

Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Monday March 7th 2016

Present

Cllr Mike King (Chair)

Cllr John Perkin

Cllr Theresa Harrison

Cllr Andrew Gough

Cllr Graham Brearley

In attendance

Five Members of the public and Kevin Lee, Clerk

24/16 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Fran Welbourne, Lyn Welbourne, David Mossman, Sarah Costello-Byrne and County Councillor Tony Blackburn.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Steven Palfrey had resigned from the Parish Council.

Resolved to accept the apologies

25/16 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

26/16 Public Consultation

Five members of the public raised their concerns about the revised planning application for the development at Cross Keys. They noted that the proposals would add to traffic congestion in the area and would not be a suitable use for the site.

Parish Councillors acknowledged residents' concerns and re-iterated its opposition to the development.

27/16 Minutes of Meeting held on February 1st 2016

RESOLVED To approve the Minutes of the meeting held February 1st 2016

28/16 Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Clerk gave an update on the NDP and highlighted the areas of work outstanding. The web site had been set up and Members were encouraged to continue to view the site and provide feedback.

Members considered the proposal from Hunter Page setting out the support and costs for the remainder of the project. It was agreed to accept the fixed fee proposal but to seek more information on the costs for mapping.

RESOLVED To note the report and to accept the proposal from Hunter Page subject to clarifying the costs in relation to mapping

29/16 County Councillor and District Councillor Reports

The Clerk presented the written reports submitted by County Councillor Tony Blackburn and District Councillor David Mossman.

Cllr Blackburn's report highlighted; the budget set by the County Council which would increase Council Tax Band D by £43.51 per year. The Canal and Rivers Trust had responded to some of the concerns in relation to the proposal to introduce remote controlled bridges and county councillors would be allocated £30,000 in 2016/17 for highways works in their division.

Cllr Mossman's report identified that Stroud District Council had voted to increase its budget by 1.99%. Unemployment levels had reduced in the Stroud Area, with the number of people claiming job seekers allowance dropping from 0.9% to 0.5%.

Construction work on the Incinerator at Javelin Park was likely to commence during mid-2016 and would take about three years to build.

Further to the previous reports on Devolution Gloucestershire, Cotswold District Council had announced that it was seeking to undertake joint working with Oxfordshire County Council. This would be likely to have an impact on the devolution bid.

RESOLVED to note the reports

30/16 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the finance report and list of payments for the period ending February 29th 2016.

RESOLVED to approve the report and the list of payments

31/16 Replacement Lighting at Village Hall Car Park

The Chair, Cllr Mike King reported that a site meeting had been held with contractors and proposals and costs were due during week commencing March 14th

32/16 Parish Council Website

The Clerk reported that Stroud District Council had decided to end the hosting of parish and town council websites. The decision by the district council coincided with the requirement for the Parish Council to have a web site under the .gov.uk domain in line with its e mail accounts. The site would need to be up and running by April 1st to meet government requirements.

Proposals had been prepared by the company that provides the e mail support, BlueTree. This included an initial set up fee of £936 and a monthly hosting charge. A proposed layout of the website was shown to Members.

RESOLVED to approve the proposals and cost for the new website.

33/16 Planning Applications

The Parish Council considered its response to the following planning applications.

- S.16/0255/CPL 11 Stockdale Close Hardwicke
Resolved to raise no objections
- 2016/0302/EIAS It was noted that this mainly fell within the Haresfield Parish and that Cllr Mossman had held discussions with Haresfield parish Council
Resolved to raise no objections
- S.16/0127/Mayo's Field. The Parish Council expressed concern about the inadequate provision for access to the development with too many vehicles having to use Meerbrook Way.
Resolved to object to the traffic proposals for the site

34/16 Churchyard Committee

Cllrs John Perkin and Theresa Harrison gave a verbal report on the issues discussed at a meeting of the Churchyard Committee. The Committee had noted the excellent work in maintaining the grounds and the grass cutting contract. and passed on their thanks to the contractor, Dale Haines.

Additional maintenance work was needed to; cut back the grass from the footpath, repairs to the Lych-gate and repairs to the gate leading to Church Lane.

RESOLVED to note the repair and seek quotations for the additional work

35/16 Village Hall Committee

The Chair, Cllr Mike King gave a verbal report on his discussions with the Chair of the Village Hall Committee. He advised Members that he would be meeting with the Village Hall Committee prior to the open meeting.

RESOLVED to note the report

36/16 Litter collection

The Clerk reported that the introduction of fortnightly refuse collections would have an impact on the parish council's litter collection; litter would need to be stored for two weeks. An approach had been made to Stroud District Council for them to provide a wheelie bin at the Village Hall so that the litter could be placed there for collection.

RESOLVED to note the report

37/16 Parish Councillor Reports

- Cllr John Perkin noted that one of the Tai Chi Wheels, (outdoor gym equipment) was sticking and that a rubber handle had been removed. He also referred to the recent survey by Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association which had suggested the provision of additional litter bins and tables around the play area. Cllr Perkin requested that the bollards in Green Lane be replaced.
- Cllr Graham Brearley reported that there had been some fly tipping in Pound Lane.
- Cllr Mike King informed Members that a Facebook Page for Hardwicke Parish Council had been set up and had already generated a lot of interest. He reported that a resident had requested permission to provide a memorial bench next to the Planation Play Area.

RESOLVED

- **To obtain quotes for the provision of litter bins and tables around the play area.**
- **To agree in principle to the installation of a memorial bench and for the resident to provide details to the Parish Council.**

38/16 Work Plan Update

The Clerk presented the work plan update for the period ending February 29th 2016

RESOLVED to note the report

Meeting Ended 20.55

