

Hardwick Parish Council
Meeting held on Tuesday 22 November 2011 in the School at 7.45 pm

Present: Councillors: I Storr (Chairman), A Gill, J Bowen, H Seaber-Shinn, P Joslin, T Bhachu and A Freeman.

In attendance: 4 members of the public including Mrs R French and Mr A Matthews (Joint Headteachers, Hardwick Primary School), County Cllr F Whelan and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

Cllr Whelan reported on;

- The Cambridgeshire County Council budget is to be announced shortly.
- The Hardwick Primary School expansion application.
- The rejection of the proposed increase in CCC councillor allowances.
- The minor highways improvements application process. Cllr Whelan encouraged villages to submit applications.
- The bus service consultation. Residents were urged to respond as soon as possible.
- The Madingley hill safety improvement work is to be carried out in February.
- In response to a query from Cllr Whelan, the Parish Council confirmed it was not aware of any damage to road surfaces from small road sweeping machines.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Stewart and Cllr Chamberlain (health reasons). Cllr Seaber-Shinn declared a personal and prejudicial interest under item 7.1 regarding the payment to Victoire Press.

2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 25 October 2011

The minutes of the meeting on 25 October were approved ^(Prop AG, 2nd PJ), and signed by the Chairman, after the following amendments: under Comments, to read “Hardwick to come under St Neots Parliamentary Constituency”, under Item 8, to read “It was noted that the Wimpole Way near Starve Goose plantation has been cut back”, and after the correction of two minor typing errors: the removal of the number 4 under Comments, and Item 5.2.1 to read “Limes Road”.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take Items 4.2 and 5.1.1 at this point.

4.2 Hardwick School – Statutory Notice for expansion

The Parish Council supported the application. Cllr Whelan also indicated her support. Mrs French and Mr Matthews left the meeting. Cllr Whelan also left the meeting briefly.

5.1.1 S/2082/11 – Blue Lion, 74 Main Street – reduced timber decked section to existing pub garden area (retrospective)

The Chairman temporarily adjourned the meeting to allow the adjacent residents to address the Council regarding this application. The residents outlined their objections to the revised application, including continued noise disturbance and loss of privacy from strangers gathering outside their windows. They expressed their distress and disappointment at the lack of consultation and stated that the proposed reduction and lowering of the decking would not ameliorate the level of noise and intrusion being experienced. The Planning Inspector has not yet reported on the original application which was refused. The residents urged the Parish Council to recommend refusal for

the revised application. The Chairman explained the limitations of the Parish Council's role with regard to planning applications.

The plans were not available for consideration and it was agreed to request an extension from South Cambridgeshire District Council and carry this item forward to the next meeting on 13 December.

The residents left the meeting. Cllr Whelan, who had returned to the meeting during this item, also left the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

The Clerk's report was noted.

3.1 (2) Proposed amendment to September approved minutes

It was agreed ^(Prop PJ, 2nd JB) to amend the approved minutes of the September meeting to show that Cllr Bowen was present. The amendment was signed by the Chairman.

3.2 (3.3) Willow tree near 1 Laxton Avenue – to consider quotes

The SCDC consent for the works was noted. Quotes were considered and it was agreed ^(Prop IS, 2nd PJ) to accept the quotation from Lawson Tree £275 plus VAT.

3.3 (4.2) Request for bin on St Neots Road and dog bin in Ellison Lane

Clarification was provided regarding the location of the two required dog bins, namely next to the litter bin in the layby opposite Worcester Avenue, and on St Neots Road, 50 yards west of the first bungalow in the Cambridge direction. An additional litter bin is not required.

3.4 (3.1) Millennium Way

The letter from CCC and the unavailability of further funding towards a boardwalk and clearance work, was noted. It was decided not to proceed with these works, but to proceed with the bridge repairs.

4. Correspondence/communications received

4.1 Hardwick Sports and Social Club – solar panels

The letter from HSSC was considered. It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop JB, 2nd AF) to respond that the Parish Council has no objections in principle provided that the solar panels are fitted correctly and professionally to a good standard, and that HSSC contact the Council with further information before proceeding with the installation.

4.2 Hardwick School – Statutory Notice for expansion

Taken earlier.

4.3 Andrew Lansley MP – County Council highway improvements

The comments from CCC were noted. A letter is to be sent to Mr Lansley thanking him for all he has done.

4.4 Connections Bus Project – Youth Bus visits

The request was considered. It was agreed to respond that there is no Youth Club in the village at present, and that the Parish Council would be interested in Bus visits on a regular basis, but would first like to have information regarding the cost.

4.5 Queen's Jubilee – lighting of beacons

Noted. It was decided not to take part in the lighting of beacons.

4.6 SCDC Proposed changes to footway lighting maintenance arrangements

Noted. The proposed changes were welcomed.

4.7 CCC Consultation on review of the decision to remove all subsidised bus service funding

Members are to study the consultation online and respond individually.

4.8 SCDC Decoration of Christmas tree

Noted.

4.9 Boundary Commission – 2013 review of Parliamentary constituencies

Noted.

5. Planning applications and decision notices5.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting5.1.1 S/2082/11 – Blue Lion, 74 Main Street – reduced timber decked section to existing pub garden area (retrospective)

Taken earlier.

5.1.2 S/2201/11 – 16 Ashmead Drive – Garage conversion and extension

No plans were available for consideration. It was agreed to request an extension from SCDC and carry this item forward to the next meeting on 13 December.

5.2 Decision and appeal notices report5.2.1 S/1686/11 – The Old Victorian Farmhouse, 26 Main Street – Alterations – Install steel/glass cap with light within first course of brickwork - permission granted.

Noted.

5.3 Tree works applications

None.

6. Members reports and items6.1 SHLAA meeting report

Cllr Joslin's written report was noted.

7. Finance, procedure and risk assessment7.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

The financial report was received and considered and invoices and bank statements were checked before the cheques were signed. The payments as listed in the finance report were unanimously approved for payment ^(Prop PJ, 2nd AF), plus Primec £156.00 (legionella testing) and Greenham (cleaning materials) £37.64. Credits received since the last meeting were noted.

Hardwick Happenings (reimbursement of expenses)	£59.26
Grounds by Rounds (grass cutting)	£303.01
Victoire Press (Newsletter)	£520.00
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1214.03
LG Stoehr (Salary)	£176.80
J Dyer (Salary)	£110.36

7.2 Play areas and skate park inspection reports

Reports were received from Cllrs Bhachu, Bowen and Freeman. Lights at the skate park are out of order and are to be reported. Quotations are being sought for repairs to the small elephant rocker at Egremont Road play area. Cllr Stewart is to be asked to email his report as soon as possible.

8. Closure of Meeting

Two damaged plastic bollards protruding from the grass on St Neots Road are to be reported to CCC.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.38 pm

SignedChairmandate.