benefitted from the Scheme.

**Cambridge Dial-A-Ride** This entitles residents to low-cost local transport, once they have paid the annual membership fee of £10. Dial-A-Ride offers the chance to travel around the City to attend day centres or

community groups, as well as appointments at the doctor, dentist or hairdresser or for shopping, visiting friends or relatives.

### **Community Warden**

Working in partnership with Age UK Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, GTC funds a Community Warden to assist older people living in their own homes to continue an independent lifestyle and to complement the work of statutory services. Contact Gail (Monday to Thursday) on 07979 333963 or Fiona (Thursday to Friday) on 07967 827843.

### **Prescription Service**

GTC funds a Prescription Delivery Service, run by the pharmacists at the GP practices at Pepys Way and Huntingdon Road Surgeries which is available for those Girton patients living within the Pepys Way dispensing area who are unable, through reason of incapacity, to collect their dispensed medicines.

If you feel you could benefit from any of the above Schemes and Grants, please contact the GTC Office.

### **Project update**

#### **William Collyn Community Centre**

The construction work is more or less complete. During the next few weeks phone and media connections will be installed, while Health and Safety checks and equipment are put in place. Cambridgeshire ACRE, our partner implementing the William Collyn Centre, is advertising for a Centre Manager and once in post, we will be organising a formal opening as well as an Open Day.

#### **Golden Goose Railings**

The bus shelter and footpath were completed at the start of December and we anticipate the Golden Goose Railings will be in place by Christmas.

#### **WI Hall Site**

With construction completed at the William Collyn Centre, Trustees can now turn their attention to the new Almshouses on this site and look forward to work commencing during the next year.

#### **High Street Development.**

Changes within the Planning Department at SCDC have resulted in delays in progressing the Planning Application. (Note: information correct at the time of writing - 6th December 2018 - due to early GPN copy deadline.)

#### **Two family homes available for limited term appointment**

Two homes located in Centenary Court, Wellbrook Way are available for three year appointments.

These properties are suitable for families. They have a fitted kitchen, large living room, two/three bedrooms and a small garden. Green features include solar panels, triple glazed windows, enhanced thermal insulation and a heat recovery system. Applications are invited from residents of Girton or those having a close connection with the Village, who meet qualifications laid down by the Charity Commissioners. Further information if required, may be obtained from any Trustee.

Applications should be made in writing, preferably using the application form available from the GTC Office. These must be returned by 21st January 2019 latest. Interview will take place on 28th January 2019. Contact information for GTC is given below.

#### **Educational Grants 2019**

Applications for an Educational Grant are invited from young people over 18 leaving secondary education and moving on to higher education and some training schemes or NVQ qualifications, Level 4 and above.

The Grant covers books, equipment, tools or other direct costs relevant to the course and is a maximum of £275\* per year for up to four years. Payment date for grant applications received will be July 2019. Applicants must have lived in Girton for a minimum of two years immediately before leaving secondary education. Contact the GTC office for an application form.

\* Terms and conditions apply

The William Collyn Community Centre is a new purpose-built facility in Wellbrook Way, Girton, available for Village activities and local groups as well as corporate and independent bookings from the

wider community. During the next few weeks, the interior will be completed, and Cambridgeshire ACRE, our partner implementing the William Collyn Centre, is advertising for a Centre Manager. Once this person is in post, GTC will be organising a formal opening as well as an Open Day for the Village to drop in and find out more about this exciting new Community building. In the meantime, if you would like to make a booking

for 2019 or have any other enquiry, please contact Girton Town Charity: 01223 276008

email: [info@williamcollyn.co.uk](mailto:info@williamcollyn.co.uk)

## APPENDIX G

### Summary of Girton Youth Project Report for December 2018

We continue to have a fantastic, dedicated group of sessional staff who support each other and the young people so well. I am in the process of arranging a team meeting this month. This will give the opportunity to plan sessions, activities, discuss any concerns and chat. I will follow this up with 1-1 meetings with staff so that we can discuss targets further etc.

I am aware that 2019 may bring a few changes re. staffing as people come and go to university and start new ventures. I am keen to ascertain availability staff particularly for Easter and summer planning. This will help with future planning and highlight any need for recruitment, if necessary.

I believe that some work needs to be done to 'reshuffle' the groupings for the youth groups. I have found that there are a few young people who attend a Monday, but are a few years over the age bracket. I understand that this has been the case to enable friends to attend together etc. However, we have seen a bit of dispute amongst the older boys. I feel it is appropriate that they are now asked to move to the Thursday group. This will enable them to have a greater sense of freedom and independence as well as broaden their social skills and make new skills with young people their age. I will discuss this with staff and relay information to parents.