

Draft Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6 September 2010 at 7.45 p.m. in the Village Hall, Hardwicke, following a presentation on the proposed Streetlight Switch-off at 7.30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Mr I. Butler (Chairman)

Mr C. J. Newell

Mrs V. Box

Mrs G. E. Oxley

Mr A. S. Clarke

Mr A. G. V. Plater

Mrs L-J. Fallows

Mr D. L. Welbourne

Mrs T. A. Harrison

Mrs F. Welbourne

Three parishioners, Mr A. Blackburn (GCC), PC Lucy Kay and PCSO Anna Wright, and the Clerk. **Apologies** were received from Mr Middle, Mr Littleton (SDC), and PC Fraser Mackie. There were no **Declarations of Interest**. The meeting was opened for public consultation; questions were asked on the planning decision at Green Farm, and an outline planning application at Mayo's Land. The meeting was then reconvened. The **Minutes** of the meeting of 2 August, having been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

91/10 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

81/10 Warden Scheme: Chairman & Mrs Fallows had attended the meeting at SDC on 24 August. Owing to budget cuts, some wardens (including Phil Drew) had been allocated to other duties and the areas had been rearranged. Hardwicke's Warden would now be Carol Novoth whose area would stretch from Elmore to Bisley. It was agreed to ask the local Village Agent, Christine Lingard, to a meeting, as councillors were unclear on her activities.

92/10 POLICE/COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

PC Mackie had sent a written report which was read out by the chairman. PC Kay was now sharing duties with him and described recent incidents in the parish. A cheque for £25 for the Youth Club had been received following PC Mackie's letter to local businesses (the Clerk would write in thanks). PC Kay said that offenders might be given community projects to undertake (eg litterpicking) and that the council should make a list of suitable areas. The officers then left the meeting.

93/10 COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Mr Blackburn had nothing to report on the Church Lane culvert works which he was still pursuing, but there was a possibility that the county council would discuss the implementation of 20 mph zones in villages. Mr Blackburn and Mrs Fallows left the meeting at this point.

94/10 CORRESPONDENCE

From GAPTC/NALC: Playing Field magazine

From SDC: details of Funding Fair 30 Sept (passed to Village Hall)

From GCC: Local Transport Plan availability, notice that Balfour Beatty would be improving J12 from Sept-Dec (the junction would be shut at night)

Stroud CAB annual Report; tree surgeon details; Severn Tidings, Wildlife Trust and Clerks & Councils Direct magazines; anti-nuclear campaign letter; request from a resident for a community composting scheme (it was agreed that he should gauge interest by a piece in Hardwicke Matters, as the scheme would need volunteers to run it).

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95/01 **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

Mrs Box reported on the following applications:

Applications

S.10/1289/COU photovoltaic panels at Madam's End Farm (no obj)

S.10/1511/COU c/use of barn at Sellars Farm House to residential dwelling(support)

S.10/1542/LBC replacement of thatch at The Old Thatch (support)

S.10/1530/HHOLD two-storey extension at Ellis Cottage, Sticky Lane (no obj)

Decisions

S.10/0195/FUL outbuilding at Green Farm Barn (refused: the applicant had attended this meeting and advised that he would be appealing against this decision)

S.10/1289/COU photovoltaic panels at Madam's End Farm (permitted)

S.10/1433/FUL rear conservatory at Fieldview, Sellars Rd (permitted)

Other Planning Matters

S.10/1242/FUL upgrade of burner at Premier Kitchens: a letter from the company had been received and members would monitor the situation there.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA): the assessment had been sent in January and had showed possible sites all over Stroud District including most of Hardwicke Court Estate and fields near the canal. It formed part of the Core Strategy consultation, on which the parish council had opposed any further large scale development in Hardwicke. There was considerable discussion on this matter but it was agreed that the parish council could do nothing until planning applications were actually made.

10/00746/OUT development at Mayo's Land: Gloucester City had sent an outline planning application for development on this land, half of which was in Stroud District. It was noted that SDC had said in June that it had no knowledge of any plans for this land, so the Clerk would write to SDC asking why the plans had not been submitted through or jointly with SDC. A resident of Bristol Road was present at the meeting to discuss the plans with the council, and the matter would be followed up with Quedgeley PC.

96/10 **FINANCE & GOVERNANCE**

A meeting had been held on 1 September and the resulting proposals were laid before the council. It was agreed that Mrs Harrison should prepare monthly spreadsheet summaries, and that items for the draft Budget would be discussed when members had had time to consider it fully.

The following accounts were approved:

HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE & NIC)	£123.67
Gloucestershire LGPS (pension)	£178.90
Clerk salary, Aug	£804.34
Mrs Edwards, Aug	£317.20
Fretherne with Saul PC (for Severn Voice)	£7.50
Hardwicke Village Hall Committee, July & Aug	£45.00
Dale Haines grasscutting July/Aug	£680.00
T. W. Hawkins SGMS grasscutting to end July	£1092.11
Stroud DC for dog bin emptying	162.71
Direct debit for CCTV	£17.88

Requests for Donations

The PCC had sent a completed grant application form for a grant towards heating at the Church and it was agreed to allocate £250 now, with the possibility of further help later in the year if the council could afford it. Stroud CAB had also applied for a grant but it was agreed that as far as possible, the council should only help local organisations.

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Draft Budget 2010-11

The first draft was considered, as noted above.

Review of Litter Picker Contract renewal

Mrs Edwards had indicated that she would need more hours in order to visit Dales Wharf. It was agreed that this could not be afforded, Mrs Harrison felt that residents there would prefer that the roundabouts, badly maintained by SDC, were properly looked after (Clerk would write to SDC).

97/10 **RECREATION & AMENITIES****Elmgrove Estate Play Area**

The inspection report would be signed. Pegs for the matting had been kindly supplied by SMP Playgrounds.

Youth Shelter

A quotation for signs saying "Beware of anti-climb paint" at £80 was approved. A quote for applying the paint had not yet been received but the matter was in hand.

Church Green Ditch

Mr Thomas of Minnette Cottage had agreed to obtain further quotes, not yet received, and Mr Middle had asked that the matter be deferred until after the next Severn Voice meeting when he would obtain advice on whether the Estate was responsible for the ditch there.

Churchyard Committee Meeting

This had been organised for 6.30 p.m. on 30 September.

Noticeboards

The one at Sellars Farm Barn would have to be removed and stored.

The Plantation

There was no progress on the draft Agreement to transfer the Play Area.

Litter Working Parties and Dog Notices

These would be organised soon. A resident had offered to litter-pick in Sellars Road.

Gardens Competition

The Small Gardens trophy had been returned.

Storage Container for Cricket Club

The Club had sent a letter requesting the siting of a storage container on the Village Hall car park. It was felt that the car park was too busy at peak times and it would attract vandalism; the council would have to charge a rent and have a proper Agreement in place for its maintenance and eventual removal. Cricket Club official(s) would be invited to a council meeting to put their case.

The Pond notice

The contractor had been unable to locate the notice, which was apparently still in the water but was now damaged. The matter would be further investigated.

Grass Cutting

The council felt that tenders should be sent out for both contracts to ensure that Best Value was obtained. The present contractors would be asked to submit renewal figures.

Street Lighting Switch-Off

Lesley Smith had explained, before the meeting opened, that approximately one-third of the street lights could be switched off between midnight and 5.30 a.m., except those where elderly or vulnerable residents lived, or where residents requested that they stay on. A press release would be sent to Hardwicke Matters and if possible a consultation evening would be organised at the Village Hall to show people where the lights might be turned off (Ms Smith would attend to answer questions).

98/10 **IT & COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr Clarke would be writing a press release shortly on the various matters covered at this meeting.

99/10 **JAVELIN PARK**

The meeting scheduled for 28 Sept had been moved to 14 October and there was a meeting of GlosVain at Quedgeley on 7 Sept.

100/10 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Heavy triangular lids from drainage inspection pits in the field behind Green Farm had still not been replaced (Clerk to report to Severn Trent); the Village Hall Committee was considering the hire of a Portacabin as it was so booked up; Mrs Harrison was trying to arrange a meeting with Eastington PC to discuss fund-raising; the use of one of the warehouses at Quedgeley West TE was questioned (to be referred to PC Mackie); a list of blocked ditches in the parish had been sent to Ian Kear at SDC; Beardsmead cottage was in a dangerous condition (Clerk to report again to the Estate); the council meeting booked for 1 November would be moved to 2 November so that the Village Hall committee could meet; and grass-cutting signs belonging to Mr D. Davies had gone missing in Green Lane.

100/10 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This was confirmed for Monday 4 October 2010. The November meeting would be moved to Tuesday 2 November as noted above.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20 p.m.

Date Signed