

Draft Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6 December 2010 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, Hardwicke

ATTENDANCE

Mr I. Butler (Chairman)

Mr A. S. Clarke

Mrs T. A. Harrison

Mr D. G. Middle

Mr C. J. Newell

Mrs G. E. Oxley

Mr A. G. V. Plater

Mr D. L. Welbourne

Mrs F. Welbourne

Nine parishioners, Mr G. R. Littleton (SDC), PC Mackie, PCSO Lucy and the Clerk. **Apologies** were received from Mr Blackburn, Mrs Fallows, and senior police officers. There were no **Declarations of Interest**. The meeting was adjourned for public participation during which the proposals for development of land at Sellars Farm were discussed; there were strong objections to the proposals, which would be directed to SDC as soon as an application had been made. The meeting was then reconvened. The **Minutes** of the meeting of 2 November, having been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

125/10 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Mr Littleton, who had attended a presentation on the Sellars Road proposals by the developer, had outlined the planning process and the reasons for objection during the open session, and had said that it was possible that the application would go to a Public Inquiry rather than to an individual Appeals Inspector, if SDC refused permission. He felt that a Planning Officer should be invited to a council meeting once the application had been made. He also updated the council on the changes to the planning delegation process, which would be covered at the meeting there on 7 Dec, He then left the meeting, along with most of the parishioners present.

126/10 DECLARATION OF CASUAL VACANCY

Mrs Box had resigned because the family was relocating to Dubai. The notices had been posted, and electors had until 17 December to demand an election. Mrs Welbourne agreed to take on the Play Area Inspections and signed the Report. Planning would revert to the "nearest councillor" system for the time being, and a Leader for the Recreation & Amenities Working Group and a Footpath Warden would be appointed in due course.

127/10 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

119/10 Noticeboard at Sellars Farm Barn: the owner had been contacted and asked whether the board could be re-erected there after conversion of the building.

119/10 Plantation Play Area: Persimmon had sent a revised draft Agreement which was approved by the Chairman and Mr Plater; it was agreed for signing.

128/10 POLICE/COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

PC Mackie gave his report for the past month, which showed very low crime levels. A report of the consultations at the shops had been forwarded, and he had continued to carry out speed gun and traffic checks in the lanes, contacting HGV transport managers where necessary. Questions were asked on flytipping.

129/10 **CORRESPONDENCE**

From GCC: Big Community Offer and other details of budget cuts; online publication of Waste Core Strategy

Request from Rangers to hold the annual Rangers Tournament on 2/3 July 2011; Young Glos project; War Memorials Trust bulletin; The Clerk magazine; Glos Wildlife Trust newsletter; Affordable Rural Housing guide

130/10 **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT****Applications**

S.10/2147/TPO pruning of oak tree at 17 Ashgrove Close (no obj)

S.10/2272/HHOLD and LBC alterations to existing extension at Church House Farm (no obj)

Appeal

10/0195/FUL (outbuilding at Green Farm Barn): the letter to the Planning Inspectorate had been acknowledged and would be responded to in due course. Caroline Spelman MP had not yet acknowledged the letter sent 15 Nov (it had been redirected to Eric Pickles by Neil Carmichael MP). Several councillors had met Mr Carmichael on 29 November.

Other Planning Matters

David Drew ex-MP had written concerning the delegation process for plans, enclosing a transcript of Mrs Tait's paper to Cabinet on 11 Nov. The Chairman and Mr Welbourne would attend the Parish Forum at SDC on 7 Dec.

Sellars Farm proposals

Two presentations had been made by Pegasus on plans by Redrow Homes and Robert Hitchins to build 200 houses behind Sellars Farm. Parishioners had set up a website and had circulated leaflets (so had Pegasus) to alert residents and there had been a good turnout at the presentations. It had been alleged that Highways agreement for an exit to School Lane had already been obtained (this would be queried). Those present agreed that Hardwicke had already taken enough recent large-scale development, that the site is outside the settlement boundary and not allocated in the adopted Local Plan, that the lanes could not cope with any additional traffic (Mr Middle had monitored traffic in Church Lane on 1 Dec and had counted 151 vehicles between 7.30 and 8.30 a.m. as against the developer's maximum of 130), that there would be problems of flooding and drainage, and that local nursery, primary and secondary schools, doctors' and dentists' lists are already oversubscribed. An application was likely to be submitted in February and the consultation period would be thirteen weeks.

131/10 **FINANCE & GOVERNANCE**

The following accounts were approved:

HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE & NIC)	£123.67
Gloucestershire LGPS (pension)	£178.90
Clerk salary, Nov	£804.34
Mrs Edwards, Nov	£342.20*
Hardwicke Village Hall, meetings Oct & Nov	£48.50
Mrs P. Woodward, trimming churchyard yew tree	£30.00
SLCC sub (shared with Shurdington)	£75.50
GlosVAIN donation under s137	£100.00
Greenfields Garden Services, inspection	£64.63
Dales Haines, final cut + ditch clearance	£360.00
Direct debit for CCTV	£17.88

* including Christmas bonus of £25

Draft Budget 2011-12

The parish portion of council tax had been worked out using approximate figures for the base rate, and showed an increase of just over £3 on a Band D property for a precept of £35900. Members resolved to request a precept for this amount. It was noted that Village Hall hire prices had increased to £10/hr for the lounge.

132/10 **RECREATION & AMENITIES****Elmgrove Estate Play Area**

Mrs Welbourne signed the inspection report. Greenfields' inspector had noted several items such as swing seat replacement and a worn rope on the Space Net which would need monitoring.

Church Green Ditches

Mr Haines had cleared the ditch around the churchyard. A quote on the upstream ditch was still awaited.

Churchyard

Mr Clarke had taken over the putting out of the rubbish bags. The fencing at Church Green would need repainting, possibly by a working party during the summer.

Storage Container for Cricket Club

The Club would be asked for a progress report.

Grass Cutting

Tenders had been submitted and an analysis carried out. There was considerable discussion over whether savings could be made, and it was agreed that award of the contracts would be postponed until the next meeting so that one of the contractors could supply references and further details of his quote.

Highways had asked whether the parish council would take on the new pieces of grass at the Bristol Road end of Green Lane which would be reimbursed at 9p per sq. m. as a special rate. An estimate of £30 per cut had been obtained, which appeared expensive (to be discussed later).

133/10 **IT & COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr Clarke had looked at setting up a document cabinet or secure repository which he would host, as a central database rather than using email; there was discussion over whether to use the hardwickepc.co.uk website originally set up by SDC or his hardwickepc.com site which would need renewing in March so it was agreed to decide by then. Mr Clarke would draw up a maintenance contract for approval.

134/10 **ROADS & TRAFFIC SAFETY****Report from Working Group Leader**

Mr Blackburn had reported that the Church Lane culvert works would be put in hand next year. Mr Butler reported on a 20 mph zone scheme at Stonehouse which he felt should be applicable at Hardwicke and would keep pressing for this speed restriction (it was noted that speed tickets can be issued automatically on 37 mph in a 30 mph zone and 76 mph on a motorway).

135/10 **JAVELIN PARK**

A donation of £100 to GlosVAIN had been agreed under the provisions of s137 and a cheque signed. There had been numerous meetings and a demonstration against incineration and it was likely that the council would be asked for more volunteer help.

136/10 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Obstructive parking by parents collecting children from the School had been noted. The Head Teacher would be contacted (copy to police, who had been very helpful last time parking at the School had been a problem). The Localism Bill presently going through parliament was discussed.

137/10 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** was confirmed for Tuesday 4 January.

A Draft Schedule of Meetings was approved. It was noted that Quedgeley PC had invited members to drinks on 20 Dec after their meeting.

There being no further business, the Chairman wished a Happy Christmas to all, and closed the meeting at 10.20 p.m.

Date Signed