

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 23 June 2015
in the Community Room at the School at 7.45 pm

Present: Councillors: S Rose (Chairman), T Bhachu, J Humphries, J Coe, C Cracknell, B Grimes, and J Stewart.

In attendance: 26 members of the public, including District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain; John Koch (South Cambridgeshire District Council) and Cllr Robert Turner (Planning Portfolio Holder, South Cambridgeshire District Council; Peter McKeown and Glyn Moulton (Hills); Andrew Campbell (Andrew Campbell Associates); Rebecca Avery (Police and Crime Commissioner Outreach worker); Rev Alison Myers; and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

Peter McKeown and Glyn Moulton, representatives from Hills, outlined details of the recent public consultation event and their proposals for outline planning permission for the development. 177 people had attended. Issues raised included the number of vehicles and their impact on Grace Crescent, The Pastures and Main Road; the junction by the shop and parking; the capacity of the Primary School and Pre-school; doctors' provision; ecology; the shortage of public open spaces; and the provision of play facilities.

With regard to access, together with Highways they had looked at utilising an area of land to provide parking (not in their ownership). A plan of the suggested parking was handed out at the meeting. Regarding the junction by the Primary School, they were looking at options and would like to speak at a Parish Council meeting with a view to making a financial contribution to improve the problem.

The developers were in discussion with James Fisher at SCDC regarding the S106 agreement and were awaiting information on the School capacity. They indicated that they would be willing to make a financial contribution.

Concerning utilities, it was observed that there was a lack of mains water pressure and acknowledged that considerable work would be required and would be delivered. Information on electricity was currently awaited but the developers would build a new substation.

It was confirmed that the Pre-school was at full capacity.

A resident of The Pastures stated that 7-8 additional parking spaces were required.

Ecology work included a badgers' sett which had been identified.

The developers indicated that they were willing to introduce play equipment in Grace Crescent, with a public open space by the side area.

A resident asked how the doctors' issue would be addressed. The developers replied that they were waiting for information before commenting but would be willing to make a financial contribution.

The developers were asked whether the consultation was still open.

Cllr Grimes declared an interest in the proposed development by Andrew Campbell Associates at St Neots Road, as a resident of Hall Drive who might wish to sell some of her land, and left the meeting.

Andrew Campbell provided an update. The issue of access on to Hall Drive was still to be resolved. The developers presented a scheme for between 184 to 205 houses and sought feedback. They had been looking at the S106 agreement and the developer's contribution,

and were looking to submit the planning application in the next month or two. The major contribution would be funding a Parish Centre.

Details of the latest scheme were handed out at the meeting.

There had been no public exhibition.

Circle Housing would be providing the 40% affordable housing and developing the site. Affordable housing was included in the total number of 184-205 homes.

The link to enable people to walk and cycle to Hall Close was raised. A resident who partly owned Hall Drive indicated that they would not allow access. Andrew Campbell was asked whether he had taken into account the views of the village as no public meeting had been held.

Concerns were expressed by residents as to the proposed access and they stressed that residents paid to maintain Hall Drive a private road and clarification was sought as to who would contribute towards this cost. Residents commented that the track parallel with Meridian Close was in private ownership.

Mr Campbell explained that the access was wanted by SCDC and CCC officers. It was noted that Tony Bowman had originated the proposal with The Collins. Mr Bowman said the track parallel to Meridian Close had no known ownership. Residents pointed out that they had deeds which showed access rights.

The developers stated that they had no plans to do anything with the trees.

Cllr Grimes re-joined the meeting at 8.30 pm.

Robert Turner, SCDC Planning Portfolio holder, outlined the Local Development Framework requirement for 19,000 new dwellings. He described the progress of the Examination in Public (EIP) and the suspension of the Local Plan, which contained the five-year plan, but with the suspension had come speculative approaches to fill the need. He advocated the use of pre-application advice and full engagement with the parish, and urged Andrew Campbell to consult fully. Any concerns should be included in the planning application response. The S106 agreement could try to address these, but if the issues could not be addressed then planning permission would not be granted.

Some issues, such as private access, were raised. It was stated that this was a civil matter, not a material planning consideration.

The process at the District Council's Planning Committee was outlined. The District Councillor, Parish Council representatives, and any pressure group representatives could speak at the Committee meeting.

It was observed that the St Neots Road site had been put forward for the Local Development Plan and had been rejected at that time.

Cllr Humphries referred to a meeting held in the village regarding the proposed development at St Neots Road and the S106 agreement.

Representatives from the Scouts sought assurance that the Parish Council would continue to support the Scout Hut proposal and allow the Scouts continued involvement in any parish centre. The Council was encouraged to include in its representations that there were now more scouts and an improved facility was required.

John Koch, Area Team Leader, Planning (Western Area) at SCDC, explained further how the S106 agreement might benefit a community facility such as the scout building. He was unable to say whether either or both of these developments would require S106 funding but it would be a reasonable possibility.

Cllr Humphries declared an interest as a Scout leader. The Scouts have a 99 year lease on land for their own scout hut.

The Pre-school asked for the Parish Council's support for S106 funding for improved facilities.

A question was asked whether SCDC would have to consider later adjacent developments. The response was that it only had to consider the application for the area outlined in red.

John Koch and Cllr Robert Turner will provide their contact details for future reference.

Rebecca Avery, Police and Crime Commissioner Outreach worker, outlined her role of liaison with people to ensure that residents were listened to, with the aim of working in partnership, and indicated her wish to liaise with the Parish Council and the village.

District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain reported on the Cambourne Police Panel meeting. Issues raised included the burned out building on the corner of St Neots Road. Parents were urged to encourage their children to keep away as this was unsafe. The village was a low crime area but there was a risk of shed burglary and online fraud. Cllr Chamberlain also reported on: possible transport improvements in the Cambourne to Cambridge corridor and the City Deal proposal for an off-road busway from Cambourne to a new park and ride site on the northern side of the A428 at Madingley. It was expected that plans and further information would be available within a couple of months.

A resident expressed his hope that Cllr Chamberlain would also canvass those who do not speak up as well as those who were against the proposals. Cllr Chamberlain assured the meeting that he would make representations for and against the proposals.

Rev Alison Myers gave an overview of St Mary's Church proposals for a Community Hall, and provided a proposed site plan, proposed elevations and an article on the plans. She explained the use of the existing building by the community. Outline planning permission had already been granted. Consultation had taken place at the carnival. The facility would be smaller than shown on the plan and would have an outdoor toilet. The cost was estimated at approximately £180,000. The Church would be funding 10%. Rev Myers expressed a wish for discussion with the Parish Council about the planning application and the use of the facility by the community. It could be used by health outreach if required.

In response to a question whether it would be legal for public money to be used for this, it was observed that a precedent had been set already but the Parish Council would need to look into the matter.

A resident raised that dog owners had been asked by a male litter picker not to exercise their dogs on the all weather pitch. However this was not a litter picker to the Parish Council's knowledge, as the litter picker was female and wears a Hardwick Parish Council jacket.

A request was made that all members declare whether they have any interest in the Hardwick Sports and Social Club so that the public could be aware of this.

1. To approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Worland (Out of parish).

2. Declaration of interests

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

Cllr Rose declared an interest in Item 5.4 as a member of Hardwick Sports and Social Club (HSSC), and also the existence of his dispensation allowing him to speak and vote.

Cllr Stewart declared an interest in Item 5.4 as a member of HSSC.

Cllr Cracknell declared an interest in Item 5.4 as a Committee member of HSSC until the end of the month, and that he was no longer Treasurer.

Cllr Grimes declared an interest in Item 5.4 as a Committee member of HSSC and as Assistant Secretary.

Cllr Coe declared an interest as member of the HSSC.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to consider Item 4.1 in respect of the dispensation policy at this point.

4.1 (9) Policy reviews – Dispensations, Management of Records and Data Protection Policies

RESOLVED that there be no change to the Dispensation Policy.

RESOLVED that there be no change to the other policies for the time being. Members are to email the Clerk with any proposals for any changes and if wished the item will be included on the agenda for a future meeting.

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

At 9.45 pm, on a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was suspended to allow receipt of written requests for dispensation from members for items on the agenda. Dispensation request forms were received from Cllrs Cracknell, Coe, Stewart and Grimes in respect of HSSC. Dispensations were granted to granted by the Clerk to Cllrs Cracknell, Coe, Stewart and Grimes to speak and vote on matters relating to the pavilion as long the members remain only a member of the HSSC and not an office holder.

Period of dispensation if applicable: four years to date of elections May 2019

Granting the dispensation to speak is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area as the member might have information which would be important for the Council to know before it considers a matter and reaches its decision.

Granting the dispensation to vote is required otherwise the Council might be inquorate and unable to conduct its business given that so many members are members of the HSSC which has a lease for the pavilion with the Parish Council.

At 10pm the meeting was reopened.

3. **To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 19 May 2015**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 19 May 2015 be approved ^(Prop JS, 2nd JH) and signed by the Chairman.

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

4.1 (9) Policy reviews – Dispensations, Management of Records and Data Protection Policies

Taken earlier.

4.2 Cahills Corner improvement scheme – to consider correspondence from Skanska

Skanska had reported that they were awaiting information from the County Council as to surveys. The scheme would not be delivered this summer and further instruction would be required from the Parish Council in due course.

4.3 (4.2 of 28.4.15) To consider quotations for refurbishment of village sign

RESOLVED having considered the quotations received to accept the price of £1061.00 from AH Callus. While this is was an estimate the Council expect this to be the maximum price. Cllr Coe and Anne Jones are to oversee the work. If savings are to be made from the work of volunteers is expected that the cost will be less. ^(Prop JH, 2nd JS)

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take Items 7.2 and 7.5 together at this point.

7.2 Play areas – to consider whether the Parish Council needs the number it has and

7.5 To consider undertaking a Village Improvement Plan and setting up a working group or committee

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Coe to distribute a questionnaire about the play areas to find out what parents and children would like. Up to 200 copies of the questionnaire were approved.

RESOLVED to invite Clare Gibbons of SCDC to the next meeting to discuss the process for a Village Improvement Plan after which a working group would be set up to work on the plan.

5. Correspondence/communications received

5.1 St Mary's Church – plans to replace portakabin in car park with new community building

RESOLVED to await the application.

RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to speak to individuals, residents, developers etc between meetings to fact-find and bring information to a future Parish Council meeting. (Prop JS, 2nd BG)

5.2 Resident – Infestation of plantain on the recreation ground and to consider quotation received

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from UK Amenity Ltd to spray the sports fields with weed killer at a cost of £80 per hectare.

5.3 Cricket Club – maintenance of recreation ground

RESOLVED that Cllr Coe should meet with the three sports clubs with a view to drawing up a timetable for recreation ground maintenance.

RESOLVED having considered the current outstanding top dressing to accept the quotation for £350 from Mel Pooley for vertidrainning/shock treatment in the autumn.

5.4 Resident – question to the Council regarding precept/S106 spending on HSSC pavilion

RESOLVED that future funding was uncertain so to thank the resident and to assure them that the Parish Council would always make a decision for the benefit of the village as a whole. There were no current plans for any enlargement at the present time.

6. Planning Applications and Decision notices and tree works applications

6.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

None.

6.2 SCDC Decision Notices

None.

6.3 Tree Works

None.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take Item 8.3 next.

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 Victoire Press (Hardwick Happenings) £734.00 and S Marcus (Editor's honorarium) £40.00, should be paid. ^(Prop JS, 2nd JH)

Salary	£227.97
Dynorod (Pavilion drains)	£420.00
Grounds by Rounds (Grass cutting)	£675.30
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1418.32

Credits including investment interest and pitch hire fees, were noted.

7. **Members reports and items for information only**

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied.

7.4 **Hardwick Happenings advertising income collection arrangements**

RESOLVED to appoint Mr Howard Baker to oversee the advertising and collect the money for the Hardwick Happenings and to ask him to try to recover the monies due from advertisers.

7.1 **To consider the Parish Council's future arrangements for communications with the Public**

RESOLVED that the Chairman should write the Hardwick Happenings report for this month.

7.2 **Play areas – to consider whether the Parish Council needs the number it has**

Taken earlier.

7.3 **To consider what can be done about anti-social behaviour at the skate park**

RESOLVED to note that there had been problems associated with Leavers' days, etc and agreed that Cllr Humphries should liaise with the Police Outreach Worker.

7.4 **Hardwick Happenings advertising income collection arrangements**

Taken earlier.

7.5 **To consider undertaking a Village Improvement Plan and setting up a working group or committee**

Taken earlier.

On a proposition by the Chairman, at 10.50 pm the meeting was adjourned to note the change of use for business purposes of 349-343 St Neots Road.

Cllr Stewart left the meeting.

The meeting re-opened at 10.55 pm.

7.6 **Website update report**

RESOLVED that the Chairman should liaise with Robert Cassey regarding the transfer to a new website.

RESOLVED to consider paying someone to run the website following the update. The Chairman will bring a proposal to the next meeting.

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 areas and skate park inspection reports including quotations for works identified in the RoSPA report**

RESOLVED to accept the quotation for £2,100.00 from RPM for play equipment repairs and for £380 for the skate park. This was considered specialist work and attempts to obtain comparative quotes had been unsuccessful.

8.3 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills
Taken earlier.

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

Legionella testing is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 11.12 pm.

SignedChairmandate.

APPROVED