

Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday October 7th 2019

Present

Cllr John Perkin (Chair)

Cllr Jill Brearley

Cllr Graham Brearley

Cllr Demelza Turner-Wilkes

Cllr Darren Morris

Cllr Denise Powell

In attendance

Kevin Lee, Clerk

96/19 Apologies

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors, Fran Welbourne, Lyn Welbourne and Mark Ryder, District Councillors David Mossman and Gill Oxley and County Councillor Stephen Davies.

Jemma Grieve and Steve Miles from Stroud District Council along with six members of the Youth Forum attended to give a presentation.

97/19 Parish Councillor Anthony Doyle

Parish Councillors observed a minutes silence in memory of Tony Doyle who had sadly passed away recently

98/19 Declarations of Interest

There were none

99/19 Public Consultation

No questions raised

100/19 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved; to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on September 2nd 2019

101/19 County Councillor and District Councillor Reports

There were no further updates to matters raised at the last meeting

102/19 Planning Applications

The Parish Council considered its response to the following planning applications

S.19/1828/HHOLD Larian House Bristol Road

Resolved; to raise no objections

S.19/1925/VAR Hunts Grove

The application referred to the variation in conditions to noise levels affecting some of the properties. It was noted that the Parish Council had previously raised concerns about the variation and had also raised questions over monitoring the air quality.

Resolved; to note the changes and to confirm the Parish Council's previous response

S.19/1789/REM

S.19/1788/REM

S.19/1908/MINAM

The above applications referred to matters at Hunts Grove and no further responses were noted

103/19 Governance Review

Members received a verbal update on the discussions held with the district council on the establishment of the Hunts Grove Parish Council. A number of actions were confirmed;

- Stroud District Council would be responsible for setting the precept for Hunts Grove for 2020/2021
- Stroud District Council would be providing a grant to the 'ghost council' to enable the provision and purchase of office and administrative items so that the new parish council would be up and running in April 2020. It had been confirmed that the grant could not be provided by Hardwicke Parish Council
- The district council would discuss with Hunts Grove School the possibility of part of the school being used as a polling station for the parish council elections in May 2020

Resolved; to note the report

104/19 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the finance report for the period ending September 30th and the schedule of payments. The report also provided the external audit report for 2018/2019

Resolved; to approve the report and schedule of payments and to note the report from the external auditor

105/19 UBB Community Funding Group

The Chair, John Perkin gave an update on the decisions made by the funding group in respect of the grant applications. UBB would be writing to all applicants to advise of the outcome of the grant application

Resolved; to note the report

106/19 Parish Councillor and Lead Member Report

Cllr Darren Morris gave a report on discussions that had taken place about setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for Hunts Grove. There had been incidents of anti-social behaviour and the Police had been involved in seeking to respond to the issues.

The Hunts Grove Residents Association had requested that the Parish Council cover the cost of hiring a meeting room for their regular meetings. A room at the School had been offered to them. The Parish Council agreed to cover the cost of a room hire for meetings at the Village Hall.

Cllr Graham Brearley raised concern about the road near to Puddleducks where the edge of the carriageway was eroding. It was noted that the County Council had planned some resurfacing works for Church Lane but it was unclear if this included erosion. The Clerk agreed to confirm with GCC.

Graham commented on the poor maintenance of the ditches along the lanes and suggested that the matter be raised with the County Council to encourage a planned maintenance programme.

Cllr Demelza Turner-Wilkes gave a report of the meetings of the Stroud and District Road Safety Partnership. The main topics for discussion had been around speeding traffic and consideration was being given to a district wide TRO to address speeding.

There had been discussions also about establishing community speed watch groups which would undertake speed surveys in conjunction with the PCSOs and where appropriate make visits to repeat offenders who regularly exceeded speed limits. It was noted that the provision of a hand held speed recording equipment would cost around £250.

Members agreed that setting up a Hardwicke Speed watch group would be a positive way forward.

The Chair, Cllr John Perkin reported on the ceremony for the Hardwicke Army Cadets and the discussion with the leaders on providing a suitable base for them.

It was agreed to approach the cadet force to explore what support would be needed by the Parish Council to maintain a presence for them in Hardwicke.

Resolved; to note the reports and to follow up on the actions identified

107/19 Hardwicke Youth Forum

Five members of Hardwicke Youth Forum along with Jemma Grieve and Steve Miles from SDC joined the meeting to give a presentation of the group's findings from their consultation exercise.

The survey covered areas such as; how safe young people felt in Hardwicke and what contributed to not feeling safe, how young people spent their spare time and what activities would they like to see provided. The survey also asked about attitudes to providing a youth club and how it should be run and range of facilities available.

The results showed that around 41% of respondents did not always feel safe with concerns around groups of people and gangs gathering together, poor lighting in alley ways and parks. There was also concern about drug dealing, smoking and drinking.

The range of activities that young people identified a need for were; a wide range of sports, youth club/meeting place, movie nights, music systems and access to Wi-Fi

Parish Councillors expressed their thanks for a very professional presentation and consultation exercise. Members were supportive of taking forward a number of the areas identified and agreed to set up a joint working group to see how to deliver on some of the activities.

Resolved; to set up a joint working group with SDC and members of the Youth Forum

Meeting Closed at 21.00

Signed

Chair