

Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday December 3rd 2012.

Present

Cllr Ian Butler

Cllr Helen Michael

Cllr Theresa Harrison

Cllr Fran Welbourne

Cllr Mike King

Cllr Lyn Welbourne

Cllr David Mossman

Cllr John Perkin

Cllr Gill Oxley

Cllr Andrew Gough

In attendance

County Councillor Tony Blackburn, District Councillor Graham Littleton, PC Lucy, Ian Soule, Hardwicke Cricket Club and Kevin Lee, Clerk..

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from District Councillor Russell Miles.

117/12 Declaration of Interest

Cllr Lyn Welbourne declared a personal but non prejudicial interest in the agenda item to discuss Javelin Park.

118/12 Public Consultation

There were no items raised

119/12 Hardwicke Cricket Club

Ian Soule, a committee member of the cricket club outlined the reasons for the grant application. He informed the Parish Council that the club had suffered a loss of income during the summer due to the weather. He explained the work that was needed to maintain the cricket the square and how the grant would be used.

RESOLVED. The Parish Council agreed unanimously to the grant application for the sum of £450

120/12 Minutes of Meeting held on November 3rd 2012

RRESOLVED. The minutes of the meeting held on Monday November 5th were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

121/12 Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- a) Section 106
projects. Members were informed of the progress of the project proposals for S 106 money. It was identified that more work was needed to finalise the project bids. It was agreed to hold a project planning meeting before the end of the year to complete the project proposals.

122/12 County Councillor Report

County Councillor Tony Blackburn informed Members that the planning application for the Incinerator at Javelin Park would now be considered by the County Council's Planning Committee in February 2013.

In respect of highways matters, he informed Members that he would welcome requests from the Parish Council for road repairs that could be undertaken as part of the £10,000 allocated to his county division.

123/12 District Councillor Report

Councillor Graham Littleton reported on the recent flooding in the Village and the liaison with the Chair to arrange delivery of sandbags and road closed boards. He identified that the work done in the area since 2007 had reduced many of the potential problems. However, it was important for landowners to maintain their ditches. The Chair reported that not all ditched were maintained and that this would add to potential flooding problems.

Councillor Littleton informed members of the Meeting held with Highways and Parish Councillor John Perkin to investigate the flooding problems in Green Lane, near to the Plantation. Gloucestershire Highways had agreed some remedial work to alleviate the problem and would pursue a further long term solution in consultation with the district council.

RESOLVED It was agreed to hold a meeting with Gloucestershire Highways early in 2013 to address the issue of flooding and ditch maintenance

124/12 Police Report

PC Lucy Kay informed the Parish Council that crime figures for the area were down on the equivalent period last year. The Police were aware of the need to remain vigilant and keep on top of local issues.

125/12 Churchyard Agreement

Cllr John Perkin outlined the proposed changes to the Churchyard Agreement as set out in the agenda. These covered issues such as, exclusive rights, temporary monuments and brass plaques.

RESOLVED. To approve the revised agreement. A copy of the agreement is attached to the signed copy of the Minutes.

126/12 Gloucestershire County Council Statement of Community Involvement

The Clerk outlined the County Council's SCI which sets out how the council will liaise with communities and Parish Councils on such matters as planning applications and waste strategies. It was agreed to establish a small working group to prepare the Parish Council's response to the consultation.

RESOLVED To establish a working group consisting of Cllrs. Helen Michael, Theresa Harrison, Mike King and Ian Butler. Helen Michael to Chair the group and to prepare the Parish Council's response.

127/12 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the finance report for the period ending November 30th 2012 and the list of cheque payments. The report also provided a summary of expenditure against budget for the period April to November. Members asked for further information on the expenditure item for the Neighbourhood Wardens. It was agreed to ask Stroud District Council for an update on the role and work of the wardens in the Hardwicke area.

RESOLVED To approve the report and payments and to receive a report on the role of the Neighbourhood Wardens at a future meeting.

128/12 Javelin Park

Cllr David Mossman provided Members with an update on the work of GlosVain and the Parish Councils partnership work with the group and with Quedgeley Parish Council. It was reported that the contractors for the Incinerator, UBB had invited the Citizen and the BBC to visit a similar site in Ireland to see the incinerator in operation. Members supported the on-going work and campaign with GlosVain and confirmed its opposition to the planning application.

Members considered the further planning application in respect of Javelin Park and agreed to ask the working group, established to respond to the SCI consultation, to also prepare the council's response.

RESOLVED To continue the Parish Council's opposition to the planning application and to confirm its support for the work of GlosVain in partnership with Quedgeley Parish Council. To ask the working group to prepare a response to the additional planning application.

129/12 Sellars Farm

Cllr David Mossman reported on the meeting held with representatives of Redrow where the developers outlined their proposals for the layout of the Sellars Farm Site.

The meeting reviewed the Design and Access codes which formed part of the planning application to Stroud District Council S12/2319/DISCON. Cllr Mossman informed the Parish Council that during the discussions it was suggested that the area shown on the plan as a 'football pitch' could be re-designated as an open space play area with suitable recreational areas and play equipment. Redrow had confirmed that it would involve the Parish Council in the final details of the layout of any such play area and open spaces.

RESOLVED The Parish Council reviewed the plans and agreed that in response to the planning Application for the design codes it would write to Stroud District Council to support the re-designation of the football pitch to an open space recreational area.

130/12 Parish Councillor Reports

- a) Cllr Mike
King reported that the pipe leading from the Pond in Green Lane had become blocked and needed to be cleared. It was agreed to raise this item at a meeting with highways in early 2013
- b) Cllr John
Perkin reported on the flooding in Green Lane opposite the plantation and informed members of the work proposed by Highways and SDC. Cllr Perkin informed Members that the pipe running from the ditch had become blocked and following the jetting of the pipe by Gloucestershire Highways it was identified that the blockage had been caused by small toys and footballs. It was agreed to write to residents of the planation to advise them of the problem and to ask their assistance in preventing the problem re-occurring. Cllr Perkin also reported on the need to replace a number of the wooden bollards in Green Lane and to also erect a handrail alongside the ditch.
- c) Cllr Fran
Welbourne requested that the damaged wooden bollards around the playing field also be replaced.
- d) Cllr Lyn
Welbourne reported that cars had been driving across the open space area at top of Elmgrove West and requested that the District Council erect bollards to prevent this happening.
- e) Cllr Andrew
Gough reported on the problems caused by parking near to the junior school. Residents had complained about cars being parked across driveways and being unable to access their properties. The problem had been made worse by school staff also parking on the roads and not in the school car park. The Clerk was requested to raise the matter with the Head Teacher.

131/12 Grant to Playgroup

Cllr Fran Welbourne informed the Council that the playgroup had submitted a request for a grant to support the group to replace a number of items.

RESOLVED To agree to a grant of £250 for the playgroup.

132/12 Localism Act

Cllr David Mossman outlined the opportunities to the Parish Council provided by the Localism Act. Key to this would be to exercise the General Power of Competence. To be able to do this the Parish Council would need to ensure that the Clerk undertook the CiLCA qualification and that the Parish Council would need to have 2/3 of its Members elected. The Clerk reported that the cost of CiLCA qualification was £150.

Cllr John Perkin informed Members that there was an area of open space in Green Lane that was used by residents for dog walking and also as a play area. Cllr Perkin requested that the Parish Council pursue the designation of this area as a Village Green Status. This proposal was fully supported by Members.

It was acknowledged that further work was needed to meet the opportunities offered by the Localism Act and this would be reviewed at a future meeting.

RESOLVED To support the Clerk to undertake the CiLCA qualification. To pursue the area in Green Lane as Village Green Status.

The Meeting Closed at 22.15

Signed.....Chair

Date.....