

**Hardwick Parish Council**  
**Meeting held on Tuesday 26 June 2012 in the School at 7.45 pm**

Present: Councillors: I Storr (Chairman), P Joslin, T Bhachu, G Chamberlain, Jane Humphries, A Gill, A Freeman and J Stewart.

In attendance: County Councillor F Whelan, 2 members of the public, and Mrs K Baptie (Clerk).

**Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors**

Representatives from Hardwick Harriers Football club spoke about the Club's desire to revitalise the all weather pitch for use by the youngsters and teams in the village. The preferred surface would be something similar to that at Cambourne, which could be used by a number of different sports e.g. football, netball, and tennis. The Club had looked into quotes some time ago and these were in the region of £100,000 including lighting etc. It was noted that the school would also be in support of the revitalisation.

The Football Club was also very concerned about the amount of dog fouling on the Recreation Ground and the danger this poses particularly to those youngsters playing football on a Saturday morning. Apart from being a health hazard, it does not give a very good impression of our village to visiting teams.

On a proposition by the Chairman the order of business was varied to take items 4.3 and 4.2 at this point in the meeting.

4.3 Hardwick Harriers – all weather pitch condition

The Parish Council, in principle fully supported the initiative and suggested that the next stage would be for the Football Club to find out more about the type of surface required and then the Parish Council would seek quotes.

4.2 Hardwick Harriers – complaint about dog fouling

The Parish Council is aware of this continuing problem and will put an item in the Hardwick Happenings highlighting the fact that dog fouling on the Recreation Ground could cause serious infection to anyone playing there.

County Cllr Whelan reported on:

- Changes to bus services – the no 14 service has been secured until Sept 2013 and will run 10 minutes later. In September there will be a public meeting with the portfolio holder to see what services are required by the public. There is also a consultation on the website at present on local transport.
- Minor Highways Improvements – 3 villages locally were picked, unfortunately Hardwick was not one of them. The next submissions for funding start in September and the key phrase is 'economic development'.
- Library – the County have gone into partnership with Suffolk and purchased a new computer system. There is also a new scheme called 'Library Buddies' to help the over 50's with computer skills.
- Broadband – The County Council are borrowing £20 million and together with some EU funding will identify areas with poor connectivity in the county, and work towards improving the infrastructure.
- M11 slip road at junction 13 (Madingley) will be closing overnight from Mon 2 July. This is likely to last for 3 weeks.
- Cambs and County Bank – the County Council's pension fund is being invested in a new bank set up to help small enterprises.
- Received an email from a resident in Eltisley who had noticed Japanese Knotweed growing near 349 St Neots Rd, near the pumping station at Childerley Gate.

District Cllr Stewart reported on the Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation (item 4.4). There will be no major changes to Hardwick. There is a suggestion that the village framework might be abolished which may have advantages and disadvantages. He also pointed out that Comberton could be classed as a 'minor village centre', which may have an impact on Hardwick.

Cllr Whelan reported on the Quarter to Six Quadrant villages' report and their concern about the spread of the City along the Barton Rd and Grantchester sports fields and their wish to preserve the identity of their villages.

The Chairman proposed to vary the order of business to take item 6.2 here.

6.2 (5.01) S/1383/11 – Land adjacent to Casa de foseita. St Neots Rd – Change of use to Touring Caravan Park – to consider correspondence received and members' reports

The Chairman reported on the discussions which took place at a meeting 2 weeks ago in Caldecote. Mike Hill, the Director of Environmental Services had said that when the owner applies for a Caravan Licence, that is the time to raise any objections. The Parish Council felt strongly that it should be a condition of planning that use should be seasonal i.e. from April to October, although the Planning Department said it could not enforce this as it is part of the licence. However, it seemed the licence could not be opposed if planning consent had been granted. SCDC claimed that they could only apply one condition to the consent, and they applied the 28 day limitation period which the Parish Council felt would be impossible to enforce unless you photograph all caravans everyday. Drainage on the site was considered inadequate as the septic tank is for a maximum of 15 people, but the application is for 20 pitches.

Cllr Stewart advised to bear in mind that it is possible that this may still be a genuine touring caravan site and regardless he will give as much support as is necessary to apply the proper regulations for a touring site as rigorously as possible.

Cllr Whelan noted that some work had already started at the site and advised people to complain to the police if there is mud on the road particularly as the motorcycle testing centre is nearby.

Cllr Whelan left the meeting at 8.50pm

1. **Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies were received from Cllr Stewart late.

Cllr Joslin declared a personal interest in items 5.1.3 and 6.1.

2. **To approve the minutes of the previous meetings on 22 May 2012**

The minutes of the meeting on 22 May were approved <sup>(Prop PJ, 2nd TB)</sup> and signed by the Chairman, following an amendment to item 2 to read 'Caravan Club', item 5.1 no proposer or seconder, item 9.5 to read 'Chairman', and item 7.1.1 to read 'the dormer windows at the rear of the building would overlook his rear garden'.

3. **Matters arising and carried forward from the last or pervious meetings**

3.1 (9.4.1) Assets List Review

The assets list was reviewed and the dog bin near 77 St Neots Rd was not on the list and is to be included. It was agreed to seek a quote to include the dog bin and also the railings in front of the Pavilion and the bus shelters on the insurance policy.

3.2 (9.5) Play area repairs – to consider quotations received for skate park and painting swings

It was agreed to accept the quotation for repairs to the skate park at £360 plus VAT with RPM, <sup>(Prop GC, 2nd PJ)</sup>

It was agreed to accept the quotation for repainting swing at £320 plus vat with RPM  
(Prop PJ, 2nd TB)

It was noted that the overhead cables at the play area by the Church will be put underground very soon.

- 3.3 (5.3) VSO valuation report for the Pavilion – to consider the report and the next steps  
After much consideration and discussion it was agreed to write to the Hardwick Sports and Social Club (HSSC) advising that the Parish Council have had a valuation carried out and the annual rent should be £8,000 per annum (excluding the changing rooms). The Parish Council did not wish to increase the rent to this amount straight away, but wish to inform them for the next 10yr lease, the rent will increase as follows;

1<sup>st</sup> year £2,500

2<sup>nd</sup> year £4,000

3<sup>rd</sup> year £5,500

4<sup>th</sup> year £7,000

5<sup>th</sup> year £8,000

There will be another rent review after 5 years prior to which the Parish Council may seek another valuation.  
(Prop PJ, 2nd AG, all in favour)

- 3.4 (5.2) Recreation ground drains– to consider any quotation received for relining the drain

Carried forward as no quotes had been received.

- 3.5 (9.7) HSSC pavilion repairs, safeguards and liabilities - to consider any advice or quotes for guttering

- 3.5.1 Legionella testing - the report attributing the low readings to the water boiler now being on a timer was noted.

- 3.5.2 Quotes for guttering will be brought to the next meeting as none had been received.

- 3.5.3 Signage when cricket is played

The advice from Came and Co was noted and it was agreed to refer the matter to Digley Associates, a sport facility consultants as recommended by Came and Co.

- 3.6 13 Sudeley Grove claim for subsidence damage – to consider report from the Council’s insurers and also any quotes received

Following consideration of the three quotes received it was agreed <sup>(Prop PJ, 2nd JS)</sup> to accept the quotation from Ian Lawson for £640, for both jobs to be done. A letter is to be sent to the residents informing them that, without prejudice, it has arranged for the trees to be removed, but would ask that they remove their garden waste from this area and dispose of it responsibly as soon as possible in order for the work to commence.

- 3.7 To consider quotation for ‘no ball games’ sign in Bramley Way

It was agreed to accept the quotation from Algar for £52 to supply and fit the sign.  
(Prop PJ, 2nd JH)

#### **4 Correspondence/communications received**

- 4.1 Resident – complaint about fish and chip van

It was agreed to respond that the Parish Council had considered the resident’s complaint and noted that this was the first complaint of this nature in all the years that the fish and chip van had visited Hardwick. The vendor was perfectly entitled to park there, however the complaint has been passed to the SCDC Licensing Department at as a matter of course.

- 4.2 Hardwick Harriers – complaint about dog fouling – taken earlier

- 4.3 Hardwick Harriers – all weather pitch condition – taken earlier

- 4.4 SCDC Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation – taken earlier

- 4.5 Access Cambridge Archaeology – Community Heritage Project  
The information is to be passed to Barbara Slade of the History Society in Ellison Lane.
- 4.6 Overview of the limited assurance audit approach and fees – limited assurance audit  
Noted.
- 5. Planning applications and decision notices**
- 5.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting
- 5.1.1 S/1101/12/FL – Land off Lark Rise – Proposed single dwelling and garage on land off Lark Rise  
Cllr Grenville reported on his site meeting and it was agreed to recommend the application for approval. <sup>(Prop AG, 2nd GC)</sup>
- 5.1.2 S/1117/12/DC – 35 Cambridge Road – Discharge of Condition 3 on Planning Consent S/2428/11 - Materials Roof Tiles and Cladding  
The application was recommended for approval with a comment that the materials, roof tiles and cladding should be as close as possible to the original.  
Cllr Joslin left the room while the next 2 items were discussed.
- 5.1.3 S/1158/12/FL – 39 St Neots Road – Detached single garage at front of property  
It was agreed to recommend the application for approval. <sup>(Prop GC, 2nd AG)</sup>
- 6.1 41 St Neots Road building works  
It was noted that an Enforcement Officer had been involved and had concluded that the extension was permitted development.  
Cllr Joslin re-joined the meeting.
- 5.1.4 S/1229/12/FL – 41 Hall Drive – Front, side and rear roof extension  
It was agreed to recommend the application for approval. <sup>(Prop GC, 2nd IS)</sup>
- 5.2 SCDC Decision Notices
- 5.2.1 S/0821/12/PO – 169 and 169a St Neots Road – Application to modify planning obligation to remove occupation tie – Permission granted.
- 5.2.2 S/0754/12/FL – 34 Ellison Lane – Single storey rear extension – Permission granted.
- 5.2.3 S/0699/12/VC – 41 Hall Drive – Variation of conditions 1 and 3 of S/1527/95/F to expand terms of the personal consent and alter opening hours – Permission granted.
- 5.3 Tree works applications
- 5.3.1 44 Main Street  
It was agreed to make no comment.
- 6. Members reports and items**
- 6.1 41 St Neots Road building works
- 6.2 S/1383/11 – Land adj to Casa de Foseta, St Neots Road – Change of use to Touring Caravan Park (20 Spaces) – to consider correspondence received and members reports  
The above 2 items were taken earlier.
- 6.3 (6.4) Street lighting PFI Contract briefing meeting report  
Cllrs Gill and Humphries had been unable to attend so there was nothing to report.
- 7. Finance, procedure and risk assessment**
- 7.1 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 at the end of the meeting. The payments as listed in the finance report were unanimously approved for payment <sup>(Prop JS, 2nd PJ)</sup>.

The cheque for St Mary’s is with Cllr Storr and he will arrange with Cllr Chamberlain to get it signed and delivered. Credits and bank interest received since the last meeting was noted.

Grounds by Rounds (Grass cutting)	£303.01
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1401.05
Nutcombe Cambridge	£891.44
Victoire Press (Hardwick Happenings)	£585.00
LG Stoehr (Salary)	£220.45
J Dyer (Salary)	£110.36
Hardwick Gardening Club Annual Show (S137)	£250

7.2 Play areas and skate park inspection reports

Play area inspection reports were received for the Recreation Ground, St Mary’s Church, Grenadier Walk and Worcester Avenue. Cllr Bhachu will oil the swings at play area and the Egremont Rd report will be forwarded to the Clerk by Cllr Stewart. No other work was required.

7.3 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of health and safety or risk

Cllr Humphries noted that the hedge on Egremont Rd bordering the Recreation Ground was encroaching the pavement and she offered to cut this back.

Ian Lawson’s quote to paint the wood around the tennis courts was considered and it was agreed to carry forward to the next meeting and seek 2 further quotes.

With regards to residents request for sound-proof fencing between St Neots Road and A428, Cllr Joslin is to inform the resident that this matter has been passed to the Highways Agency.

It was noticed that some of the 30mph signs and a school sign had been taken out, presumably by Highways Dept. The Parish Council wish to write and ask the reason or whether it may be a case of metal theft, and if so and whether they can be reinstated.

A member reported a complaint received about the encroachment of the hedge at the bus stop on St Neots Rd opposite Meridian Close. It was agreed to write to the Highways Dept and ask them to cut it back.

9. Members items for the next agenda and for the Clerk’s information and Closure of meeting

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

Signed .....Chairman .....date.

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