

## **Hardwicke Parish Council**

Minutes of A Meeting of the Parish Council held at Hardwicke Village Hall on Monday February 5<sup>th</sup> 2024

### **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

Cllr Sarah Moore

### **In attendance**

County Councillor District Councillor Gill Oxley and Kevin Lee, Clerk

### **7/24 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Hannah Day and Carrie-Anne Panting

### **8/24 Declarations of Interest**

**There were none**

### **9/24 Public Questions**

**There were none**

### **10/24 Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on January 2<sup>nd</sup> were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair

**Resolved; to approve the Minutes of the meeting of January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024**

### **11/24 District and Parish Councillor Reports**

District Councillor Gill Oxley confirmed that a meeting with the M.P. had been arranged for March 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss the Local Plan. It was agreed that Cllrs John Perkin, Sarah Moore and Ian Butler would represent the Parish Council. In respect of the Local Plan the district council had published its response to the Inspectors Comments.

Cllr Oxley reported that the Planning Enforcement Officers were investigating the work and occupation of the units at the former challenge Fencing Site.

Cllr Jill Brearley reported that there was an increasing number of potholes in Church Lane, the Clerk agreed to speak to the Area Highways Manager.

Cllr Peter Rotherham commented on the letter and proposals from 'Two for Joy' coffee bike service. It was agreed to table this as an item for the March Meeting of the Council.

The Chair, Cllr John Perkin reported on his meeting with the PCSO's for Hardwicke and the concerns about Anti-Social Behaviour. A subsequent meeting had been held with the Crime Prevention Adviser who had agreed to suggest some courses of action that the Parish Council may wish to consider.

The Chair had held a site meeting with the Farm Manager to assess the requirements for footpath signs and new 'kissing gates'. Members agreed to the proposals and the Clerk agreed to make arrangements with the County Councils Public Rights of Way Officer.

The Chair had received complaints about the state of the ditch in Sellars Road near to the telephone box and the suggestion that sewage was being discharged into the ditch. Cllr Sarah Moore reported that the issue had also been raised with the Sellars Bridge Management Company.

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

## **12/24 (1) Planning Applications**

### **S.23/2428/OUT - 2550 homes at Whaddon.**

Cllr Fran Welbourne presented her report and which outlined the proposed development. The proposal shows there will be three accesses for this development onto the A4173-Stroud Road - which continues to the North to the Southern Avenue/Finlay Road (A38) roundabout junction.

There will be no through road from this development into the adjacent and still ongoing Kingsway development. The railway line is the dividing line. The only access to Naas Lane will be a cycle/bus/foot link which at the south end of the proposed development. It was noted that there was potential for significant traffic impact on Hardwicke, Kingsway and Quedgeley.

**Resolved; The Parish Council notes the Proposals and has concerns that the access proposals seem inadequate given that the site will also include three schools, one of which would be a secondary school. The site would have a major impact on local traffic within Hardwicke. The Parish Council understands that this proposal is contained within Stroud District Council's Local Plan, which is currently being reviewed by the Governments Planning Inspectorate. The Parish Council believes that the Inspectors have expressed concerns in respect of the highways infrastructure provision. It is hoped that**

**the conclusions from the Planning Inspectorate will ensure that a robust highways provision is imbedded within the proposals.**

### **12/24 (2) Retention of Historical Buildings and Maintaining the character of the Village**

The Chair, Cllr John Perkin referred to the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Development Plan and the section relating to Historic Buildings within the Parish. Cllr Perkin wanted to ensure that the Council took account of its NDP when considering planning applications relating to older buildings.

Cllr Graham Brearley suggested that when such a planning application comes forward then the developer/owner should be invited to the Parish Council to present their proposals.

**Resolved; to note the report and suggested approach to applications for older buildings**

### **13/24 Financial Report and Precept**

1. The Clerk presented the financial report for the period ending January 31<sup>st</sup> 2024 and list of payments.
2. Further to Council's previous discussion on the budget, the Clerk presented an updated report which would set the Council Tax Band D Rate at £38.00

**Resolved; 1. To approve the financial report for the period ending January 31<sup>st</sup> 2024**

**2 To approve the revised budget for 2024/2025 and a Band D Council Tax Rate of £38.00**

### **14/24 Clerks Report**

The Clerk reported that the district council would be hosting an information event for Clerks on the process for the local elections. Nomination papers would be provided which the Clerk would present to the March meeting of the Parish Council

**Meeting closed at 20.40**

**Signed**

**Chair**

**Date**