

Hardwick Parish Council
Meeting held on Tuesday 24 September 2013 in the School at 7.45 pm

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

In attendance: 11 members of the public and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

It was requested that all residents of Hall Drive be kept informed about the proposals for development to the rear of St Neots Road and residents were advised to check the notice boards for future agendas. Questions were asked about the legal status of Hall Drive, and who was responsible for its maintenance, as there were no lights, problems with drains and potholes, and a large puddle at the end of Hall Drive. It was explained that these issues were the responsibility of the residents, and it was suggested that Anglian Water be approached about the drains. Concerns were expressed that the cycle route might eventually become a road, and that any development would also worsen congestion and create increased traffic in Cambridge Road, particularly near the School. It was explained that the County Council gave priority to the most dangerous sites but there was no guarantee of any mitigating measures. Residents queried whether the proposed health centre would happen if there were no funds to pay for it.

Three residents left the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Bhachu.

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

None at this point.

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

None

1.3 To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate

None

2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 27 August 2013

The minutes of the previous meeting on 27 August 2013 were unanimously approved ^(Prop JH, 2nd AG), and signed by the Chairman, after an amendment to delete the word “with” from Item 3.6. The confidential minutes of 27 August 2013 were unanimously approved ^(Prop PJ, 2nd AG) and signed by the Chairman.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take Item 3.5 and public comments at this point.

3.5 Andrew Campbell Associates proposal for development on land to rear of Rectory Farm, Main Street

It was noted that no formal planning application had as yet been submitted. The Parish Council queried the reference to a right of access. The land is owned by the Parish Council and there was not believed to be a permanent or formal right of access, only a temporary access previously granted for the construction of a tennis court.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was briefly adjourned at 8.20 pm to allow members of the public to comment.

Residents expressed disappointment at the proposals to install a gravel drive across a children's playground, and the consequent loss of play space for the children. This would cause problems and hazards for church-goers and the Sunday School. The concerns of residents related to the access, rather than the house, as the safety of children would be affected. The position regarding the access is to be clarified before a response is made to the developer.

The meeting was re-convened at 8.30 pm. Several residents left the meeting.

3. Matters arising and carried forward from the last or previous meetings for discussion/decisions

3.1 (3.8) CCC – Minor Highways Improvements and report on meeting with CCC

The reply from Steve Thulbourn was noted. It was resolved to reply that if the retaining wall cost £8000, the Parish Council was minded to pay for that itself, but if so, the Council would like to put speed cushions before and after the bend as well. CCC are to be asked if they are willing to do this, and if so, for confirmation of the cost with the inclusion of the speed bumps. CCC are also to be asked whether they would be willing to project manage the scheme on behalf of the Parish Council, whether they will reinstate before the bend the 30 mph signs removed by Highways, and whether any of the £500 allocated for improvements had yet been spent.

3.2 (6.2) CCC consultation on draft transport strategy for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire

It was agreed that members may respond individually should they so wish.

3.3 (6.1) Proposal to charge for use of the all weather/tennis courts

It was agreed to place a notice in Hardwick Happenings explaining that the Council was discussing the administration of the courts, and asking whether there was anyone in the village who would be willing to take on the administration in return for a small retainer.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business.

3.6 Resident request for dog bin near Meridian Close

It was agreed to ask SCDC whether they would be willing to pay for a new dog bin near the letter box on St Neots Road, and add it to the emptying schedule. If SCDC did not agree, the Parish Council would fund the cost of the bin.

3.4 (3.2) SCDC proposed submission of the Local Development Plan – to consider the Parish Council's formal response

It was agreed to submit a response detailing the same arguments as those expressed in the joint parishes' letter signed by the Parish Council.

4. Correspondence/communications received

4.1 Chair of Governors re Hardwick Community Primary School

It was agreed to reply that as and when the Parish Council is asked to comment by SCDC on the renewal of planning permission for the pre-school, the Parish Council will be disposed to recommend approval.

4.2 Newsletter Editor and Webmaster vacancies

It was agreed to check the up to date position.

5. Planning Applications and Decision notices

5.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

5.1.1 S/1873/13/FL – 5 Pershore Road – Erection of PVCu Conservatory to the rear of the property - amendment

The Parish Council recommended approval ^(Prop AG, 2nd AF).

- 5.1.2 S/1607/13/FL – 21 Cambridge Road – Garage
The Parish Council recommended approval ^(Prop AG, 2nd AF).
- 5.1.3 S/1320/13/FL – Land adj 311 St Neots Road – Erection of a dwelling (amendment) – revised location of dwelling, driveway reduced in width
The Parish Council recommended approval ^(Prop AG, 2nd AF).
- 5.2 SCDC Decision Notices
- 5.2.1 S/0630/13/FL – Land adj to 3 Lark Rise – Two dwellings – Permission granted by SCDC.
- 5.2.2 S/0282/13/FL – 147 St Neots Road – Proposed mixed use development of hotel, restaurant and takeaway and associated works – Permission granted by SCDC.
- 5.2.3 S/1560/13/DC – Land adj 3 Lark Rise – Discharge of conditions 3 (Materials), 4 (Boundary treatment), 5 (Open space), 6 (Affordable housing), and 7 (Contamination) of Planning Permission S/0630/13/FL for two dwellings – Permission granted by SCDC.
- 5.2.4 S/0267/13/LD – 305 St Neots Road Lawful Development Certificate – The conversion of a live/work unit to a single dwelling unit – Permission granted by SCDC.
- 5.2.5 S/2327/12/FL – The Blue Lion, 74 Main Street – External alterations/landscaping to beer garden which includes – demolition of existing timber decking at side, landscaping area, new paving and landscaping to front beer garden, retaining wall (part retrospective) – Permission granted by SCDC.
- 5.3 Tree Works applications
- 5.3.1 16 Main Street
Cllr Freeman declared an interest as the owner of the property and left the meeting at 9.15 pm. The Parish Council made no comment ^(Prop AG, 2nd JS). Cllr Freeman re-joined the meeting at 9.16 pm.
- 6. Members reports and items for information only**
The Chairman reported on a call from a resident that a horse chestnut tree was overhanging the seat outside the church and people were unable to sit on it. It was agreed to contact Acacia Tree Surgery to check when the tree work in the village was to commence, and to ask whether this tree could be one of the first to be dealt with.
- 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 the 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, plus PKF Littlejohn (External Audit fee) £360.00, were approved for payment ^(Prop PJ, 2nd JS).
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| SCDC (Eurobin) | £14.70 |
| SCDC (Ellison Lane dog bin) | £29.65 |
| Grounds by Rounds (Grounds maintenance) | £303.01 |
| Came and Company (Insurance) | £2765.49 |
| HMRC (PAYE/NIC) | £131.80 |
| Salaries | £315.00 |
| LGS Services (Admin support) | £1289.76 |
- Credits including a wayleave payment and bank interest were noted.
- 7.2 Play areas and skate park inspection reports

The grind seat had now been removed; however, some rivets were missing from the half pipe. A quotation is to be sought as soon as possible and the Clerk and Chairman were delegated to accept it providing it was within their delegated amount.
 Some paint was flaking off the see saw at Egremont Road.
 Cllr Bhachu is to be asked to submit his reports as soon as possible.

7.3 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk
 None.

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

It was observed that whilst the wig wags had been adjusted, they now only flashed in the mornings and not in the evenings. This is to be taken up with CCC again.

CCC is to be asked when the new officer can attend a meeting to discuss Millers Way.

Cllr Humphries reported that she and five other residents had attended the winter gritting refresher training. Free gritting equipment was awaited from CCC. A proposal that the Parish Council matches the funding of the gritting equipment is to be an agenda item for the next meeting. Cllr Humphries undertook to find out how many spreaders would be provided and the cost.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.32 pm.

SignedChairmandate.
