

# Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015.

## **Present**

Cllr Mike King (Chair)

Cllr Sarah Costello -Byrne

Cllr David Mossman

Cllr Fran Welbourne

Cllr Andrew Gough

Cllr Lyn Welbourne

Cllr John Perkin

## **In attendance**

County Councillor Tony Blackburn, , Kevin Marsden, Chair of NDP Steering Group, Jill Brearley, Graham Brearley and Ian Widdows from NDP Steering Group. PC Jenny Fraser, Mike Addle and Dareth Daley Hardwicke Football Club three members of the public and Kevin Lee, Parish Clerk.

## **28/15 Apologies for absence**

There were none

## **29/15 Declarations of Interest**

There were none

## **30/15 Public Consultation**

A member of the public suggested that a dog bin should be provided near to the One Stop Shop. It was also suggested that the Council purchase dog bags and to make these available to dog owners. The Parish Council agreed to look at providing an additional and also to speak to the manager of the shop to agree a suitable location.

There was also a discussion about the revised bus routes and the re siting of bus stops. It was acknowledged that the bus operator, Stagecoach had altered the bus routes and bus stops based on commercial decisions.

Two Members of the public asked whether the Parish Council had responded to resident's concerns about weeds alongside footpaths. The Chair, Mike King confirmed that the Parish Council had made financial provision to undertake weed spraying in a number of areas.

### **31/15 Minutes of Meeting held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015**

Members agreed the minutes of the previous meeting and were signed by the Chair

**Resolved to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015**

### **32/15 Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Ian Widdows, Vice Chair of the NDP Steering Group, presented the 'story boards' which would provide the basis for the public consultation events on March 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.

The boards set out the progress of the development of the Neighbourhood Plan leading from the initial public consultation, the parish wide survey and through to the recent housing needs survey.

Ian informed the Council that in response to the comments from the public meetings and surveys the NDP Steering Group had developed the policy direction of a number of themes and theses would be further tested through the public consultation.

Members of the Parish Council were invited to comment on the 'story boards' prior to the final drafts being prepared. It was acknowledged that the agreed settlement boundary for the Parish would need to encompass the new developments at Sellars Bridge Hunts Grove Extension and Mayo's Field.

The Clerk advised Members of the cost of preparing the boards and the associated promotional materials of around £500

Members congratulated the Steering Group for all its work in progressing the plan.

**Resolved to approve the story boards and approve the additional expenditure.**

### **33/15 Hardwicke Football Club**

Representatives of the football club set their proposals for replacing the existing, dug outs'. The club informed the Parish Council that it needed to replace the 'dug outs' as a requirement for progress into the higher league. The new 'dug outs' would be made of brick, be of the same height as the existing ones and set slightly further apart. After some discussion it was agreed that the new 'dug outs' would be on the same side of the pitch as the existing ones. The club also raised the question of providing adequate CCTV as a crime prevention measure. The Parish Council advised the Club that there was some CCTV provision around the Village Hall. The football club said that they would make a contribution to providing additional CCTV coverage.

**Resolved to agree to the replacement 'dug outs' as set out by the football club and to investigate with the club the provision of additional CCTV coverage.**

### **34/15 County Councillor and district Councillor Reports**

County Councillor Tony Blackburn reported on the meeting of the County Council on February 18<sup>th</sup> which considered two motions in respect .of the Incinerator at Javelin Park. One motion was to rescind the contract; this was defeated by 27 votes to 24 with one abstention. Councillors were informed that to rescind the contract would cost council tax payers significant sums of money.

Cllr Blackburn advised the parish council that all parties needed to work together to mitigate the impact of the Incinerator, a community trust fund was being established by UBB to support community initiatives in areas close to Javelin Park.

Cllr Blackburn was pleased to report that approval had been given to introduce a 30mph speed limit on the B4008, this would commence from the junction with Green Lane.

Parish Councillors expressed disappointment and concern that the speed restriction was not being implemented at the top of the slip road from the A38. Members also expressed concern that the School Crossing Patrol for the primary school had been removed; Cllr Blackburn agreed to make enquiries to find out the reasons.

District Councillor David Mossman reported that Stroud District Council had raised a legal challenge to the Planning Inspectors interpretation of the impact of the Incinerator on the A.O.N.B.

Cllr Mossman advised the Parish Council the next stage of the examination of the district council's local plan had been delayed due to illness. The next stage would commence in mid-May at this point the Inspector would consider the housing requirement as submitted by the district council. The Inspector had issued a paper requiring the Council to consult on a number of 'post submission' changes to the Local Plan; these included the revised housing numbers and the inclusion of development at West of Stonehouse.

**Resolved to note the reports**

### **35/15 Police Report**

PC Jenny Fraser, from the local policing team gave an update on the latest crime figures for the area. The police had noticed an increase in Anti-Social Behaviour in certain parts of the area, individuals had been identified and visits had been made to their homes.

PC Fraser acknowledged the concerns of Parish Councillors about the parking around the school at the beginning and end of the school day. PC Fraser said that regular visits had and would continue to be made and fixed penalty notices issued for inappropriate parking. Members discussed a range of issues that could be raised with the County Council, Highways. The Chair, Mike King, agreed to raise these concerns at a meeting with the Area Highways Manager.

### **Resolved to note the report**

### **36/15 Planning Applications**

Cllr David Mossman noted that with the emerging Local Plan and the Parish Council's progress with its own Neighbourhood Plan, it would be appropriate to firmly establish the criteria for considering planning applications. It was proposed that three criteria for agreeing applications be established as follows;

- Within the Settlement Boundary
- Within the criteria established with the NDP
- Within the criteria established by the District Council's Local Plan

### **Resolved to adopt the above criteria when considering planning applications**

The Parish Council Considered its response to the following applications;

S.15/0264/FUL Land at Laburnum House, Bristol Road

### **Resolved to oppose the application on the grounds of;**

- **The impact of traffic emerging onto the B 4008**
- **The entrance to the site would be too close to a traffic island**
- **The application is not in accordance with the emerging NDP**

S.15/0175/HHOLD Rose Cottage, Sticky Lane

### **Resolved to raise no objections**

### **37/15 Local Plan Consultation**

The Planning Inspector had requested that the District Council consult on 'post submission' changes to its Local Plan. These issues included the increase of the housing requirement for the district to 11,200 and the inclusion of development at West of Stonehouse.

The Parish Council discussed the changes but agreed to make no further representations.

**Resolved to make no further representations in respect of the Local Plan**

### **38/15 Boundary Commission Review**

The Chair introduced the report from the Boundary Commission which invited comments on the proposed boundary changes to the electoral boundaries for the district.

The major impact for Hardwicke would be the extension of the electoral boundary to include; Brookethorpe with Whaddon, Standish, Moreton Valence and area close to Pltchcombe. The aim of the proposals was to create electoral wards of similar size. For the Hardwicke Ward it would provide an additional district councillor.

The Parish Council commented that the revised boundary created a wide geographical area covering a number of parishes. This in turn would make it difficult for district councillors to regularly attend meetings in the parishes they served thus reducing accountability and contact.

**Resolved To object to the increased boundary as being too diverse, making it difficult to maintain the close link between district councillors and their parish councils.**

### **39/15 Play Area Assessment**

Cllr Fran Welbourne introduced the report of the play area at Elmgrove and the Plantation. The survey had been undertaken by Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association. The report gave a good rating for the parish council's play areas and did not identify any issues for improvement. Cllr Welbourne identified that a new litter bin was needed to be placed in the Elmgrove Play Area.

**Resolved to note the report and to agree the purchase of a litter bin**

### **40/15 Finance Report**

The Clerk presented the monthly report for the period ending February 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 and the list of monthly payments. The Clerk highlighted that a previous meeting of the Council had agreed to the purchase of pedestrian gate for entry to the playing field. The cost of the gate would increase by £250 to provide for soft close hinges. Members agreed to the purchase.

Members considered the request for a grant to Quedgeley Golden Age Club and agreed to a grant of £250

**Resolved to agree the financial report and approve the additional expenditure for the pedestrian gate. To agree a grant of £250 to Quedgeley Golden Age Club**

#### **41/15 Work Plan Update**

The Clerk presented the updated work plan for the period ending February 28<sup>th</sup> 2015. Cllr John Perkin asked for an update on the outstanding repairs to the lych-gate.

The Clerk reported that it had been difficult finding a contractor to undertake the work but an approach had been made and inspection awaited.

Cllr Perkin expressed concern at the time being taken to resolve the flooding issue around Tudor Cottage. It was reported that the issue lay with the developer of The Plantation who would need to give approval for any connection into their drainage system.

#### **Resolved to note the report**

#### **42/15 Parish Councillor Reports**

Cllr Fran Welbourne reported that there had been problems with the recently provided litter bin in School Lane not being emptied on a regular basis. This had been reported to SDC.

Cllr Lyn Welbourne reported on the low number of parking spaces that had been provided at the One Stop shop. There were also major problems being caused by delivery vehicles blocking Elmgrove Road East. The Chair, Cllr Mike King agreed to raise these issues at a meeting with the area Highways Manager. The Chair reminded Members that the Parish Council had previously commented on the inadequate parking provision when the planning application was submitted.

Cllr Perking requested that an approach be made to the Canals and Rivers Trust to seek repairs to the towpath leading from Sellars Bridge heading south.

The Chair, Cllr Mike King reported on discussions that had taken place with the Neighbourhood Warden, from SDC. The Warden had been investigating issues of fly tipping. This would be monitored by SDC and penalty notices issued accordingly.