

Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday September 2nd 1st 2013.

Present

Cllr Andrew Gough

Cllr David Mossman (Chair)

Cllr Theresa Harrison

Cllr Fran Welbourne

Cllr Mike King

Cllr Lyn Welbourne

Cllr John Perkin

In attendance

County Councillor Tony Blackburn, District Councillors Graham Littleton and Russell Miles, four members of the public and Kevin Lee Clerk.

68/13 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Helen Michael and Cllr Gill Oxley.

69/13 Public Consultation

A member of the public spoke in support of one of the planning applications and provided further information in respect of the application.

70/13 Minutes of Previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on July 1st 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

RESOLVED To approve the Minutes

71/13 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

72/13 County Councillor and District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Graham Littleton gave an update on the progress of the District Council's Local Plan. The plan sets out the housing provision for the district for the period up to 2031. The plan was currently out for public consultation and it was expected that a final decision from Central Government in early 2014.

District Councillor Russell Miles reported on a few local issues and in particular advised Members that he had approached Hardwicke School in respect of complaints about the overgrown hedge.

County Councillor Tony Blackburn informed Members that he had been in discussions with the Police Commissioner in respect of the speed limits on the A 38 between Cross Keys and Claypits. There was general support to see a reduction from 60 mph to 50 mph. The Parish Council welcomed this move.

The Parish Council presented its list of footpath and highways works that could be supported through Cllr Blackburn's Divisional Budget. The Chair advised Cllr Blackburn that the Parish Council would like to set aside some funding for any proposed traffic calming measures. Cllr Blackburn agreed to support the request and confirmed he would forward details to the Area Highways Manager.

In respect of Javelin Park, Cllr Blackburn informed Members that the appeal hearing would commence on November 19th. The County Council would be fighting the appeal and had appointed its barristers. Members of the Parish Council were concerned to hear that Cllr Blackburn had been excluded, by the Administration at the County Council, from discussions about Javelin Park and the examination of alternative waste disposal facilities.

73/13 Planning Applications.

The Parish Council considered its response to the following applications.

S.13/1544/FUL Land at 24 Elmgrove Road East, garages in respect of plots 1 and 5.

RESOVED the Parish Council raised no objections to the application.

S.13/1527/HHOLD 2 Sunnyfield Road, Single Storey Extension

RESOLVED the Parish Council raised no objections to the application.

S.13/1481/FUL Waters Meet Barn

RESOLVED the Parish Council opposed the application on the grounds of the following;

The proposal was outside the settlement boundary

There was a covenant on the property which had been applied at a previous application and the proposal contravened the covenant.

74/13 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the finance report for the period ending August 31st 2013 and the list of payments for August.

RESOLVED to agree the report and payments.

75/13 Scrutiny Report

Cllr John Perkin gave a report on the work at the Village Hall and advised Members that a 'snagging' list had been compiled and issues were being attended to. As a result of the improvements it was evident that the acoustics in the hall needed to be improved. Possible options were being considered.

RESOLVED To note the report

76/13 Parish Councillor Reports

Cllr Mike King reported that pot holes had again appeared in Green Lane near to the junction with the B4008.

Cllr John Perkin reported that the hedge along the roadside in Green Lane, on the left hand side, approaching the Plantation had overgrown and was forcing vehicles to move to centre of the road.

Cllr Andrew Gough reported that that in a number of areas weeds on the footpaths were a problem and also made the area look unsightly. He also reported that the hedge along Pear Tree Close had overgrown.

Cllr Fran Welbourne reminded members of the article in Hardwicke Matters which set out proposals for a music festival in 2014. Members discussed the options for hosting the festival on the sports field as requested. It was agreed to invite the organiser to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED to note the reports and for the Clerk to speak to Highways in respect of highways and footpath matters.

77/13 Neighbourhood Plan

The Chair, David Mossman, introduced the item and referred to the presentation made by Paul Fong. Members discussed the benefits of developing a Neighbourhood Plan and agreed that this would be a better option than developing a Community Design Statement.

It was agreed that the clerk would co-ordinate and lead on the project and involve other Members of the Parish Council .Cllr Lyn Welbourne had prepared a lot of background information on neighbourhood plans and would be an integral part of the project. Members discussed the format for the public meeting on September 25th. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to all residents inviting them to the meeting on the 25th. This would be in addition to the notices that had appeared in Hardwicke Matters.

RESOLVED to Develop a Neighbourhood Plan and for the Clerk to lead on the project.

78/13 Stroud District Council Local Plan

Members discussed the local plan and agreed that the information already provided was sufficient and confirmed that it had no further comments to make.

79/13 Working together in Stroud

The Parish Council confirmed that it would adopt the protocol developed by the District Council, GAPTC and Parish and Town Council's

RESOLVED to adopt the protocol

80/13 Youth Shelter

Members discussed the remedial work that had been undertaken with the youth shelter which involved the removal of the Perspex side panels. It was acknowledged that no further work was necessary.

RESOLVED to undertake no further work

81/13 Highways meeting with residents.

The Chair David Mossman gave an update on the discussions that had taken place with the area highways manager. Members were informed that a range of theoretical options had been discussed but any final options would be dependent upon; the outcome of the traffic survey being undertaken during September, views of residents and the type of scheme that could be delivered.

Members were also informed that two further meetings with residents had been arranged for September 20th and November 8th.

82/13 Javelin Park

The Chair, David Mossman informed the Parish Council of the work being undertaken with GlosVain to develop a legal challenge to the proposed incinerator at Javelin Park. GlosVain had approached all Parish and Town Councils who had lodged opposition to the development seeing financial support for funding legal representation. It was reported that some Parishes had already offered funding. After some discussion, members voted to allocate £3000 from its budget to support the challenge.

The Parish Council confirmed that it would be making its own representation to the appeal. It was confirmed that the parish council had been informed that it had been given an extra four weeks to prepare its case.

David Mossman agreed to prepare a draft for the appeal and circulate to members for comments.

RESOLVED To support the work of GlosVain and to make a contribution of £3000 towards legal costs.

83/13 Review of Clerks Contract

The Chair, David Mossman informed Members that a national pay award for local government employees had been agreed which would provide a 1% pay increase. Members were requested to approve the increase.

It was also agreed to increase the hours of work to twelve hours per week.

RESOLVED to agree to implement the national pay award and to increase the hours of work to twelve hours per week.

Meeting ended 21.45

Signed.....Chair

Date.....