

Hardwicke Parish Council

817

Draft

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7 December 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, Hardwicke

ATTENDANCE

Mr I. Butler (Chairman)

Mr A. S. Clarke

Mrs L-J. Fallows

Mrs T. A. Harrison

Mr D. G. Middle

Mrs D. Mumford

Mr C. J. Newell

Mr A. G. V. Plater

Mr D. L. Welbourne

Three parishioners, Mr G. R. Littleton (SDC), Mr A. Blackburn (GCC), PC Mackie and PC Setter, Mr P. Drew (Neighbourhood Warden) and the Clerk. Under the chairmanship of Mr Clarke in the absence of the Chairman, public comment was invited before the opening of the meeting but none was made. **Apologies** were received from Mrs Box, Mrs Harrison and Mrs Oxley. Mrs Mumford and Mr Welbourne declared their interest in the Village Hall grant application, owing to their membership of the Committee. The Minutes of the meeting of 2 November 2009, having been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and altered at item 129/09 to clarify that the Village Hall officers had not been appointed prior to the parish council meeting. The alterations and the Minutes were signed by the Chairman who arrived at this point.

136/09 **POLICE REPORT/COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT**

PC Mackie introduced PC Caroline Setter with whom he would be working. He was now part time. Crime figures for the last month, details of the fire in Westbourne Drive last month, speeding in the lanes and s106 funding were discussed.

137/09 **DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Mr Littleton reported on Green Farm, flooding in Church Lane, Hunts Grove and the Scheme of Delegation consultation. Mr Blackburn reported on drainage problems in Green Lane, affordable housing at Hunts Grove, travellers at Junction 12 and weight restriction signs in Pound Lane, and read out relevant parts of the Highways list of schemes in progress.

138/09 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

115/09: Travellers at Junction 12: Mr Blackburn had had a reply which indicated that the Highways Agency was dealing with the matter. There was considerable discussion over the legal aspects of this matter and the length of time involved. Mr Littleton and Mr Blackburn then left the meeting.

139/09 **CORRESPONDENCE**

From GAPTC/NALC: Update leaflet, Local Council Review, Emergency Plan template (Mrs Fallows would look at this and report)

From SDC: invitation to Parish & Town Councils meeting 4 Feb

....

Clerks & Councils Direct and The Clerk magazines; Severn Voice minutes; Glos Wildlife Trust newsletter; Greenfields leaflet; request for lesson reader at the Carol Service 17 Dec (Mrs Fallows or Mr Clarke); correspondence with County Council over the A38 bus shelter near Pound Lane (passengers could not see the bus which sometimes did not stop, but since there were no funds for a new shelter there was nothing the parish council could do); changes in bus services had been advertised in the notice boards (and HMatters); Alzheimer Society newsletter; increase to £9/hr in Village Hall hire rates; copy letter on flooding from Mr Botham; request for Rangers to police parking on Green Lane verges (Clerk to write).

140/09 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Mrs Harrison had agreed to be Portfolio Holder for planning matters so the council agreed that all applications would be forwarded to her to arrange planning group meetings, visits to inspect application sites, and responses to the Clerk (if the response time was between meetings) or to the next meeting (particularly for any major or contentious applications). There were no applications for consideration at this meeting but Mr Butler advised that the applicant for Sellars Barn had been advised to re-submit it without the commercial proposals, and had requested support from the council (agreed).

Joint Core Strategy

Joint Core Strategy documents for consultation on major planning had been received from Gloucester City, Tewkesbury Borough and Cheltenham Borough for consultation on major planning: it was assumed that there would be another document from SDC.

141/09 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The following accounts were approved:

HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE & NIC)	£120.85
Glos. County Council (pension)	£177.13
Clerk salary, Nov	£797.85
Mrs D. M. Edwards *	£342.20
T. W. Hawkins & Sons SGMS	£816.50
SLCC subscription (half)	£75.50
Allianz Insurance plc (for Multiplay)	£168.89
Greenfields Garden Services Ltd (inspection & swing repair)	£169.05
Hardwicke Village Hall hire Oct/Nov	£70.00
Dale Haines, final cut	£160.00
Direct debit for CCTV	£17.50

* including Christmas bonus of £25

Draft Budget 2010/11

The Portfolio meeting on 26 Nov had redrafted the Budget and suggested a 2% increase in the Precept making it £32130 (this would increase Band D contributions from £23.49 to approx £23.97) After considerable discussion, it was agreed by majority decision to implement this increase and request a precept of £32130.

S106

Ms Toole and Mr Sullivan had attended the meeting on 26 Nov with six members of the parish council. She had promised to interpret the Agreements as loosely as possible to assist with youth facilities and Village Hall improvements, and to look into whether the cost of CCTV could be taken from s106 funds. Mr Sullivan said that the Community Safety Partnership might assist with the CCTV costs. The Clerk would submit all the CCTV invoices to them both.

Grants 2009/10

Grants had been requested by TS Bulldog, Golden Age Club and the Village Hall. There was some £1200 left in the budget so it was agreed to award £150 to each of the first and £900 to the Village Hall for essential maintenance which would not qualify for s106 funding on its own.

Churchyard Fees

These would increase as from 31 December but the new charges were not yet known.

142/09 **CCTV & RELATED MATTERS**

ASG had still not released the engineering code despite numerous messages and letters so the August invoice had not been paid. The Clerk was asked to write to the Managing Director.

Data Protection

The parish council was now registered under the Data Protection Act, renewable each year at £35.

CRB Clearance

Several forms had been completed and would be submitted to GCC.

143/09 **PARISH MAINTENANCE****Grass cutting**

Hawkins had not yet submitted his price for the Playing Field or come back with suggestions for baffles for the heaters (it was noted that this should be written into the Contract).

Elmgrove Estate Play Area

The inspection report was signed on 26 Nov. No further news on the accident on 9 Sept.

Ditches

No response on the route of EHA 19 from SDC's Legal Dept.

Litter

Mr Novoth had been in touch regarding further meetings but it was felt that any working parties should be deferred until the spring. It was suggested that councillors could do some ditch litter-clearance during the closure of the A38 in February.

SDC Maintenance

Mrs Harrison had met with Stroud DC at Dales Wharf. The roundabouts there would re-seeded and SDC had suggested a tree on each roundabout.

Dog Notices

Council members would put up some of the notices, particularly around the school. There was discussion over the problem of dog fouling in this area. The Clerk had requested posters but the Dog Wardens had none.

144/09 **YOUTH PROVISION**

Ms Toole had recommended a letter to Lynn Speed, head of Youth Services GCC, as Hardwicke comes under Glos City for the provision of youth facilities so SDC did not fund Equals. The Chairman would write.

145/09 **ROADS & TRAFFIC**

The police were aware of rat-running in Pound Lane and PC Mackie was still trying to obtain an Archer device. Highways had filled potholes quickly but the problems would recur shortly. Mr Newell reported on the costs of bollards in Green Lane, which would have to be 1.5 m apart, and it was agreed to seek tenders on an amended specification.

146/09 **LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Mrs Fallows had attended the seminar and had circulated her report and other documents.

147/09 **PORTFOLIO MEETINGS**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 18 January to discuss Mrs Fallows' report as above.

148/09 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Obstructive parking in Green Lane had been noted. Drainage problems at Tudor Cottage and in ditches elsewhere would be reported to Ian Kear at SDC. Youth Council meetings were going well, funding had been applied for, a residential weekend was to be undertaken, and Blooms had offered five trees for planting (perhaps at Oak Tree Close). Quedgeley PC had invited Hardwicke PC to the Fun Day on June 12, and to post-meeting drinks on 21 Dec.

149/09 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** was confirmed for Monday 4 January 2010.

A draft Schedule of Meetings was agreed; the date of the AGM was uncertain because there might be a district & parish election, or even a general election, on 6 May.

There being no further business, the Chairman wished everyone a happy Christmas and closed the meeting at 10.00 p.m.

Date Signed