

Hardwicke Parish Council

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DRAFT

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7 April 2008 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, Hardwicke

ATTENDANCE

Mrs J. Storton (Chairman)
Mrs V. Box
Mr D. G. Middle
Mrs D. Mumford

Mr C. J. Newell
Mrs G. E. Oxley
Mrs R. L. Smith

Seven parishioners, Mr G. R. Littleton (SDC), Mr D. L. Tomlins (GCC) and the Clerk. **Apologies** were received from Mr Butler, Mrs Harrison, Mr Hunt, Mrs Hunt and PC Mark Peer. There were no **Declarations of Interest**. The Minutes of the meeting of 3 March, having been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

36/08 **DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Mr Tomlins reported that the flooding in mid-March had again made this issue a high priority and that his council would undertake emergency remedial measures. Mr Littleton added that development at the Quadrant estate and clearance of the Shorn Brook had made matters worse, and Mr Botham of The Old Thatch circulated copies of a document summarising the problems and possible solutions. Several affected residents were present and there was considerable discussion on the whole matter. Grants for flood alleviation would be investigated, David Drew MP would be contacted, and the Clerk would write to the County Council suggesting a meeting with all interested parties including Mr Roberts (Stakeholder Manager) and Mr Jordan (Director of Environment Dept) to discuss the way forward.

37/08 **PLAYING FIELD**

This item had been brought forward as there was a clash of matches on 26 April when the Football Club wished to play a League match but the Cricket Club had set a rearranged fixture to accommodate the Rangers tournament. Parish councillors decided that the Football Club should be allowed to play their match and the Cricket Club should be asked to play later that day or on Sunday; Mrs Oxley was authorised to talk to Mr Jellyman to come to some agreement on this. The respective Agreements would have to be amended so that both Clubs did not have exclusive rights during April.

The meeting was adjourned at this point for public consultation; traffic in the lanes and Bath Road was discussed. The meeting was then reconvened.

38/08 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

27/08 Mrs Mumford reported on the Seminar she had attended on 27 March at Hartpury which had covered community protection, emergency plans, care in the community and the current shortage of carers, recycling, and a poster campaign to raise awareness of the county council's role.

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39/08 **CORRESPONDENCE**

From GAPTC/NALC: newsletter, March, and new training programme; Bledisloe Cup entry papers (Hardwicke would enter, and the Clerk would write the report as usual); invitation to Arts forum at the Everyman 1 May

From SDC: notice of district council elections 1 May; street cleaning consultation; grant application forms

From GCC: reminder of closure of Sellars Bridge 8/9 April; changes to plan validations
 Message from Whiteshill & Ruscombe PC on Considerate Driver Scheme; complaint over litter at Westbourne News (forwarded to SDC); Standards Board committee changes; response to Haresfield complaint over handling of the Hunts Grove Inquiry; Wicksteed & Playworld catalogues; ITV show notice

40/08 **PLANNING MATTERS****Applications**

S.08/0088/FUL single storey ext at 1 Ploughman's Way (no obj)

S.08/0280/FUL rebuild commercial unit at Green Farm (retro)(obj)

S.08/0373/FUL conservatory at 29 Darleydale Close (no obj)

S.08/0423/FUL conservatory at 3 Orchard Close (no obj)

S.08/0428/FUL resubmission of 2-storey side ext at 9 Dovedale Close (comments as previously)

S.08/0473/FUL conv. garage at 21 Stockdale Close and amendments (no obj)

S.08/0561/FUL single storey ext at Ellis Farm outbuildings (no obj)

Enforcement

Two touring caravans at Sticky Lane were reported w/b 17 March and were still there

41/08 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE & NIC)	£205.34
Glos. County Council (pension)	£171.65
Clerk salary, Mar	£965.12
Mrs D. M. Edwards, Mar	£287.04
Greenfields Garden Services Ltd, swing link repair	£102.23
Clerk's quarterly expenses Jan/Mar	£189.15
GAPTC for training course 20 Mar	£90.00
Glos Wildlife Trust sub	£25.00
NALC for Local Council Review	£13.50

Requests for Donations

It was noted that SDC had still not released the £7500 for Rangers

Churchyard Expenses

Flower holders had been collected (the Vicar would arrange storage), notices were awaited

Audit 2007/8

External Auditor Moore Stephens had fixed 13 June for receipt of the Annual Return. The books would be audited by Mr Selkirk by 23 May and the council would be able to approve them at the June meeting before submission of the Annual Return. Fees would remain respectively £285 and £105. Audit notices would be displayed before 24 April.

42/08 PARISH MAINTENANCE**Ditch clearance**

The Estate had written to say that the hedge and ditch at Church Green were the PC's responsibility and had sent a quotation for clearance at The Green. This included some stretches which the Clerk thought belonged to the Estate, and she had suggested a meeting with the Agent to discuss these ditches and come to some arrangement e.g. that the council cleared the ditch at Church Green if the hedge is cut first, and shared the cost of the hedge & ditch at The Barn on The Green, but did not pay for clearance through the wooded area there. This was agreed. The Clerk was asked to request clearance of the roadside ditch opposite The Pond in Green Lane and to write to the Head Teacher asking for rubbish to be removed from the newly-cleared ditch his side.

Elmgrove Estate Play Area

The Inspection report was signed. RoSPA would inspect during April.

Fencing Repairs

Further quotes had been received but it was felt that the whole matter needed clarification. Mrs Harrison had offered to obtain comparable tenders and this was accepted.

Gardens Competition 2008

Blooms/Wyevale had not yet responded (Mrs Storton would visit).

The Pond

FWAG report was awaited.

Churchyard

It was reported that rabbits were digging in the new cremation area. The contractor would be contacted for suggestions. A parishioner had requested a memorial tree (approved).

43/08 TRAFFIC

There had been considerable correspondence and several meetings and it appeared that things were beginning to move; the Working Group would be asked for a written report for the next meeting.

44/08 PARISH ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 15 April at 7.30 p.m. The Agenda was approved. A request was made for an induction hearing loop at the Hall.

45/08 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

The Recreation Group had arranged an open meeting on 12 April and would deliver a questionnaire, with the help of Andy Foster. Hardwicke Matters boxes at Westbourne News and the Post Office could be used to contact the parish council (perhaps on a three months' trial). The Fire Brigade had helped the residents of Tudor Cottage to avoid floodwater (Clerk to write and thank them). An abandoned motorcycle on the Cross Keys roundabout and a roll of razor wire near the telephone kiosk nearby would be reported. The Clerk would contact the Playscheme leaders to see whether they would be running the Scheme this year.

46/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The AGM was confirmed for Tuesday 6 May 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 p.m.

Date Signed