

# Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday September 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Hardwicke.

## Present

Cllr Ian Butler Chairman  
Cllr. Lisa Jayne Fallows  
Cllr. Fran Welbourne  
Cllr. Lyn Welbourne

Cllr. Theresa Harrison  
Cllr. David Mossman  
Cllr. John Perkin

## Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Gill Oxley and Cllr. Caro Kingsnorth.

## In attendance

County Councillor Tony Blackburn, District Councillor Graham Littleton, PC Fraser Mackie, Kevin Lee Clerk and five members of the public.

## Declarations of interest

The Chairman declared an interest in the agenda item relating to S 106 and the Community Radio Station, Severn FM

## 103/11 Public Consultation

### The meeting was adjourned for a period of questions from members of the public

- a) **Maple Close.** Residents received a further update on progress with the issues raised at previous meetings. It was reported that grass verges had been cut and that the trimming of conifer trees was planned. The Head of Community Safety at Stroud District Council had agreed to meet with local residents and names of residents were collected for forwarding to the District Council. Residents raised further concerns about general noise from neighbours and also a nuisance being caused by motor scooters. The Chairman reported that the Police had been involved and in one instance a motorcycle had been confiscated the Police.
- b) **Sellars Farm** One resident enquired about the proposed Sellars Farm development and in particular wanted to know when residents could respond to the comments made by developers. The Chairman informed members that the planning application would be considered by the District Council on October 11<sup>th</sup> and that members of the public could lodge further comments directly to Stroud District Council. Councillor Graham Littleton requested that copies of comments be sent to him as the district councillor for the area.
- c) **Cherry Close/Westbourne Drive.** One resident reported that rats were seen in the car park in Cherry Close and asked for the Parish Council to assist with their removal. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the pest control officer at the district council and report back to the resident

### **104/11 County Councillor Update.**

Councillor Tony Blackburn, informed members that he had expressed his disappointment to Gloucestershire Highways that one of its senior officers had provided official comments about Sellars Farm and related highway matters without consulting with him. In respect of the Incinerator at Javelin Park he informed the Council that he would raise a question at the next Full Meeting of the County Council asking what the Council would be doing for local residents to compensate them for the impact of the development. Councillor Blackburn provided a brief update on progress of the consultation and proposed changes to local bus services; it was likely that evening and weekend service would be affected.

### **105/11 District Councillor Update.**

Councillor Graham Littleton provided the council with an update on the proposed changes to planning consultation. Two major proposals were to allow for public speaking at planning meetings and for notification of planning applications to be conducted electronically. Cllr John Perkin commented that reading large plans on line was likely to be very difficult. Councillor Littleton reiterated his opposition to the Sellars Farm Development and that he would have to step down as Chairman of the Committee when the application would be discussed. He was seeking confirmation from officers as to whether he would be allowed to speak on the issue, but not vote.

### **106/11 Police Update.**

PC Fraser Mackie presented his monthly update. Crime figures up to September 5<sup>th</sup> were presented; there were 9 recorded crimes across Hardwicke parish through the month of August 2011. Over the same month last year there were 16 crimes.

The breakdown of crime is as follows, 1 GBH, 1 ABH, 2 Assault without Injury, 1 sexual assault, 1 unauthorised taking theft, 2 criminal damages, 1 drugs offence.

There were 15 Anti-social behaviour incidents recorded in August 2011, exactly the same number as the August in the previous year. There was 1 reported road traffic collisions in the month of August, which occurred on 24<sup>th</sup> August.

PC Mackie informed members that he had liaised with Highways Agency regarding the traveller site at Junction 12. The travellers were issued with an eviction notice to quit the land in late July to allow their children to finish school.

Hardwicke Good Drivers continues to grow, with more favourable coverage in the Citizen regarding our scheme, adding to that on Stroud FM and BBC Points West. There had been a negative response from the Operations Manager at Stagecoach, but a far more positive response from Martin Bragg and his teachers at the Parochial school. PC Mackie asked for volunteers from the Council to meet with him at the school on Monday September 12<sup>th</sup> to further promote the Good Drivers Scheme to parents as they picked children up from school.

### **107/11. GlosVain Presentation by Sue Oppenheimer**

Sue Oppenheimer, Chair of Glosvain gave a full presentation on the groups campaigning work in opposition to the proposed Incinerator at Javelin Park. Sue

informed councillors that GlosVain had been running for about three years and was an alliance of town and parish councils, individuals and organisations from the Severn Vale who were opposed to the development.

Sue reported that the development would provide three 80 metre chimneys which would be taller than the tower block of Gloucester Royal Hospital. Studies had shown that average emissions from the incinerator would be at 50% but the likelihood was that emissions would be higher when taking into account the cumulative impact. Dioxins produced from the site would have a negative impact on residents as they cannot be removed and remain in the human body. Sue informed the Council that the Incinerator would only have an efficiency rate of 24% because not all of the heat generated could be used.

In response to questions about defeating the proposal Sue informed the Council that it could be defeated at the planning stage but a lot of work and support would be needed. This may include providing some financial support to enable GlosVain to continue its work and to seek legal advice as appropriate.

Further Information about the campaign can be found through the following link.

<http://www.gloucestershire-against-incinerators.org.uk/>

#### **108/11 Minutes.**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on August 1<sup>st</sup> were amended at 102/11 (f) to read that the Parish Council 'may support' an application for S106 funding for Severn FM. With this amendment the Chairman signed the minutes.

#### **109/11 Parish Council IT Support.**

The Chairman reported that the Council needed to find an alternative provider for its IT server and support and for hosting its website. Initial enquiries indicated that the likely monthly cost would be between £60 and £120 per month. It was agreed to set up a small working group to assess alternative providers and to progress the matter on behalf of the Council. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries to Stroud District Council to see if they could provide support.

#### **110/11 Severn FM**

There was a full discussion about the Council's support for a community radio station. Concern was raised about the extent of possible funding required to support the project. During the discussion there was support for a lower level of funding. The Chairman proposed that a vote be taken to ask whether the Parish Council would support the proposal for a community radio station. Members voted by 4-2 not to support the project.

#### **111/11 Nominations for Vice Chair.**

There were no nominations and it was agreed to take this forward to the next meeting.

The Meeting Closed at 22.10.

**Next Meeting Monday October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 19.30.**

**Signed..... Chairman      Date.....**