

Hardwicke Parish Council

Minutes of A Meeting of the Parish Council held at Hardwicke Village Hall on Monday February 7th 2022

Present

Cllr John Perkin (Chair)

Cllr Graham Brearley

Cllr Ian Butler

Cllr Denise Powell

Cllr Jill Brearley

Cllr Fran Welbourne

In attendance

District Councillors Gill Oxley and Mark Ryder and Kevin Lee, Clerk

10/22 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Stephen Davies and Parish Councillors Peter Rotherham and Andrew James

11/22 Declarations of Interest

None declared

12/22 Public Questions

There were none

13/22 Minutes of Meeting held on January 4th 2022

Resolved; to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on January 4th 2022

14/22 Symmetry Park

District Councillor Mark Ryder gave an overview of the responses and issues relating to the Planning Application for Symmetry Park. The neighbouring parish councils of Standish, Haresfield and Hunts Grove had submitted or were in the process of sending in their responses to the application. Cllr Ryder reported that he had already requested that the application be referred to Stroud District Council's Development Control Committee. He noted that Hardwicke along with the other parishes had given a commitment to support a full transport study to assess the impact on the roads around the parishes and also the significant impact on the M5 Junction 12. It was acknowledged that representations had already been made in respect of the impact on the AONB, landscape and light pollution.

Parish Councillors expressed their concern that the ever increasing delays at Junction 12 were causing motorists to find alternative routes including local lanes. Members also noted that any transport assessment would need to take account of the emergence of future housing developments.

Members agreed that they would submit an objection to the application and that the focus would be on the transport impact and to support a 'call in' to DCC.

Resolved; to Object to the Planning Application, highlighting the impact transport would have on the Parish and to request that the application be referred to Development Control Committee

15/22 District and Parish Councillor Reports

District Councillor Gill Oxley reported that district council's employees who had been working from home during the pandemic would be returning to work full time at Ebley Mill.

There had been some reported incidents of residents being 'scammed' by people calling on residents saying that they were from the District Council. The District Council confirmed that it would not call unannounced on residents. If residents were concerned about such approaches then they are advised to report the incident to the police.

The District Council had been voted 10th out of 400 local authorities for its work on climate change.

The amount of queuing to get into MacDonald's at the Cross keys roundabout was an increasing concern with motorists backing up onto the dual carriageway. It was agreed to raise this matter with the County Council.

Cllr Jill Brearley commented on the poor road surface in Green Lane and Church Lane and asked if this could be raised again with the County Council

Cllr Ian Butler noted that there was an increasing amount of HG Vehicles using the lanes around Hardwicke including 44 tonne lorries.

Cllr Fran Welbourne gave an update on a planning issue at Hardwicke Grange which was being taken up by enforcement officers.

The Chair Cllr John Perkin reported that a resident had fallen over on the uneven footway along a section of Sellars Road. The Clerk was asked to contact the County Council to report the incident and to have the path inspected

The Chair had noted that, just before Christmas, a resident had dumped a large quantity of apples onto the playing field and were rotting. Members noted that the Council's CCTV would normally have recorded the incident.

Members were given an update on the Architects survey of the Village Hall which would assess; the viability for providing accommodation for the Youth Forum, re-positioning of the changing rooms, the provision of a café facility and the reshaping of the car park to accommodate more visitors.

Resolved; to note the reports and follow up actions

16/22 Jubilee Celebrations

The Chair presented a revised application form which was considered by Members

It was agreed that a fund set aside would be to assist local residents to organise and host parties to commemorate the Jubilee. Members agreed that a budget of £2,000 would be allocated and applications to be submitted by March 31st 2022. Applications would then be considered during April.

It was suggested that residents be invited to send in digital photographs of their Jubilee Events which the Parish council would then produce into a digital folder which all residents could access.

It was agreed that an approach be made to the local Stonemason to have an inscription added to the Millennium Stone.

The Chair reported that initial discussion had taken place with the Church Wardens to assess the viability of proving lighting for the Church Tower.

Resolved; to

- approve a fund of £2000 to support local celebrations for the Jubilee
- invite residents to send digital photographs of their event which would be used to produce a digital folder/album
- assess the viability of lighting the church tower
- add an inscription to the Millennium Stone

17/22 Replacement of Swings at Elmgrove Play Area

Members approved the quotation for the replacement of the swings at Elmgrove Play area at a cost of £5976. This included a replacement of the wet-pour surface

The existing swings were beyond repair and had been removed for safety reasons.

Resolved; to approve the purchase of new swings

18/22 Planning Applications

The Parish Council considered the following planning applications

- S.22/0054/HHOLD - 67 Foxwhelp Way.
Resolved to raise no objections
- S.21/3957/HHOLD - 22 Hembury Close
Resolved; to raise no objections
- S.22/0207/HHOLD - New House, was formerly Verona Cottage, Sticky Lane
Resolved ; to raise no objections subject to, Stroud District does ensure, that the former un-authorised extension is properly demolished, this MUST be inspected before any new footings for the new extension has been started.
- S.22/0153/HHOLD - 111 Wharfdale Way, front extension to the side of the existing porch for a toilet and replace roof of rear conservatory.
Resolved; to raise no objections

19/22 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the report for the period ending January 31st 2022 and the list of payments. Members considered the proposal for the purchase of a new council notice board to be attached to the Village Hall.

Resolved; to (a) approve the finance report for the period ending January 31st and the list of payments (b) approve the purchase of a new notice board to be attached to the Village Hall

20/22 Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that the Police and Crime Commissioner had announced the opening of a fund for local organisation and councils to apply for grants to support a number of the forces key aims. Cllr Jill Brearley suggested that an approach be made to install CCTV Cameras to record and report incidents of fly tipping particularly in Pound Land along with appropriate signage.

The Clerk advised that there may be an opportunity to share a cctv camera that was being used by a neighbouring council.

It was noted that one of the key aims was to encourage closer community and police involvement. Members recalled that the Police had previously enquired about possible use of the village hall as a community police hub. It was agreed that that this may be a suitable project to support through the fund

Resolved; to explore the possibility of getting support from the fund for anti-litter work and a contribution to a hub at the village hall.

Meeting Closed at 21.00

Signed

Chair

Date