

Hardwick Parish Council
Meeting held on Tuesday 22 October 2013 in the School at 7.45 pm

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

In attendance: 1 member of the public, County Cllr S Frost and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors
None.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

None.

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 dispensations as appropriate

None.

2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 24 September 2013

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting on 24 September 2013 be unanimously approved ^(Prop PJ, 2nd AG), and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr Freeman arrived at 7.50 pm.

3. Co-option to fill one casual vacancy

Applicants Carole Oakes, 23 Cambridge Road and Jane Cadwalladr, 2 Bramley Way

The two candidates were invited to provide some information about themselves. A secret ballot was held and Carole Oakes was co-opted as a member of the Parish Council by 5 votes to 2. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed in the presence of a member.

One member of the public left the meeting.

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

The Clerk's report was noted.

4.1 (3.5) Andrew Campbell Associates proposal for development on land to rear of Rectory Farm, Main Street

Previous correspondence with Taylor Vinters, and the advice of the Clerk and NALC were considered. RESOLVED ^(Prop JS, 2nd PJ unanimous) that the Parish Council was not prepared to renew the licence. The original grant to previous owners had been for occasional access only over the Parish Council land, and it was not intended to apply for planning permission for a house, access should be gained by means of the existing drive.

County Cllr Frost arrived during this item at 8.00 pm.

4.2 To consider quotations for repair of guttering at the pavilion if received

RESOLVED ^(Prop JS, 2nd AG) to accept the quotation from Coulson in the sum of £913.00 plus VAT, and to ask whether they could supply downpipe covers at no additional cost.

- 4.3 (4.2) Newsletter Editor and Webmaster vacancies
RESOLVED to note that the two people who had previously expressed an interest had subsequently withdrawn, but as it was understood that others had since shown an interest. The Chairman will pass their details to the Clerk so a letter can be sent welcoming their interest and explaining that LGS Services are dealing with the advertising side. The position of Webmaster will be considered further after the next issue of Hardwick Happenings is published.
- 4.4 HSSC lease negotiations
RESOLVED to receive the correspondence from Gary Bradbury of DVS, and the advice of the solicitor, the Clerk and the ICO's comments and the report from the Chairman on his meeting with Stephen Rose of the HSSC.
RESOLVED that no changes to the current arrangements regarding the CCTV be made or included in the new lease.
RESOLVED to receive the advice from the Council's Solicitor on the implications for the Landlord and Tenant Act
A proposal that the protection under the Landlord and Tenant Act should not be included in the lease, was defeated.
RESOLVED ^(Prop IS, 2nd RW, tied vote with Chairman casting his vote in favour of the motion) to grant security of tenure under the Landlord and Tenant Act.
RESOLVED ^(Prop IS, 2nd RW) to ask the solicitor to proceed with the arrangements for renewal of the lease.
- 4.5 CCC Local Highway Improvements 2013/2014 – Hardwick
RESOLVED in response to the correspondence from Stephen Thulbourn at CCC to reply that the Parish Council wished to apply for the Cahills Corner scheme to go ahead and looks forward to receiving the bidding forms in due course. CCC had been informed of the Parish Council's £50 contribution towards this year's work County Cllr Frost was asked for his support for the project.
Cllr Frost left copies of his written report and left the meeting at 8.53 pm.
- 5. Correspondence/communications received**
- 5.1 CCC – Parish Council grants for bus facility improvements
RESOLVED to ask for the replacement of the brick bus shelter near the corner of Cambridge Road, and to request real time bus information.
- 5.2 SCDC – review of polling districts and places
The Parish Council was satisfied with the current arrangements.
- 6. Planning Applications and Decision notices**
- 6.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting
- 6.1.1 S/1947/13/AD – 175 St Neots Road – retain two previously permitted signs for which consent has expired and retain two unauthorised signs
RESOLVED to recommend refusal and is to respond that the signs are too large, too garish and that four signs was too many. The Parish Council would like the number to revert to two smaller signs as before, and to ask that any future signs should come before the Parish Council for approval. It was also agreed to ask whether similar signs now erected in the vicinity had been granted planning permission. ^(Prop AG, 2nd IS)
- 6.1.2 S/2162/13/FL – 37 Ashmead Drive – Erect a conservatory and canopies to replace existing canopy to rear of property
RESOLVED to recommend approval ^(Prop AG, 2nd IS).
- 6.2 SCDC Decision Notices
- 6.2.1 S/1607/13/FL – 21 Cambridge Road – Single storey rear extension replacing existing conservatory and replacement garage – Permission granted by SCDC. Noted.

6.3 Tree Works

Cllr Gill reported on discussions with a resident of Ellison Lane about lack of light caused by a tree by the walkway to Pershore Road. The resident had been informed that the tree would be crown lifted next September. The tree near the church has been cut back.

7. Members reports and items for information only7.1 Proposal that the Parish Council matches the value of the gritting equipment provided free of charge by CCC

Cllr Humphries reported that a gritting plan for the village had been drawn up. Six volunteers in Hardwick had been trained and are covered by CCC's insurance to carry out gritting. The Chairman cautioned against other untrained volunteers carrying out the gritting as they would not be insured. It was hoped that CCC would provide 3 gritting machines. Cllr Humphries proposal that the Parish Council purchase three more and one for the School at a cost of £151.76 each plus VAT was carried forward to the next meeting pending the six volunteers writing to CCC asking for the equipment, and how many gritting machines would be supplied.

8. Finance, procedure and risk assessment8.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

RESOLVED to receive the financial report and the invoices and bank statements being checked before the cheques were signed at the end of the meeting. The payments as listed in the finance report, plus Acacia Tree Surgery (Tree work) £3774.00 and RPM (Skate ramp repairs) £216.00, were approved for payment ^{(Prop PJ, 2nd JH).}

SCDC (Eurobin) Direct Debit	£14.70
SCDC (Ellison Lane dog bin) Direct Debit	£29.65
Cromwell Fire (Fire alarm/emergency lights)	£1230.00
Salaries	£315.00
Grounds by Rounds (Grounds Maintenance)	£303.01
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1448.02

Credits including receipt of the precept, payment from the Cricket Club for the Eurobin and changing room use, and bank interest were noted.

8.2 Play areas and skate park inspection reports

The comments of RPM that the skate ramp had been heavily repaired and would not be long-term, were noted. A quotation is to be obtained for a new style replacement bin at Grenadier Walk, to replace the old brazier style bin. This is to be relocated nearer the swings.

Cllr Bhachu is to be asked to submit his reports as soon as possible.

8.3 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk

None.

8.4 To approve the grass cutting and village maintenance contract specification so that tenders can be obtained

RESOLVED that no change be made to the specifications and to seek tenders. The Parish Council expressed satisfaction with the work of both contractors.

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

The election of a Vice-Chairman and members' responsibilities for planning applications are to be agenda items for the next meeting.

It was reported that the Wig Wags were still not working. It was agreed to follow this up and express disappointment that after so many reports, the situation had not been rectified. Cllr Joslin undertook to speak to the department concerned at CCC.

It was noted that the dead trees on the A428 roundabout had not been replaced, and the top of the roundabout was looking weedy and rubbishy again. This is to be reported to CCC.

A letter is to be sent to Chivers expressing appreciation for the cutting of the footpaths.

It was noted that the ACRE housing needs survey letters had been distributed. The Chairman is to deliver the yellow lines consultation letters shortly.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

SignedChairmandate.

APPROVED