

# *Hardwicke Parish Council*

840

## **DRAFT**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 7 June 2010 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

Mrs T. A. Harrison

Mr D. G. Middle

Mr C. J. Newell

Mrs G. E. Oxley

Mr A. G. V. Plater

Mr D. L. Welbourne

Mrs F. Welbourne

Three parishioners, Mr G. R. Littleton (SDC), Mr A. Blackburn (GCC), PC Fraser Mackie, and the Clerk. **Apologies** were received from Mrs Fallows and Mr Drew. There were no **Declarations of Interest**. All members present signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and it was agreed that Mrs Fallows could sign hers at or before the next meeting. Mrs Welbourne was welcomed by the Chairman.

### **57/10 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN and VICE CHAIRMAN**

Mr Butler was proposed and seconded; being the only nominee, he was duly re-elected and signed a declaration of acceptance of office. Mrs Harrison was re-elected Vice Chairman.

The meeting was adjourned at this point for public consultation; a resident of Church Lane complained of large lorries in the lanes, making them unsafe for pedestrians. Suggested closure or width restriction at the church, and the enforcement of the speed and weight restrictions which had only recently been imposed, were discussed at some length. Mr Butler would visit to discuss the matter further, and Mr Blackburn would be advised of the parish council's conclusions in due course. The meeting was then reconvened.

### **58/10 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of 4 May 2010, having been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **59/10 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

19/10 Ditches in Pound Lane: Mr Mulla of Highways was now liaising directly with St Modwen over clearance of ditches

### **60/10 POLICE REPORT/COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT**

PC Mackie reported low crime figures for the last four weeks. He had had an unsatisfactory meeting with Highways to discuss the situation in the lanes, and requested registration numbers of vehicles over 7.5 tonnes seen in the lanes so that he could follow up. He would be requesting funding for youth projects from SDC, which had allocated no funding for Hardwicke youth this year (there were approx 600 teenagers in the parish). He was asked questions on a letter to his superiors, ownership of a field alongside the canal where youths were hanging out, and parking in Hembury Close (to be followed up with Phil Drew). Mr Drew had reported by telephone concerning this piece of land, and had offered to help with the installation of dog notices.

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61/10 **DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Mr Blackburn reported on the events in which he had been concerned during the year since his election, which had included weight and speed restrictions in the lanes, repairs to and speed restrictions in Bath Road, removal of travellers near Junction 12, and the culvert works in Church Lane. He also mentioned pothole repair, the county council's new Leader (Mark Hawthorne) and proposals for the closure of 200 hospital beds, now referred to the Scrutiny Committee. The new government had abolished the Government Office of the South West and its Regional Spatial Strategy, and confirmed the provision of more police officers and flood alleviation measures costing £1.5M. Mr Littleton, who was congratulated on his re-election last month, also welcomed the abolition of the RSS and consequent return of decision-making to local councils. He reported on the Verona Cottage plans, held up because of flood concerns, and the drainage from Hunts Grove which was being investigated by Drainage Board engineers.

62/10 **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES, WARDENS & COMMITTEES**

The following appointments were confirmed:

Equals Representative	Mr Welbourne
Police Representative	Mrs Oxley
Press Officer	Mr Clarke
Public Transport Representative	Mrs Harrison
Severn Vale School Representative	Mrs Oxley
Village Hall Committee	Mrs Welbourne
<b>Wardens:</b>	
Grass	Mr Dawe (Field) & Mr Middle (Church)
Flood	Mr Middle
Footpaths	Mrs Box
Litter	All councillors
Notice Boards	Mrs Paul
Play Area	Mrs Box
Roads	Mr Butler
Snow	Mr Clarke
Trees	Mr Middle
Watercourse	Mr Plater

**Committees:**

Churchyard	Mrs Box, Mr Middle, Mrs Fallows, Mr Clarke, Mrs Harrison
Finance	At least three members and others as present at meetings

**Portfolio Group Leaders:**

Finance & Governance	Mrs Harrison
IT & Communications	Mr Clarke
Planning & Development	Mrs Box (and minimum two others for comments)
Recreation & Amenities	Mrs Box
Roads & Traffic Safety	Mr Butler

It was noted that the Planning & Development Committee would meet only to discuss controversial plans (such a plan had just arrived, which would be discussed at a meeting on 9 June) but members were reminded to respond to email consultation on plans, to be co-ordinated by Mrs Box. The Recreation & Amenities Committee would now be dealing mostly with maintenance, as the council had agreed to help the Village Hall Committee as far as possible (a meeting with Eastington PC to discuss its new Village Hall would be arranged shortly).

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63/10 **CORRESPONDENCE**

From GAPTC/NALC: GPFA magazine; GRCC report on Parish & Community led Plans in Glos

From SDC: notice of recycling collection round changes (now alternate Tuesdays); notice of environmental application at Quedgeley TE West (paint-spraying)

Minutes of Community Voice meeting at Severn Vale School 11 May (Mrs Oxley would attend the next meeting); The Clerk magazine; details of street lights from Eon.

64/10 **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT****Applications**

S.10/0374/FUL Extension to canopy at Cross Keys Filling Station (no obj)

S.10/0847/VAR variation to Condition 7 to allow storage at 3m at Unit E, Quedgeley TE West (comment on noise and visual impact)

S.10/0774/HHOLD Erection of wooden building over existing swimming-pool at Church House Barn, Church Lane (support)

**Decisions**

S.07/1151/OUT Commercial development for B1 on land east of Waterwells (permitted)

S.09/2291/COU C/use at Unit C, Quedgeley TE West from D1 (educational) to B8 (warehousing) & B2 (industrial)(permitted)

S.10/0097/COU C/use at Unit E from B8 to B2, and fencing (permitted)

S.10/0138/HHOLD 2-storey ext & conservatory at Larian House, Bristol Rd (permitted)  
The Chairman had noted that this householder had stated that 100 houses would be built on Mayo's Land next door (to be investigated).

65/10 **FINANCE & GOVERNANCE**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

HMRC (PAYE & NIC)	£66.07
Glos. County Council (pension)	£178.90
Clerk salary, Apr	£861.94
Mrs D. M. Edwards, Apr	£317.20
Post Office Ltd	£20.28
M & D Property Maintenance	£25.00
Playsafety Ltd (RoSPA)	£81.08
Greenfields Garden Services	£58.75
D. L. Welbourne, padlock & keys	£22.29
Glos County Council, CRB charges	£23.49
Hardwicke Village Hall hire Mar/May	£22.50
Dale Haines, churchyard grass May	£320.00
Direct debit for CCTV	£17.88

**Audit 2009/10**

The Annual Return had been submitted for audit and the External Auditor's Report was awaited; there had been a question on the level of Fidelity Guarantee set at £30,000, which the council felt was sufficient for the purpose.

**Donations 2010**

A request for help with heating at the church had been received from the PCC, which would be asked to complete a form for consideration at the next meeting. Several suggestions were also made.

**66/10 RECREATION & AMENITIES****Elmgrove Estate Play Area**

The inspection report was signed. RoSPA's inspection report had recommended junior swing chain renewal (already pointed out by Greenfields to be done within 5 months) and new bearings for the roundabout (reported to Greenfields). Signs at the Play Area: there was considerable discussion over the new equipment, the accident claim in September (still unresolved), and whether signage should be installed. It was agreed that the Clerk should find out whether signs were a legal requirement and if so what should be said on them. Mrs Box had replaced cable ties on the Spacenet gauntlets and undertaken re-seeding in patches. Mr Butler remarked that the council should have a Play Policy document as well as its Risk Assessments and Standing Orders (the latter were in process of being revised and adopted).

**Youth Shelter Bin**

Catalogues would be passed round, to choose a new bin in due course.

**Playing Field**

Permission was granted for a Village Hall event on 31 July, partly on the Playing Field, provided the committee liaised with the Cricket Club. Reseeding in patches on the field was needed (Mr Dawe would talk to the contractor). Mr Welbourne had purchased a new padlock for the lockable bollard, and keys had been issued to AFC, HCC, grass-cutting contractor and Mr Dawe (Mr Welbourne and the Clerk had the remaining two).

**Playscheme**

No volunteers had so far offered to run this year's Scheme.

**Ditches**

Church Green ditch: the contractor had been asked for a quote to clear out the sediment (Mr Thomas had demonstrated that sediment at The Old Vicarage was responsible for the blockage further upstream) and the Estate would be asked to pay half.

**Noticeboard**

M & D had been asked to quote for repair of the broken lock on the board at Westbourne News and possibly the glazing of the one at Sellars Barn. It was noted that Dales Wharf needed a notice board.

**67/10 ROADS & TRAFFIC SAFETY**

The Minchinhampton traffic camera survey had been funded from s106 money. Mr Blackburn would be asked if he could find out any more useful information on the subject.

**68/10 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Sales of produce in Green Lane was causing traffic obstruction. Litter in Dales Wharf was very bad; council members would undertake a litter-pick soon, and the Scouts (who had already done a great deal of work) would do more clearance (Mrs Box would contact SDC for equipment and to organise collection). The Youth Shelter was well used but the fencing beside it was broken (Challenge Fencing would be asked to repair and also to quote for a stile to enable cricketers and others to climb the fence without damaging it) and the Cricket Club would be asked to remove the rollers from beside the fence.

**69/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This was confirmed for 7.30 p.m. on Monday 5 July 2010.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.55 p.m.

Date ..... Signed .....