

Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday November 2nd 2020 Meeting held remotely by Zoom Meeting Platform

Present

Cllr John Perkin (Chair)	Cllr Fran Welbourne	Cllr Mark Ryder
Cllr Darren Morris	Cllr Demelza Turner-Wilkes	Cllr Peter Rotherham
Cllr Denise Powell	Cllr Jill Brearley	Cllr Graham Brearley
Cllr Ian Butler	Cllr Adam Hampson	

In attendance

District Councillor Gill Oxley, County Councillor Stephen Davies, Conrad Moore (Stroud District Council) and Kevin Lee, Clerk

110/20 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors Adam Hampson and Ian Butler

111/20 Declarations of interest

There were none declared

112/20 Public Questions

There had been no questions received

113/20 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on October 5th were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair

Resolved; to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held October 5th 2020

114/20 Local Plan Review and call for sites

Conrad Moore, Stroud District Council gave a presentation on the consultation process for the review of the Local Plan and he also outlined the key elements of the white paper on changes to planning rules.

Members were informed that the district council's review would be open for consultation until December 16th 2020. The focus of the review would be take account of; the planned strategy, call for sites (including those from the last consultation) and establishing a list of reserve sites. The Governments proposed changes to the planning legislation would have the effect of increasing the requirement for new homes in the district from 638 a year to 786. There would be questions for the district council to address including whether there should be housing growth points along the main highway corridor of the A38, A419 and A 4135

Other considerations for development could see a wider dispersal of housing rather than a focus on larger strategic sites which would provide for growth in smaller villages with the provision of more affordable housing.

Parish Councillors raised many questions about the parcels of land within Hardwicke which were mentioned in the draft document. Conrad confirmed that no decisions had been made and that it was important to get the views of the parish council which would be taken into account. It was noted that the review identified potential large strategic sites at Hardwicke (1250) Moreton Valence (1500) and Whitminster (2250)

In respect of the timescale for the revised plan, Conrad Moore advised that the formal submission of the plan would be in May 2021 with a possible date for adoption in the winter of 2022.

Members thanked Conrad for attending the meeting and giving a full summary of the progress of the plan and the likely timescales leading to implementation. Members agreed that they would hold an additional business meeting prior to the December meeting of the parish council to consider a formal response.

Resolved; to hold a business meeting in November to develop a response to the consultation

115/20 County Councillor, District Councillor and Parish Councillor Reports

District Councillor Gill Oxley District Councillor Gill Oley reported on; the new Covid support scheme that had been introduced which would run until 2021, the district council had been made aware of increase in demand for dogs during the lockdown and the council had been undertaking partnership work with the Police to alert dog owners of thefts. An advisory leaflet had been produced and had been put up on parish council notice boards.

Cllr Gill Oxley gave an update on the revision to the Stroud Local Plan and the potential impact of the planning white paper which if approved would increase the numbers of houses to be built in Stroud with a further 2500 homes to be built by 2046, this would be in addition to the numbers already within the existing plan.

Gill informed the Council that It had been announced that Stroud and Stonehouse would once again become Canal Towns, a successful lottery bid had provided £8.9m which would allow for the construction of 4.5 miles of canal from Saul to Stroud.

County Councillor Stephen Davies reported that there had been rising levels of COVID 19 in all parts of the county. The County Council had decided to stop all outside visits to care homes.

Stephen informed the Council that there was growing concern about the need for secondary school provision locally. It was being proposed that a new secondary school be delivered in 2024 possibly in the Whaddon area.

Cllr Davies gave an update on the delay of the adoption of the highways at Hardwicke Grange.

Resolved; to note the reports

116/20 COVID 19 Support Group

Cllr Darren Morris gave an update on the role of the support group and support that was being given to local residents. There were six volunteers undertaking a range of support

Resolved; to note the report and to thank Darren and the volunteers for their support

117/20 Planning Applications

The Parish Council confirmed its response to the following applications;

S.20/2036/HHOLD Verona Cottage

Resolved; The Parish Council cannot support the retrospective application as it has no assurance that the construction meets the requirement of the building regulations and the approval of the buildings inspector. Retrospective approval could impact any future purchase.

S.20/2165/HHOLD Elmgrove Road

Resolved; to raise no objections but to record that the Parish Council would not support future development of the site

118/20 Hardwicke Grange

Cllr Peter Rotherham gave an update on the pending transfer of the open spaces and play area from the developer to the management company which would be run by residents. This should have taken place in August 2020 but was still delayed.

119/20 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the finance report for the period ending October 31st 2020 including the list of monthly payments. It was noted that the Parish Council was managing the finance for the Shadow Council of Hunts Grove and that this should be progressed as soon as possible

Resolved; to approve the report

120/20 Parish Councillor Reports

Cllr Fran Welbourne asked if additional bollards could be erected in Green Lane in order to reduce the parking on the verges. The clerk was asked to price up the provision of additional bollards. The situation had been made worse by the additional number of vehicles bringing children to football games. The increased number of vehicles was due to players not being able to car share as a result of COVID 19

Cllr Graham Brearley noted that the by-pass channel in Church Lane was overgrown and was restricting the flow of water away from the ditch in Church Lane. The Clerk would ask the County Councillor to follow up this issue.

Cllr Jill Brearley reported that there had been an increase in MacDonald's paper and cartons in the lanes.

Cllr Peter Rotherham raised the issue of the proposed road closure of the B4008 flyover across the A38 and the fact that it would be closed for a number of weeks. This was to allow for repairs to the bridge but would cause a lot of traffic disruption.

Cllr Darren Morris reported on the damage to the car park barriers at the village hall which had been reported.

Resolved to note the reports and to follow up actions as appropriate

121/20 Play Areas

It was noted that the latest Government Advice was that the play areas could remain open but the outdoor gym equipment should not be used. The Clerk reported on the latest advice from the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association. Cllr Denise Powell and Cllr Demelza Turner-Wilkes noted that the risk assessments would need to be update. The Clerk agreed to do this

Resolved; to update the risk assessments and to respond to the advice re play areas and outdoor gyms

Meeting Closed 21.00

Signed

Chair