

## **Hardwicke Parish Council**

Minutes of A Meeting of the Parish Council held at Hardwicke Village Hall on Monday  
December 4th 2023

### **Present**

Cllr John Perkin (Chair)	Cllr Peter Rotherham
Cllr Jill Brearley	Cllr Denise Powell
Cllr Graham Brearley	Cllr Andrew James
Cllr Ian Butler	Cllr Fran Welbourne

Hannah Day

### **In attendance**

County Councillor Stephen Davies, Voluntary PCSO Stuart Cunningham and Kevin Lee,  
Clerk

### **88/23 Apologies**

Apologies were received from, District Councillor Gill Oxley and Parish Councillor Sarah  
Moore

### **89/23 Declarations of Interest**

**There were none**

### **90/23 Public Questions**

There were none

### **91/23 PCSO**

Stuart Cunningham gave a presentation on the role of the Volunteer PCSO and how they  
support the full time PCSOs and work within the community. Members learned of the core  
work that the V PCSOs undertook; neighbourhood watch, schools liaison, intelligence  
gathering, support to the 'mini police' (similar to police cadets)

The roles were introduced by the Police and Crime Commissioner in September 2022

**Members thanked Stuart for his presentation.**

### **92/23 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chair

**Resolved; to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on November 6<sup>th</sup> 2023**

### **93/23 Casual Vacancy**

It was agreed to carry this item over to the next meeting

### **94/23 Projects for Leyhill Community Workforce**

The Clerk reported that he had met with an officer from Leyhill to consider two projects for the workforce to undertake in the Parish. The first, cleaning of ditches along Pound Lane could not be undertaken due to changes to Health and Safety Practices.

The second project, to clear away the brambles and excess vegetation around the pond and in Green Lane down towards the footpath could be undertaken in early January. Additional bulb planting could be undertaken at the same time.

### **Resolved; to approve the work with the Leyhill Community Workforce**

#### **95/23 Councillor Reports**

County Councillor Stephen Davies reported that the County Council would be consulting on its proposed budget for 2024/2025, with proposals for a balanced budget.

Referring to Stroud District Council's Local Plan, further information had been provided to the Planning Inspectorate, however, it was anticipated that the Inspectorate would find the plan to be 'unsafe' and requiring further work.

Work to construct the new access road and A38 junction to Hunts Grove was going to be delayed again and there were further concerns about the condition of the existing flyover.

Cllr Peter Rotherham reported on the successful meeting with the Area Highways Manager in respect of the provision of yellow lines at Hardwicke Grange. It was noted that Members had raised concerns about access through Meerbrook Way. The Clerk agreed to raise this concern with Quedgeley Town Council.

Cllr Ian Butler asked about if any progress had been made of attending to the regular problems of flooding in Church Lane. The Chair Cllr John Perkin and Cllr Graham Brearley gave an update on the site meeting held with a representative for Hardwicke Estate and the agreed ditch clearance to be undertaken.

The Chair, Cllr John Perkin reported that a meeting was to be held with Hardwicke Rangers to discuss the future long term provision of the ground at The Close.

A recent meeting of Severn Voice had received a presentation from the Internal Drainage Board; Cllr John Perkin had taken the opportunity to make contact to discuss concerns about the Shorn Brook and the regular flooding in Church Lane and Pound Lane.

The Chair advised Members that in January the Council would be setting its Budget for 2024/2025 and members were invited to suggest possible projects for inclusion.

Resolved to note the reports and for the Clerk to follow up on agreed actions

#### **96/23 Planning Applications**

Cllr Fran Welbourne presented the proposed response to the following application;

S.23/2228/P3Q - Conversion of existing barn to one dwelling - Church Farm Pound Lane Hardwicke. This was a re-submission of S.22/2806/P3Q which prior permission was refused by the district council.

Members noted the previous applications for development and the views expressed by the district council. Members also noted the outline aspect of the application.

**Resolved;** members noted the outline aspect of the application and agreed not to support the application at this point

## **97/23 Finance Report**

1. The Clerk presented the finance report for the period ending November 30<sup>th</sup> 2023 and the list of payments
2. The Clerk had received from Iain Selkirk, a quote for Audit Services for the financial year ending March 2024 at a cost of £160 Members noted the previous excellent service provided and agreed to appointment

**Resolved; to approve the budget and payments report and to approve the appointment of Ian Selkirk as Internal Auditor**

**98/23 Date of Next Meeting Tuesday January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024**

**Meeting Closed at 20.45**

**Signed**

**Chair**

**Date**