

Draft Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 January 2011 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, Hardwicke

ATTENDANCE

Mr I. Butler (Chairman)

Mr D. G. Middle

Mr A. S. Clarke

Mrs G. E. Oxley

Mrs L-J. Fallows

Mr A. G. V. Plater

Mrs T. A. Harrison

Mrs F. Welbourne

Three parishioners, Mr G. R. Littleton (SDC), Mr A. Blackburn (GCC), PC Fraser Mackie and the Clerk. **Apologies** were received from Mr Newell and Mr Welbourne (who had suffered a broken leg: members sent best wishes). There were no **Declarations of Interest**. The meeting was adjourned for public participation (comment was made on antisocial behaviour, speeding and parking at the School) and the meeting was then reconvened. The **Minutes** of the meeting of 6 December, having been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

01/11 CASUAL VACANCY

Miss Caroline Kingsnorth was formally co-opted, signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took her place. The Chairman welcomed her to the parish council. Mrs Welbourne agreed to take on the leadership of the Recreation & Amenities Working Group and to be the first point of contact for the Planning Committee, and Mr Plater agreed to appointment as Footpath Warden.

02/11 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

119/10 Plantation Play Area: Persimmon had sent a fully signed Agreement and stated that the PC must pass the Agreement to a solicitor to register the land (the Clerk would investigate whether this could be done directly with Land Registry).

13/11 POLICE/COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

PC Mackie reported on the annual crime figures which were very low. He had been using a speed display device in the lanes (there had been a recent newspaper article with PCSO Lee Hutton) and would now be issuing fines instead of cautions. He would try to obtain a police speed camera for the use of parish council members, and would welcome their attendance on "walkabouts" on 14 and 28 January. He would also contact the resident who had brought up the issues in the open part of this meeting.

14/11 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Mr Littleton had discussed the Sellars Farm proposals with planning officers and said that pre-application advice had been sought from early November. His concerns over this site were water run-off and the need for a flood risk assessment (Environment Agency opinion would be critical) as well as transport, landscape impact and housing need. SDC could not do anything until an application was submitted, and because of elections in May this might not come before the Planning Committee until June. He would be able to report more fully on budget cuts at SDC once the government grant rates were known.

Mr Blackburn had been trying to find out about the Sellars Farm planning agent's informal discussions with Highways which had apparently been taking place since March last year, and which were apparently confidential but he encouraged members of the council to contact Mr Riglar, Environment Director, asking for information on these discussions. He was pleased that the Church Lane culvert works were to take place soon, and was still pushing for a speed restriction on the B4008. He advised that the parish council should submit comments on the Waste Core Strategy, as the strategy would include the Javelin Park site.

15/11 **CORRESPONDENCE**

From GAPTC/NALC: News Update, online bank leaflet
From SDC: Christmas card from Leader
From GCC: CD on Waste Core Strategy (Chairman to investigate)
Glos Wildlife Trust magazines

16/11 **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

Applications

S.10/2427/REM amendments to layout and house design at Hunts Grove (Chairman and two others would look at the plans but it was thought that there were no objections)

S.10/2446/HHOLD side ext at 51 Hildyard Close (no objections)

S.10/2478/HHOLD rear ext at Haywicks Farm, Haywicks Lane (no objections)

Decisions

S.10/2131/HHOLD ext at 37 Westland Road (permitted)

S.10/2147/TPO pruning of oak tree at 17 Ashgrove Close (permitted)

S.10/2271/HHOLD alterations to ext at Church House Farm (permitted)

Sellars Farm

A meeting had been arranged with SDC officers and Highways officers at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 17 January, to discuss the proposals.

Planning Appeal Process

Eric Pickles MP had not yet acknowledged the letter forwarded in November (if no response had been received by the next meeting another letter would be sent). The Planning Inspectorate had replied concerning the Green Farm appeal, to say that they were satisfied that the Inspector had made a correct decision.

Brookthorpe MSA

Brookthorpe PC was seeking support for a possible judicial review; council members felt they did not wish to be involved but would wish the council well.

17/11 **FINANCE & GOVERNANCE**

The following accounts were approved:

HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE & NIC)	£123.67
Gloucestershire LGPS (pension)	£178.90
Clerk salary, Dec	£804.34
Mrs Edwards, Dec	£317.20
Hardwicke Village Hall, Nov/Dec	£40.00
Post Office Ltd, stamps	£20.28
Clerk's expenses Oct/Dec	£154.87
Direct debit for CCTV	£18.27

Quarterly Cashflow Statement

This was circulated for information.

Budget 2011-12

The precept request of £35900 had been sent in. The Budget had been slightly amended in line with the cashflow totals.

Church Fees

These would be increased from 1 Jan in line with Diocesan rates which had not yet been received (Clerk to follow up).

18/11 **RECREATION & AMENITIES**

Elmgrove Estate Play Area

Mrs Welbourne signed the Inspection Report.

Church Green Ditch

The Clerk would ask E-on to trim certain trees near the ditch, as they were very near power cables.

Grass Cutting

The contractor considered last month had supplied references, and letters had been received from the Vicar and the Churchwarden supporting the present Churchyard contractor, and from Mr Dawe (Grass Warden) supporting the present Playing Field contractor. After due consideration the council agreed to continue with the present contractors for another year, and to set up a better tender process for next year.

19/11 **ROADS & TRAFFIC SAFETY**

Church Lane would be closed from 7 Feb to 11 Mar for the culvert works.

20/11 **IT & COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr Clarke would supply recent CCTV footage to police, would adjust one of the cameras, and would set up email addresses for all councillors through the website.

21/11 **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

Parking in Cornfield Drive and problems with unemptied dog bins were reported. Mr Middle advised that he would stand down at the end of March, and was thanked for his years of service to the parish council.

22/11 **RESIGNATION OF CLERK**

The Clerk had given three month's notice of her impending retirement to take effect at the end of March, and had opted out of the Local Government Pension Scheme (saving the council £537); GAPTC had been asked for sample adverts, job descriptions etc to help in finding a new Clerk. She was thanked for her long service to the council.

23/11 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This was confirmed for Monday 7 February, with the meeting with SDC and GCC officers as above (16/11) on Monday 17 January, both at 7.30 p.m. at the Village Hall (lounge).

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 p.m. A meeting of the Finance Committee for internal auditing duties followed immediately, and closed at 9.10 p.m.

Date

Signed