

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 26 July 2016
in the School at 7.45 pm

Present: Councillors: S Rose (Chairman), J Stewart, B Skingle, R Worland, A Gill and P Joslin.

In attendance: 18 members of the public including Alison Talkington and David Roberts (SCDC, Neighbourhood Planning), Martin Cassey (Village Plan Committee), Clare McGowan (Hardwick Play Parks group), Clare Bigg (St Mary's Church) and Mrs G Stoehr (Clerk).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

Alison Talkington outlined the background and use of Neighbourhood Plans (NHPs), and their relationship with the Local Development Plan (LDP). The process for a Neighbourhood Plan and associated costs. If the Parish Council is interested in undertaking a NHP then a steering group will be required including the Parish Council and the community. A locality roadmap guide was recommended as an introduction. Alison Talkington will provide a link for circulation. Council members and residents had an opportunity to ask questions and seek clarification. Ms Talkington and Mr Roberts were thanked for attending.

Clare McGowan provided an update on the Play Parks group. They propose to extend the area of the play park on Egremont Road and replace all equipment with new via a phased approach. When the stage 1 proposal is ready it will be submitted to the Parish Council. A fun run is to take place on 11 September to raise the profile of the group and raise funds. There are 8-10 committee members and 20 volunteer helpers. Ms McGowan was thanked for her efforts.

Residents expressed their concerns and views on the proposed development in Grace Crescent. In brief these included –

- Access to the site, as children play on the road.
- Highway issues.
- Existing residents pay a service charge
- Concerns about construction vehicles and low loaders, given there are no pathways
- The access is a blind corner
- the affordable housing proposed on the development exceeded the Housing Needs Survey
- The lack of school places in Hardwick
- Concerns that the cost of pre-school provision would fall on residents after the S106 funding was exhausted.
- The density of houses was disproportionately high, compared to developments in Bourn and Toft.
- The difficulty in viewing documents on the SCDC website.
- There was concern at the effect of potential noise from the pumping station on 14 Grace Crescent and other properties.
- There was thought to be a 10 year clause on the backfield
- The proposed loss of the community rooms in the School and the other facilities on site.
- Potential loss of the clubs that use the community rooms.
- The overly optimistic Transport Assessment.
- It was felt positive that there was green space provision and landscaping.

- That three potential developments were proposed, and whether of the three this site was the preferred or not
- links to public transport were not very good
- lack of sustainability

In addition, Clare Bigg said that St Mary's Church would be interested in facilitating the creation of a sense of community amongst new residents and promoting integration into the wider village community. They requested a share of S106 money.

The Chairman briefly left the room at 8.50 pm and re-joined the meeting at 8.52 pm.

1. To approve apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Cracknell and Humphries (both out of parish), and also District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain.

2. Declaration of interests

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

Cllr Joslin declared an interest in the planning application for 37 St Neots Road as a neighbour.

Cllr Stewart declared an interest in item 5.1 regarding tree works at 7 Sudeley Grove as this was his daughter's house.

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 28 June 2016 including the confidential minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 28 June 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record, after changing "replay" to "relay" under item 4.2. (Prop PJ, 2nd SR, carried with 1 abstention)

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take items 6.1.1 and 6.1.2 after item 4.1. (Prop SR, 2nd JS, unanimous)

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

4.1 (Open) Neighbourhood Planning – to consider the next steps

RESOLVED to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan and that the boundary should be defined as the Parish boundary. (Prop JS, 2nd PJ, unanimous) Alison Talkington at SCDC is to be informed.

RESOLVED that Cllrs Stewart, Joslin and Gill (convenor) be appointed to a Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group, to approach the Village Plan group with a view to gathering information and working together.

Reports are to be submitted to each Parish Council meeting. The Working Group is to explore funding avenues and options and also submit grant applications (in conjunction with the Clerk). (Prop SR, 2nd BS, unanimous)

At 9.07 pm the meeting was briefly suspended to enable Martin Cassey to speak.

6.1.1 S/1694/16/OL – Agricultural field west of Grace Crescent – Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for access for the erection of up to 98 dwellings (use Class C3) and associated works, including access, car and cycle parking, open space and landscaping

RESOLVED that the Parish Council wishes to see affordable housing in the village, but notwithstanding this, objects to the application. (Prop JS, 2nd TG, unanimous)

However, in brief, the Parish Council has the following concerns:

- The plans were unconvincing as to their conversation with Whippet and bike rack proposal and also public transport and traffic given the nearest bus link bus is a 2 minutes walk away but there is only one bus per day in each direction
- Access issues and the need to go through Grace Crescent to the site
- The density is too high and should be reduced to the same density as the Hill site in Bourn
- There are no facilities apart from the proposed open spaces
- The main play area is next to a surface water pond and is insufficient in size
- The lack of provision for 7 -14 year olds
- Concern at the effect of traffic through the village, even if there have been no accidents
- The sewer regularly blocks between the site and Cahills Corner
- If affordable homes and old people's houses are provided access to the shop and bus will be difficult given the sites location
- Vehicle movements on Cambridge Road and by the shop will be exacerbated.
- Planning Statement 7.38 would support only development at the north of the village where transport links are better but not in the south as this development is.
- The Parish Council does not agree that Comberton surgery is easily accessible.
- The Parish Council does not agree with the developers' arguments for a group village
- The site is not easily accessible for non-car modes of transport.
- The Parish Council disagrees with the assertion that it is a 25 minute journey by bike to the centre of Cambridge.
- The Parish Council is not persuaded by the proposed bus to Barton and Comberton and would require more than a six month trial.
- The developer does not offer anything for football or cricket.
- As regards health, the monetary offer to Comberton Surgery for parking is not a sustainable provision.
- The Chairman's meeting with the Head Teachers indicated they were not confident that there was adequate space.
- The Community Room at the School was part under a legal agreement with the Trustees and the County Council. If the County Council wishes to take over the rooms then it would have to make alternative provision.
- Some statements are inaccurate and some are greatly exaggerated.
- Non-compliance with the Local Development Plan and emerging plan which identify Hardwick as a group village, i.e. 8 dwellings per development.

RESOLVED that the Chairman and Cllr Skingle should draft a full response based on the Parish Council's concerns to be submitted by the Clerk to SCDC (attached in full)..

RESOLVED that should the application be referred to the Planning Committee the Chairman is to represent the Parish Council at the Planning Committee.

- 6.1.2 S/1747/16/OL – Agricultural field west of Grace Crescent - Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for access for the erection of up to 98 dwellings (use Class C3) and associated works, including access, car and cycle parking, open space and landscaping

RESOLVED that the same response be made to this application.

RESOLVED to note written representations made by St Mary's Church and the Scout and Guide Hut Committee

4.2 (4.4) To consider the draft complaints policy

Included on the agenda in error.

4.3 (4.5) Assets, Insurance Policy and fidelity guarantee review

RESOLVED that there should be no change to the insurance policy at this time.

Items 4.4 and 8.3 were taken together.

4.4 (5.1) Trees at the Recreation Ground

RESOLVED to seek quotes for a hard cut back of perimeter vegetation at the recreation ground and thereafter annual maintenance of the perimeter vegetation. ^(Prop SR, 2nd JS, unanimous)

8.3 To consider the grass cutting specification and minor works to vegetation and trees

RESOLVED to seek tenders for the annual maintenance of the Council's land using the same specification as currently in place plus the items agreed under item 4.4.

RESOLVED to write to the contractor to say that the Parish Council is not happy at the level of service and speeding on the recreation ground has caused striations. ^(Prop BS, 2nd SR, unanimous)

4.5 (5.2) Resident – suggestion that the verges are sown by SCDC with a wild flower mix

RESOLVED to defer this to the next meeting.

4.6 (5.5) Resident request that the Parish Council arranges a recycling collection as happens in Toft

RESOLVED to arrange a collection at the end of September/October, but not on a Tuesday. ^(Prop JS, 2nd AG, unanimous)

4.7 Footpath between the Blue Lion and the Church verges encroachment – to consider Grounds by Rounds offer

RESOLVED to note that the grass had been trimmed already but this still had not solved the problem. CCC is to be asked what is being done as the Parish Council is not satisfied.

4.8 (4.9) Street light SC12

RESOLVED to note that the street light was now working.

5. Correspondence/communications received

5.1 Residents – complaints about trees – 33 Bramley Way, adjacent to 6 Sudeley Grove and 7 Sudeley Grove and opposite 14 Egremont Road

RESOLVED to seek quotations for the works identified as High, Medium and Low priority for consideration at the next meeting.

5.2 City Deal – tackling peak-time congestion in Cambridge

Noted.

5.3 District Cllr F Burkitt – proposal for a network of “bus hubs”

Noted.

5.4 Resident – complaint about the condition of Miller's Way and request that the Parish Council does something

RESOLVED to write to James Stringer at CCC requesting an update.

5.5 Hardwick Village Plan – request for funding

RESOLVED to grant the sum of £500.00 to the Hardwick Village Plan. Copies of paid invoices or receipts are to be submitted to support the spending. (Prop PJ, 2nd JS, unanimous)

6. Planning Applications and Decision notices and tree works applications

It was noted that Cllr Gill was still not receiving planning applications.

6.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

6.1.3 S/1694/16/OL – Agricultural field west of Grace Crescent – Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for access for the erection of up to 98 dwellings (use Class C3) and associated works, including access, car and cycle parking, open space and landscaping

Taken earlier.

6.1.2 S/1747/16/OL – Agricultural field west of Grace Crescent - Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for access for the erection of up to 98 dwellings (use Class C3) and associated works, including access, car and cycle parking, open space and landscaping

Taken earlier.

6.1.3 S/1514/16/FL – 18 Hall Drive – Single storey front and rear extension

RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the application. (Prop JS, 2nd AG, unanimous)

6.1.4 S/1557/16/DC – Little Acres, 345 St Neots Road – Discharge of conditions 5 (tree protection) and 8 (traffic management) of S/0728/15/FL

Noted for information only.

6.1.5 S/1786/16/FL – 55 St Neots Road – Erection of extension to rear of existing bungalow and alterations and enlargement of existing roof

RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the application. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, carried with 1 abstention)

6.1.6 S/1828/16/FL – 37 St Neots Road – Raising the roof to create a second floor

Cllr Joslin, having previously declared an interest in this item, left the meeting at 10.32 pm.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the application. (Prop AG, 2nd RW, carried with 1 abstention)

Cllr Joslin re-joined the meeting.

6.1.7 S/1840/16/FL – 26 Ashmead Drive – Two storey rear extension

RESOLVED to seek a time extension.

6.1.7 S/1884/16/FL – 105 Bramley Way – Garage extension, single storey rear extension and first floor side extension over garage

RESOLVED to seek a time extension.

6.1.8 S/1524/16/FL – Land to the west of Casa Di Foseta, St Neots Road

No plans had been received. Clarification is to be sought whether this is in Hardwick and a time extension is to be requested.

6.2 SCDC Decision Notices

Details of planning permissions granted by SCDC or refusal notices since the last meeting can be viewed on the SCDC Planning Portal at <http://plan.scams.gov.uk/>.

6.2.1 S/0861/16/FL – 77 Limes Road – Proposed two storey side extension and replacement garage – Permission granted.

6.2.2 S/0891/16/FL – 46 Ashmead Drive – Extension to rear of residential property – Permission granted.

6.3 Tree Works

None.

7. Members reports and items for information only

None.

8. Finance, procedure and risk assessment**8.1 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk**

RESOLVED to note the litter picker's resignation and to ask the volunteer litter pickers if they are willing to carry out litter picking once a month or more often if they are able.

8.2 To receive play areas and skate park inspection reports

RESOLVED that Cllr Worland should ask Mr Giddings to contact the Chairman regarding the handyman role as the Parish Council would be delighted if he was willing to undertake this role.

8.3 To consider the grass cutting specification and minor works to vegetation and trees

Taken earlier.

8.4 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 are signed.

RESOLVED that the payments as listed in the finance report should be paid, plus Hardwick Village Plan Group £500.00. (Pro JS, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

Eastern Tree Surgery (Tree survey)	£836.40
Hardwick School (Room hire)	£87.50
Grounds by Rounds (Grass cutting)	£370.11
Victoire Press (Hardwick Happenings)	£759.00
Salary	£121.33
Salary	£223.73
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1238.90

Credits, including HSSC rent and investment interest, were noted.

RESOLVED that as J Gaze had resigned from his position with the Council that holiday pay is to be paid for the current year only unless the contract otherwise provides (Prop SR, 2nd BS unanimous).

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

RESOLVED that an extra meeting will be held if and when an application for St Neots Road is received.

A Parish Council surgery offering residents an opportunity to speak to Parish Council members and ask questions outside meetings will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Parish Paths Partnership funding is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.50 pm.

SignedChairmandate.