

Hardwick Parish Council**Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 20 January 2015 in the School at 7.45 pm**

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

In attendance: 8 members of the public, Mrs C Newton (LGS Services) and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

None.

1. To approve apologies for absence

None.

2. Declaration of interests**2.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda and details of dispensations held**

None.

2.2 To receive written and grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate for items on this agenda

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 16 December 2014

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 16 December 2014 be unanimously approved ^(Prop PJ, 2nd JH) and signed by the Chairman, after the amendment of the meeting date to 16 December.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take Item 7.5 at this point.

7.5 Report on meeting with Andrew Campbell Associates and wish list for Community Facilities

The Chairman reported on a meeting with Andrew Campbell, Tony Bowman and Fiona Coulson from the Hardwick Housing Consortium, in anticipation of a possible application by the developers to SCDC. The S106 agreement process, whereby developers provide community facilities in consideration of the additional impact of a new development, was outlined. It was explained that the meeting was to discuss well in advance a wish list of facilities the Parish Council would like to be provided for the benefit of the village. It was stressed that no formal application had yet been submitted, but the Council had to enter into discussions to be prepared and plan ahead, before any application was made, to ensure that the village got what it wanted.

A two storey community building is currently proposed, on and extending beyond the site of the old Scout and Guide Hut. The Chairman explained that the original suggestion of a doctors' surgery and pharmacy was not viable as this would be too expensive for the NHS and local practices. He reiterated the Parish Council's view that it would not wish any development to take place unless there was a huge benefit to the village. The Consortium was preparing costings for the proposed facilities. It has submitted a pre-planning application to SCDC and will discuss this with the planners.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was suspended to enable members of the public to comment and ask questions.

A resident observed that the site had been rejected from the 2013 land availability study as being outside the village framework, and due to lack of infrastructure. A comment was also made that there were insufficient secondary school or pre-school places available. The Parish Council explained that it was for the developers to argue their case with SCDC.

The facilities being proposed would involve a village centre, which the village needed, with meeting rooms upstairs, a café and a day centre. Approximately half of the housing would be affordable housing. The Cambridgeshire ACRE Housing Needs Survey had identified a need for approximately 40 houses for Hardwick residents, and the Parish Council undertook to press for priority to be given to Hardwick residents, their children and relatives, when housing was being allocated.

It was stressed that the proposals were still at an early stage, and the purpose of the pre-planning discussions with SCDC was to establish how realistic the proposals might be and whether they would proceed to the application stage. In response to a question, the Parish Council reiterated that the village would have to receive a major benefit if the application were to go ahead.

Mrs Caroline Newton of LGS Services was introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

Mr Hussain, on behalf of Mr Islam, provided an update on the site at 147 St Neots Road. The original plans for a 25 bedroom hotel were no longer viable due to restrictions on height and parking by the District Council. He sought the Parish Council's views as to whether it would prefer a modified application for a hotel, or a development of commercial units on the ground floor with flats above. The Parish Council expressed the view that it would prefer commercial premises with flats rather than nothing on the site, which was currently an eyesore. It was suggested that commercial viability be tested and that adequate parking should be a consideration from the outset. Mr Hussain and Mr Islam undertook to forward any revised plans for discussion prior to submission to SCDC, and left the meeting.

Claire Arber and Sharon Griffiths, on behalf of the Pre-school, expressed thanks for the suggestion of using part of the school land, which they would explore further. They will continue to look for alternative sites. The Parish Council wished the Pre-school luck and the representatives left the meeting.

All the remaining members of the public left the meeting.

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

4.1 (4.1) Hardwick Pre-School – to consider alternative sites

Taken earlier.

4.2 (4.2) Briar Security – to consider report on skate park and quotation if received

RESOLVED as no work had taken place because of poor weather to write asking for the work to be completed and a quotation for any additional work to be provided in time for the next meeting, or the Council would consider approaching another contractor.

4.3 (9) To consider quotation for new litter bin including installation and emptying

A quotation had not yet been received. This is to be pursued with SCDC.

4.4 Improvements at Cahill's Corner

Nothing further had been heard from Skanska. This is to be chased up.

5. Correspondence/communications received

5.1 SCDC consultation on the potential use of Article 4 Directions to prevent pub losses

Details are to be emailed to members so that they may respond if they wish. Copies of the response form were taken to place in the shop.

5.2 Resident request for permission to fill grass part of driveway

Cllr Gill undertook to contact the resident to discuss his request.

5.3 Request to book 5 a side pitch

Further details are to be sought before consideration is given to the request.

6. Planning Applications and Decision notices and tree works applications

6.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

6.1.1 S/2861/14/FL – 55 St Neots Road – Standalone PV (Photovoltaic) panel
RESOLVED unanimously to recommend approval. (Prop AG, 2nd JS)

6.1.2 S/2903/14/OL – Land to the West of Cambourne (excluding Swansley Wood Farm) – up to 2350 residential units and associated infrastructure and services

RESOLVED to respond that the Parish Council has no objections as long as this reduces the chances of Bourn Airfield going ahead (Prop IS, 2nd AG)

6.2 SCDC Decision Notices

6.2.1 S/2769/14/FL – Hardwick Pre-school, Hardwick Primary School, Limes Road – Permanent retention of existing 5 bay modular building used as a pre-school – Permission granted.

Noted.

6.2.2 S/0641/14/FL – 353 St Neots Road – Erection of single storey dwelling – Permission granted by the Inspector on appeal.

Noted.

6.3 Tree Works

None.

7. Members reports and items for information only

7.1 Street lighting issues

Concerns were expressed at the poor execution of the street lighting upgrade. RESOLVED to write to Balfour Beatty expressing the Parish Council's disappointment at the length of time taken to undertake the works; the lights were not working at the corner of Limes Road and Cambridge Road; in some places new lights had been installed but the old ones had not been taken away; in some places, such as Sudeley Grove, markings had been placed for a new light but none had been installed; some posts had been installed in the middle of the pavement, for example at the corner of Egremont Road; at Sudeley Grove there were new posts with no lights; in places the new lights had still not been tarmaced in; the overall effect was that the village was darker than before. The Parish Council is speaking on behalf of the majority of residents in the village and is disappointed at the outcome. It would like to know how the issues will be addressed and when they envisage the work will be completed, as it was originally told that the project would last six weeks.

The position regarding Street light SC8, which is still missing a lantern and bracket, is to be pursued again.

7.2 Village Sign

RESOLVED as the sign was in need of some restoration to find out who originally made the sign.

7.3 Footpath between the Church and the pub

Noted that this is in need of repair. Cllr Worland has reported to CCC online.

- 7.4 Report on possible fly tipping at hardstanding on St Neots Road
Noted that this has now been removed.
- 7.5 Report on meeting with Andrew Campbell Associates and wish list for Community Facilities
Taken earlier. The Parish Council felt that the new community facilities should be concentrated at the centre of the village.

8. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

- 8.1 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk
None.
- 8.2 To receive play area and skate park inspection reports including RoSPA reports
RESOLVED to receive the reports for the Church play area, Worcester Avenue and Grenadier Walk play areas and note that no action was required at present. There are no problems at the Skate Park.
It was noted that the contractors installing the swings at Worcester Avenue had left Heras fencing behind. They are to be asked to arrange for it to be removed.
Cllr Stewart undertook to forward his report for the Egremont Road play area.
- 8.3 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills
RESOLVED to receive the financial report and that the invoices and bank statements be checked before the cheques were signed at the end of the meeting.
RESOLVED unanimously that the payments as listed in the finance report should be paid, plus Information Commissioner (Data Protection Registration renewal) £35.00.
(Prop AF, 2nd AG) Clarification is to be sought about the payment to HMRC.

HMRC (PAYE/NIC)	£165.60
Salary	£236.08
Parish Online (Online mapping)	£50.40
Buchans (Pond clearance)	£375.00
Sovereign (Worcester Avenue swings)	£2192.32
Grounds by Rounds (Grass cutting)	£303.01
RPM (Skate park repair)	£144.00
Victoire Press (Hardwick Happenings)	£608.00
S Marcus (Hardwick Happenings)	£40.00
CGM (Tree works)	£108.00
Hardwick School (Room hire)	£56.00

Credits including Pitch Hire fees, Advertising income, bank interest and Pavilion rent were noted.

- 8.4 Appointment of Internal Auditor FY2015
RESOLVED to consider the three quotes received and to accept the quotation of £37.50 per hour plus 45p per mile travelling expenses from Canalbs Ltd. (Prop JS, 2nd PJ)

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

As speeding had occurred in Cambridge Road a Speedwatch exercise will be undertaken.

Concerns were expressed at the safety of the cycleway into Cambridge along the A1303. A letter is to be sent to Highways asking them to ensure the cycle lanes are kept clear, as they are dangerous, particularly to youngsters.

Following a spate of recent burglaries, the Police advice not to leave keys within sight of doors and windows was noted.

The Parish Council noted with regret the recent death of Howard Seaber-Shinn, a former member of the Council. A sympathy card is to be sent to his family.

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

SignedChairmandate.

APPROVED