

Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday November 7th at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Hardwicke.

Present

Cllr Ian Butler Chairman
Cllr. Gill Oxley
Cllr. Fran Welbourne
Cllr. Lyn Welbourne

Cllr. Theresa Harrison
Cllr. Caro Kingsnorth
Cllr. John Perkin
Cllr. Lisa Jayne Fallows

Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr. David Mossman.

In attendance

County Councillor Tony Blackburn, District Councillor Graham Littleton, PC Fraser Mackie, Kevin Lee Clerk and two members of the public.

Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

123/11 Public Consultation

One member of the Public asked when the trees in Ploughman's Way and Clover Drive were to be pruned. Stroud District Council had given an assurance that they would be attended to in October. It was agreed that the Clerk would pursue the matter again with SDC.

One resident expressed concern about the potential of increased traffic in the area which would result from future developments such as Sellars Farm. It was agreed to invite local Highways Manager Neil Troughton to a future meeting of the Parish Council

124/11 Casual Vacancies

There were no nominations for the vacant positions on the parish Council. Cllr Lisa Jayne Fallows suggested preparing an information pack for new councillors and agreed to write a draft document.

125/11 Vice Chairman

Cllr Theresa Harrison was elected as Vice Chair of the Parish Council.

126/11 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on October 3rd 2011 were agreed as a correct record subject to amendment to include apologies from County Councillor Tony Blackburn.

127/11 Police Report

Fraser Mackie presented his monthly report to the Parish Council. He reported that there were 12 recorded crimes across Hardwicke parish through the month of October 2011. Over the same month 2010 there were 14 crimes. In September 2011 there were 18 crimes. The types of crime were as follows; 4 Violence against the person (assaults)

No Burglaries

6 Theft and Fraud offences

1 Criminal Damage

1 Kidnap.

There were 61 incidents reported to police, which include the above 12 crimes, but also Anti-Social Behaviour, false alarms, Road Traffic incidents, concerns for safety and lost property enquiries. There were 74 incidents in the September 2011.

There were 4 reported road traffic collisions in the month of June. 2 were on the A38/Bristol Road, 1 on Barley Close and 1 on Green lane. None involved injuries to persons.

Fraser Mackie was instrumental in setting up a residents meeting held for the residents of Maple Close. It was chaired by Phil Sullivan of Stroud District Council, and focussed on the residents' concerns he had gathered from a survey of the people who live there. He accepted that SDC hadn't been 'on top of their game in Hardwicke' for a while, but promised to address this in the near future.

The issues raised in the survey were discussed, and Mr Sullivan replied that he would like to see the establishment of a Residents Association and offered support from SDC to establish the group.

Hardwicke Good Drivers Scheme Fraser reported that over 50 people had taken the pledge and signed, and now display their HGD sticker in their car. The scheme has been publicised frequently in The Citizen, on the Gloucester Police Website, Hardwicke Matters and the BBC. Fraser informed the Parish Council that he was now looking to expand the scheme and had support from the local school to undertake a joint exercise to further promote the scheme.

The Parish Council was informed that Inspector Craig Guthrie would be joining Quedgeley Station from November 23rd, and will be the new station commander. He will replace Inspector Neil Smith, who is moving to duties at the City Centre and Barton Street.

128/11 County Councillor Report

Councillor Tony Blackburn reported that he had sent in his own objections to the proposed development at Sellars Farm. In his objections he had also identified that that view from County Highways was flawed.

Cllr Blackburn stated his continued opposition to the 40 MPH speed limit on the B 4008 and that he would continue to pursue officers. New signs were to be erected by the junction with the turning to Haresfield.

Councillor Blackburn reported that he was concerned that approval would be given to the incinerator at Javelin Park and that consideration should be given to how to pursue Section 106 money.

129/11 District Councillor Report

Councillor Graham Littleton thanked the Chairman and Cllr Caro Kingsnorth for the very good report that they had produced in respect of Sellars Farm. Cllr Littleton informed the Parish Council how the planning meeting would proceed and how long each speaker would be given to address the committee. Cllr Littleton identified his main opposition points to the development; traffic, flooding, lack of facilities locally and the fact that the proposed development was outside the settlement boundary.

Members of the Parish Council thanked Councillor Littleton for his support to the development and for taking the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Parish Council at the planning meeting.

130/11 Javelin Park

Members were informed of the consultation event that was being held on November 12, 13 and 14. The exhibition was being held by the County Council and would feature the final two bidders.

The Chairman, Ian Butler informed the Parish Council of the successful motion that was passed by the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC). A motion to oppose the incinerator, submitted by the Parish Council was unanimously supported by GAPTC members at their AGM

131/11 Village Design Statement

Cllr Caro Kingsnorth introduced a report on developing a Village Design Statement. Cllr Kingsnorth reported on the discussions she had had with officers at Stroud District Council and also with the assistant to the local MP.

Members voted unanimously to develop a Village Design Statement and the following members agreed to be part of the working group to develop the statement; Councillors, Caro Kingsnorth, Fran Welbourne, Lyn Welbourne, Theresa Harrison and John Perkin.

132/11 I.T. Provision

The Chairman reported on the available options for I.T provision and for the need to have a 'corporate' image and consistent approach to e mails. It was agreed that the Chairman would pursue potential providers, circulate details of indicative costs and look to establish a new provider with effect from January 2012.

133/11 Section 106 funding.

The Clerk provided members with an update on the funding available to the Parish Council through S 106 money. The money was held by Stroud District Council and the Council had indicated that it wanted to work with the Parish Council to develop specific projects for the benefit of the community.

It was agreed that Cllr. John Perkin would lead a small working group to investigate potential projects and to submit these to the Parish Council for consideration.

134/11 Severn FM

Cllr. Caro Kingsnorth updated members of the Severn FM radio project and reported that there had been extensive work with local community groups and identified the plans for the FM broadcast in December.

Members were informed of a bid from Severn FM for financial support to assist them in delivering the FM broadcast and establishing the recording studio. Severn FM was seeking a grant of £6,000 to enable them to complete the project. In response to members questions Caro Kingsnorth reported that this request for support would be the final bid from Severn FM.

It was reported that if approved the funding would be from the Section 106 money which related to developments at the Plantation and the former BP depot. It was also stressed that this would be the final grant from the Parish Council to Severn FM and would be to allow the project to get off the ground in a professional way.

Members were asked to vote on the proposal that 'Subject to approval by Stroud District Council, Severn FM would be granted a sum of £6,000 which would be funded through S 106 money, and that given the total contribution to the project should the company cease to operate then the assets would be returned to the Parish Council'.

Members voted by a majority to approve the grant subject to SDC approval.

135/11 Councillor Reports.

- a) Cllr Fran Welbourne reported on the state of the notice boards in Dales Wharf. Quotes for replacement had been received and it was agreed to approve the work.
- b) Cllr. Fran Welbourne informed members that the Litter Picker had removed a number of items from the pond. It was agreed to approach the Wildlife Trust to see if they could offer support and maybe undertake a project to clear the pond.
- c) The Chairman, Ian Butler advised members that he had received quotes for high visibility protective jackets which members could use when undertaking warden duties .It was agreed to approve the purchase.
- d) The Clerk reported that a quote had been received for the repair to fencing at the Churchyard, it was agreed to approve the work.

The Meeting Closed at 21.55

Signed.....Chairman.....Date.....

