

Hardwicke Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2 November 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, Hardwicke

ATTENDANCE

Mr I. Butler (Chairman)

Mrs V. Box

Mr A. S. Clarke

Mrs L-J. Fallows

Mr D. G. Middle

Mrs D. Mumford

Mrs G. E. Oxley

Mr A. G. V. Plater

Five parishioners, Mr G. R. Littleton (SDC), Mr A. Blackburn (GCC), and the Clerk. Before the meeting, public comment was invited, under the chairmanship of Mr Clarke in the absence of the Chairman (delayed in traffic). A planning application was discussed and comment made on the wall at the Play Area, and bus stop poles & signs. The Chairman having arrived, the meeting opened at 8.15 p.m. **Apologies** were received from Mrs Harrison, Mr Newell, Mr Welbourne and Cllr Tomlins. There were no **Declarations of Interest**. The Minutes of the meeting of 5 October 2009, having been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

124/09 **POLICE REPORT/COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT**

The Clerk reported that Insp Smith had passed her letter requesting a meeting to his sergeant, who would be in touch, and he himself had promised to attend a council meeting soon. Phil Drew had reported a fire in Westbourne Drive, consequent 24-hr patrols there, and several litter-picks in the area.

125/09 **DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Mr Littleton had participated in the planning discussion and requested the council to complete planning questionnaires. Mr Blackburn reported on the B4008 resurfacing postponement and the Joint Core Waste Strategy.

126/09 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Mr Middle had the Dog Notices from SDC which had been obtained some time ago and were available to members to put up where needed. Mr Butler would take charge of them.

127/09 **CORRESPONDENCE**

From GAPTC/NALC: Update leaflet, Oct; details of training courses 2010; GRCC Review 08/09; notice of GPFA AGM, and Playing Field magazine

From SDC: letter advising that the Licensing Officer had instructed McDonalds to move the notice (requesting patrons to leave quietly) to a more suitable place

From GCC: document on Waste Core Strategy and consultation questionnaire (this had been completed by councillors and a further copy would be completed by the Clerk indicating opposition to incineration at any of the sites)

Letter of thanks from GPFA and offer of advice on playgrounds and playing field; appeal from Glos Wildlife Trust to save the Watervole; Alzheimer's Society newsletter; letter of thanks for donation to St Nicholas' Junior Choir; Stroud VCA annual report; request for approval of vehicle inhibitor at St Nicholas' Court (agreed); request to hold Rangers Tournament on the weekend of 3-4 July 2010 (agreed).

128/09 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Applications

S.09/1692/VAR variation to allow development at Hunts Grove (objection, as concerns that junction development might not be carried out later). A site meeting had been arranged for 5 Nov which the Chairman would attend.

S.09/1719/COU c/use of dwelling house and retention of building at The Barn, Green Farm. There was considerable discussion on this application as one of the buildings involved was under a demolition notice, but it was proposed to use it as part of the proposed children's home; members felt that this made a mockery of the planning system and strong objections would be made. Members were sympathetic to the applicants and their proposals but felt that the application itself was inconsistent and erroneous. Mr Littleton would take the matter further and would recommend that the application be withdrawn until clarifications could be made. Mr Littleton was asked to inform the parish council of similarly controversial applications as soon as possible, and the Clerk was asked to report the extra caravan at the Sticky Lane site to planning enforcement officers.

Decisions Notified by the Planning Authority

S.09/1612/HHOLD conservatory at 15 Clover Drive (permitted)

S.09/1743/CPL dormer window at 2 Westbourne Drive (no permission needed)

Consultation on Planning

A questionnaire on electronic planning had been copied to all and was completed at the meeting. Mrs Harrison had volunteered to be the Planning Portfolio Holder, to organise a planning committee to discuss applications, rather than the present system of the nearest councillor and two others forming an ad hoc committee.

129/09 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The following accounts were approved:

HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE & NIC)	£120.85
Glos. County Council (pension)	£177.13
Clerk salary, Oct	£797.85
Mrs D. M. Edwards, new rate	£317.20
Staples plc (ink cartridges)(Shurdington PC to pay half)	£37.72
Frampton on Severn Parish Council, Severn Voice meeting	£7.00
Mrs D. M. Edwards, trolley for litterpicking	£29.98
Information Commissioner for Data Protection registration	£35.00

Draft Budget 2010/11

There was insufficient time to discuss this so a meeting would be held on 26 November, to discuss and make recommendations to the parish council.

National Final Salary Award

The notice of pay settlement backdated to April 2009 had been received, which resulted in an increase of just over £100. It was agreed to leave this until April 2010.

S106 Funds

SDC officers had offered to attend the December meeting to discuss the funds but it was felt that there was little time at full council meetings and they should be invited to the financial meeting on 26 November as above.

Village Hall

The Committee had issued a plea to residents to help the Hall in its financial difficulties. Mrs Mumford reported that a new chairman and vice chairman had been appointed and a

working party would be set up; meanwhile council members would attend the AGM to be held on 30 November.

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130/09 **PARISH MAINTENANCE**

Grass cutting

Hawkins had not yet submitted a price for the Playing Field; they would be asked to include for some sort of baffle to prevent ingress of grass into Village Hall heaters.

Elmgrove Estate Play Area

The inspection report was signed. There had been no further correspondence on the accident on 9 Sept.

Youth Shelter

PC Mackie had identified and visited the youths responsible for graffiti at the Youth Shelter on 24 Oct, which they had removed. They had also defaced the dug-outs.

CCTV

At the Portfolio meeting on 19 October it had been agreed that Mr Clarke should be the Data Controller, that all members should seek CRB clearance and would assist him on a rota basis, and that the council should register under the Data Protection Act, costing £35 p.a. These proposals were approved. CRB forms had been obtained from the County Council which would charge an administration fee (unclear as yet) but clearance appeared to be free for volunteers, and the Clerk had begun the Data Protection registration process, not yet completed. The Information Commission's CCTV Code of Practice had been circulated for guidance.

ASG had not yet completed the works so the cheque for £684.25 had not been forwarded. Mr Clarke recommended that quotations for further works and ongoing maintenance should be sought from another company (agreed).

Ditches

The PRoW office had been asked to clarify whether the diversion of EHA 19 at the Plantation ditch had been carried out (the matter had been referred to SDC legal dept).

Flood Signs

Mr Middle as Flood Warden had requested two further signs, as the existing two were destroyed or lost. However, one was still available. They would be kept by Mr Clarke and Mr Butler, at each end of the flood-prone section of Church Lane.

Litter

The arrangement of further meetings with Mr Novoth was still under discussion.

Oak Tree Close

SDC had requested the council to organise a planting day to coincide with National Tree Planting Day on 5 December; SDC would provide hedging plants and possible temporary fencing, and had requested a contribution for trees from the parish council. It was felt that a later date would be preferable so that local support could be enlisted, and that the council did not wish to contribute financially. Mrs Mumford would contact SDC to discuss the matter further.

Churchyard

The goats had been moved. Prior to their removal, their owner's telephone number had been given out to all complainants, and PC Mackie had called on him to point out his responsibilities. Mr Kent had estimated £275 for creosoting the fence around Church Green (accepted).

Gardens Competition

Mr Cross, one of the two judges, had died (the Clerk would write, and would attend the funeral). It was agreed that members would undertake the judging themselves next year.

131/09 **ROADS & TRAFFIC**

Green Lane Bollards

Mr Newell had advised that the ground was too hard to instal bollards at present and he was still investigating prices at Forest Products. It was reported that existing bollards on The Green needed inspection, as some were loose.

Road Works

A38 resurfacing had just been completed but the B4008 flyover works had been rescheduled until next May, because the present surfacing would have to be recycled and relaid in better weather. The police were aware of rat-running in Pound Lane/Green Lane during the works and had installed an Archer traffic device there.

132/09 **JAVELIN PARK**

The consultation questionnaires had been completed; several events had been organised including a cycle event on 7 November and "roadshows" at the Royal British Legion on 9 November and at Equals on 18 November.

133/09 **PORTFOLIO MEETINGS**

Notes of the meeting on 19 October had been copied to all, together with a draft Policy & Principles Statement which was approved and would be put on the website. The next meeting would be on 26 November at the Village Hall and there would not be one in December.

134/09 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Three caravans at Sticky Lane and the continuing presence of travellers at Junction 12 were reported. Quedgely PC had invited members to their Christmas meal. The road ditch at Tudor Cottage needed clearance (Mr Blackburn to follow up).

135/09 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** was confirmed for Monday 7 December

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50 p.m.

Date Signed