

Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday May 7th 2014.

Present

Cllr David Mossman (Chair) Cllr Lyn Welbourne

Cllr Sarah Costello-Byrne

Cllr Fran Welbourne

Cllr Theresa Harrison

Cllr Mike King

In attendance

District Councillors Graham Littleton and Russell Miles, PC Steve McGoldrick and Kevin Lee, Clerk.

47/14 Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors; Gill Oxley, John Perkin and Andrew Gough and County Councillor Tony Blackburn.

48/14 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on April 7th were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

RESOLVED To approve the Minutes

49/14 Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Clerk presented an update report on the progress of the NDP. Reference was made to the excellent presentation made at the Parish Assembly. The NDP Steering Group had recognised that the presentation by the Head of Planning at SDC, Phil Skill had highlighted areas where the group would need to focus. The next task for the group would be to receive and consider the responses to the survey. A meeting with GRCC had been planned.

RESOLVED. To note the report

50/14 District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Russell Miles informed the Council that this would be the last meeting at which Graham Littleton would be attending as District Councillor for the area. All Members thanked Graham for his support for the Parish Council over the past 14 years.

Cllr Littleton highlighted a number of issues that he had dealt with over the years and referred to the constant pressures created by flooding, drainage and the demand for housing. He recognised the partnership work undertaken with the Parish Council in response to these issues. The Chair, David Mossman reported on a meeting with officers at SDC to address flooding issues in Pound Lane. Cllr Littleton offered to continue to assist the Parish Council in discussions with relevant landowners. He also reported that there was a further sum of Section 106 money for drainage works, including a culvert for Church Lane.

RESOLVED. To Note the reports and thank Cllr Littleton for his support to the Parish Council

51/14 Police Report

PC Steve McGoldrick provided an update on the latest crime figures for the area. The figures showed an increase of 8 incidents compared to the same period as last year. These were mainly thefts from insecure vehicles and homes. Residents were being urged to ensure all vehicles and homes were locked and secure.

Members referred to the issues of parking in Green Lane near to the junction with the B4008 and the hazards being created. PC McGoldrick reported that the Police would be responding to the problem and outlined the actions that could be taken.

Cllr Mike King asked if any progress had been made in dealing with the issues of speeding motorists and motorcyclists along the A38/B4008 leading from the Cross Keys Roundabout. It had previously been reported that the matter would be taken up with the traffic section. It was noted that the Parish Council had not received any feedback from the police. PC McGoldrick agreed to find out more information and report back.

RESOLVED To note the report

52/14 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the finance report for the period ending April 30th 2014 and the list of monthly payments. A quotation had been received for the grass cutting of the Cross Keys Roundabout at £80 per cut. Members agreed to the quotation.

The Clerk reported that two requests had been received for grants. One from the Quedgeley Golden Age Club and one from the Cobalt Unit. It was agreed to give a grant of £200 to the Golden Age Club and a grant of £250 for the Cobalt Unit.

RESOLVED To agree the finance report and approve the grant applications.

53/14 Protocol for Co-Opting Parish Councillors.

The Chair, David Mossman introduced the report which set out the procedure for Co-Opting Members to the Parish Council. The report set out a consistent and fair approach for appointing new members.

RESOLVED To approve the report and adopt the new procedure.

54/14 Planning Applications

The Parish Council considered the application S.14/0753/HHOLD. 7 Elmgrove Road West Hardwicke

RESOLVED. To raise no objections

55/14 Parish Councillor Reports.

a) The Chair, David Mossman reminded Members that the next meeting of the Council would be the AGM and at the meeting, the Chair and Vice Chair would be elected. Members noted that the role of Chair had become more onerous with an increasing number of meetings. Cllr Mossman proposed that a revised system for electing chair and vice chair be adopted. This would require any parish councillor interested in taking up either role to submit their names in advance of the meeting to the Clerk. If there was more than one person submitting their name for a role then a secret ballot would be held at the AGM. Members discussed the proposal and agreed to adopt the procedure for the AGM in June 2014 and to test its effectiveness.

b) Cllr Fran Welbourne reported that she had received a number of complaints about overgrown hedges and brambles along a number of footpaths. The footpath leading from Clover Drive was highlighted as a particular problem. Cllr Welbourne agreed to draw up a list of the worst areas and present them to District Councillor Russell Miles.

Cllr Welbourne advised the Parish Council that the Village hall Committee were planning an open day on August 24th and were seeking permission to use the playing field. Members agreed to the request and suggested that the NDP Steering Group be invited to host a stand at the event.

Cllr Welbourne also reported that there was need for additional litter bins at Wharfdale and around the playing field.

- It was agreed to get quotes for the bins and report back to the next meeting.
- c) Cllr Theresa Harrison reported that section of fencing adjacent to the canal was missing and need to be replaced. There was also the longstanding issue of the missing bench. It was agreed that the Clerk would raise these matters with the Canals and Rivers Trust.
 - d) Cllr Mike King reported that he had obtained a quote for the jetting of the pipe leading from the pond in Green Lane. It was agreed to get further quotes and to liaise with Gloucestershire Highways as to whether a temporary road closure would be required while the work was being carried out.

56/14 Primary School for Hunts Grove

The Clerk reported that the County Council had written to the Parish Council seeking its views on the proposed primary school at Hunts Grove and whether there was support for an Academy or Free School.

RESOLVED The parish Council stated that it favoured an academy school

57/14 Village Signs

The Clerk reported that Gloucestershire Highways had invited the Parish Council to submit a design for a Village Entry Sign as part of gateway to the Village. Members felt that a slight variation of the winning NDP Logo should be recommended to Gloucestershire Highways.

RESOLVED to propose the adoption of the NDP Logo as the Village Entry Sign

Meeting Closed at 21.25

Signed

Chair

Date