

**Hardwick Parish Council**  
**Meeting held on Tuesday 23 October 2012 in the School at 7.45 pm**

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

In attendance: Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary – LGS Services).

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

County Councillor Whelan's written report was read in her absence. This covered: the A14, road works and Madingley Rise congestion; the Minor Improvements Scheme and the offer of a visit by the Highways Supervisor; and the Connecting Cambridgeshire broadband campaign.

District Cllr Stewart reported on his findings regarding the changes in SCDC's policy for allocating two bedroomed bungalows to families from seven districts. The policy is currently under review, although parish councils were not being consulted. The Parish Council expressed the view that the bungalows in Limes Road should continue to be made available only to applicants who are over 60. Cllr Stewart undertook to try to set up a meeting between the Chairman and the Chief Executive to discuss this.

**1. To approve apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies were received from County Councillor Fiona Whelan.

**1.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda**

None.

**1.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)**

None.

**1.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate**

None.

**2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 25 September 2012**

The minutes of the meeting on 25 September were approved <sup>(Prop PJ, 2nd AG)</sup> and signed by the Chairman, following an amendment under Item 3.7 to add the word "from" after "correspondence".

Cllr Bhachu arrived.

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

**3.0** The Clerk's report was noted.

**3.1 (3.1) Recreation ground drains – to consider quotes if received**

Two quotations were considered. It was agreed <sup>(Prop GC, 2nd PJ)</sup> to accept the quotation from Webster Construction for £1200 plus VAT.

**3.2 (3.2) Tennis Courts electrical work – to consider report if received**

The report is still awaited and is to be chased. Carried forward.

**3.3 (3.3) Hedges and trees near skate park – to consider quotations if received**

Cllr Gill reported that a contractor had contacted him. Quotations are expected in time for the next meeting. Carried forward.

**3.4 (3.6) Hardwick Pond, Main Street**

The Highways Supervisor is to be contacted to arrange a village walkabout with the Chairman.

**3.5 (3.7) HSSC Lease – to consider quotation from Valuation Office Agency**

It was unanimously agreed <sup>(Prop IS, 2nd GC)</sup> to accept the quotation from DVS (Valuation Office Agency) at a rate of £90 per hour, subject to their contacting the Council if negotiations are likely to exceed ten hours. It was agreed to take the office out of the lease.

The meeting was briefly closed to the public while the Council considered the terms of its proposed lease.

3.6 (4.4) To consider quotation for Children's Play Area sign

It was agreed <sup>(Prop IS, 2nd PJ)</sup> to accept the quotation from Algar Signcraft for £88 plus VAT. They are to be asked to meet the Chairman on site to agree the best location for the sign.

**4. Correspondence/communications received**

4.1 Resident response to request to cut back overhanging bushes in Main Street

Cllr Freeman confirmed that he had already replied to the resident. It was agreed to write again to the residents at the adjacent property to remind them to cut back their section of the hedge as the restriction of the width of the footpath was making it dangerous for pedestrians, particularly those with pushchairs, to pass.

4.2 Resident – request for overhanging trees to be cut back adjacent to 15 Ashmead Drive

Cllr Gill reported. It was agreed to respond to the resident that having looked at the tree branch and hedges concerned, the Parish Council has no objections if the resident makes arrangements to cut them back to the boundary with their property.

It was noted that a tree had come down across a pathway in the spinney. Cllr Gil will ask Peter Oakes for a quotation to deal with this.

4.3 CCC – Local Flood Risk Management and Flood Asset Register strategy consultation  
Noted.

4.4 CCC – Local Minor Highways Improvements 2013-2014

It was agreed to seek improvements for Cahill's corner again, in line with the previous application.

4.5 CCC changes to local bus services

The changes were noted. The draft questionnaire was considered and no changes were proposed. It was agreed to ask for 800 copies of the questionnaire to be provided, and to ask whether this could be distributed with Hardwick Happenings as a loose leaf insert. It was agreed that completed questionnaires should be returned to the shop.

**5. Planning applications and decision notices**

5.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

5.1.1 S/2097/12/FL – 143 Limes Road – Extension

It was unanimously agreed <sup>(Prop GC, 2nd JS)</sup> to recommend approval.

5.1.2 S/1809/11 – 25 St Neots Road – Change of use from motorcycle and car licence testing – amendment for information only

The amendment for an additional parking area and the planting scheme were noted. The Parish Council made no recommendation.

5.2 SCDC Decision Notices

5.2.1 S/1909/12/DC – 345 St Neots Road – Discharge of conditions of approved S/0609/10/F – Permission granted.

Noted.

5.3 Tree works applications

None.

**6 Members reports and items****6.1 Traffic in Main Street and Cambridge Road**

Concerns were expressed at the increase in speeding traffic through the village. It was agreed to add a request for flashing 30 mph signs to the Minor Improvements Scheme bid.

**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 AG, 2nd JS)</sup> plus Ian Lawson (tennis court woodwork painting) £450.

Victoire Press (Printing)	£520.00
Grounds by Rounds (Grass cutting)	£303.01
Reids Playground Maintenance (Play equipment repairs)	£1328.40
CGM Landscapes (Footpath cutting)	£90.00
LG Stoehr (Salary)	£220.45
J Dyer (Salary)	£110.36
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1273.74

Credits including the precept, and advertising income and bank interest received since the last meeting were noted. An adjustment to cheque 737 for £157.04 was noted.

**7.2 Play areas and skate park inspection reports**

No problems were reported at the Recreation Ground, Egremont Road and Church play areas. Cllr Bhachu undertook to send in his reports. It was noted that the five a side goal nearest to the Pavilion was at risk of falling over and that it should be removed as soon as possible. Quotations are to be obtained for repairs to the fencing around the tennis courts.

**7.3 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of health and safety or risk**  
None.**8. Members items for the next agenda and for the Clerk's information and Closure of meeting**

Comments from a resident regarding play areas in the village were noted. It was agreed to reply rather than carrying forward to the next meeting.

It was observed that a hedge outside 16 Egremont Road was encroaching onto the pavement and the resident is to be asked to cut it back.

Concerns were expressed at potholes in Egremont Road. These are to be reported to the Highways Supervisor.

It was noted that cycles are frequently chained to bus stops in St Neots Road, often at the weekend, and it is believed that these originate from other villages. It was agreed to pursue the offer of free cycle racks from CCC next to the bus stops.

The erratic operation of the wig wags is to be chased.

Cllr Joslin will be attending a P3 meeting on 6 November and will report to the next meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.07 pm.

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