

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 28 March 2017
in the School at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors: S Rose (Chairman), J Humphries, B Skingle, P Joslin, A Gill and D Wellbelove.

In attendance: 4 members of the public including District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain, Mrs Anne Jones, Ms Clare McGowan (Hardwick Play Parks), Cllr Steve Jones (Convenor, Coalition of Parish Councils and Bourn Parish Councillor) and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

Cllr Steve Jones outlined the history and background to the Coalition of Parish Councils including its concerns about the implications of the draft Local Plan and the A428 corridor, in relation to strategic planning and transport infrastructure matters. The Coalition has argued against ribbon development along the A428 corridor from Bourn Airfield and West Cambourne and is calling for an all-ways interchange at Girton to relieve pressure on the increased traffic volumes. It has also argued for other areas around Cambridge which are nearer to centres of employment to be looked at again. He explained that the Coalition tries to represent the majority view of the 23 member councils, and that it was open to those parish councils which held a differing view to make their views known.

It was noted that Hardwick Parish Council was already a member and had contributed £500.00 towards the cost of a traffic consultant when the Coalition was formed. Cllr Jones indicated that this fund could be closed at some point, with unspent funds reimbursed pro rata.

District Cllr Chamberlain reported on:

- His meeting with Highways England last week
- The Community Chest fund has reopened and £55,000 is available for voluntary groups.
- Burglaries – Inspector Sutherland is arranging for a higher level of daytime police patrols.
- Cllr Chamberlain is trying to arrange a meeting with the owner of the building adjacent to the fire damaged building on the corner of Cambridge Road.
- Outline planning permission for the Grace Crescent development had been granted on 28 February. Cllr Chamberlain offered to arrange further visits to the Melbourn Hub if the Parish Council wished.

Anne Jones reported that the Community Association would like to see a stronger Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the village, and that she had been in discussions with Ashley Shepherd, the Hardwick Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. An open meeting is to be arranged in the village in June or July, to which the Police will be invited to provide information on alarms, safety advice and CCTV. Details of the types of crimes taking place were outlined and are shown on the E-cops website. It was suggested that Ashley Shepherd be invited to a Parish Council meeting.

Clare McGowan explained that some smaller grants had been received but the Awards for All application had been rejected as the site was on Parish Council land and the application would have to be made in the Parish Council's name. She asked whether the Parish Council could submit the application. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

It was noted that the order had been placed for the fence in February but it is unlikely to be installed until after Easter.

1. To approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Cracknell (out of parish).

2. To consider any applications to fill the casual vacancy

None.

3. Declaration of interests**3.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda and details of dispensations held**

Cllrs Rose, Skingle and Wellbelove declared an interest in items 5.4, 6.5 and 6.9 as members of Hardwick Sports and Social Club, and the existence of their dispensations enabling them to speak and vote.

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

Cllr Humphries submitted an application for a dispensation in relation to her role as Scout Leader, to commence from the next meeting.

4. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 28 February

RESOLVED that the following amendments be made: under the open session, second bullet point, to read “provision of affordable homes;” under item 2, to read “the casual vacancy;” under item 5.1.2, line 6, change £394,000” to “£349,000;” and under item 5.3, to add the wording “so that Cllr Humphries can identify the benches that require attention.” (Prop SR, 2nd DW, unanimous)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 28 February be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record, after the above amendments. (Prop JH, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

5. Matters arising and carried forward from the last or previous meetings for discussion/decisions**5.1 (Open) Spate of burglaries in the village**

RESOLVED that the Parish Council notes the efforts made to extend Neighbourhood Watch with approval and wishes to invite the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator to the Annual Parish Meeting to provide an update for the village. (Prop SR, 2nd JH, unanimous)

5.2 (5.1.1) To consider any matter relating to the Grace Crescent Development or land off St Neots Road development

Cllr Rose reported. The SCDC Planning Committee had granted outline planning permission for the Grace Crescent development for the application and was progressing the S106 obligations.

Cllr Rose’s previously circulated written report on the meetings of the Trustees on 9 February and 8 March, was taken as read.

RESOLVED to note the decision of the Trustees to proceed in principle with the new Community Centre.

At the invitation of District Cllr Chamberlain, Cllr Rose and Anne Jones had visited the Melbourn Hub Community Centre to gain an idea of the potential possibilities, including further enhancements should more S106 funding become available. Cllr Rose highlighted the following points:

- All members were invited to view the Hub and a visit could be organised.
- 75% of the cost of the Melbourn Hub had been funded by a loan. The possibility of making an application to the Public Works Loan Board was noted.

With regard to the query from SCDC about the suggestion of a community bus, Cllr Cracknell had attended a meeting at the School to discuss the possibility of collaborating with the School on this matter, and would be meeting David Thompson the SCDC Planning Officer on his return.

SCDC were seeking to bring about improvements to the path and the lighting between the Blue Lion and Cahills Corner.

5.3 (5.1.2) New community centre – to consider the Trustees position on the Community Rooms, the preferred site of a new community building, taking into consideration the Planning Officer’s view, and its ownership and operation

Correspondence from the Planning Officer regarding possible sites for the Community Centre had previously been circulated. The Chairman had subsequently circulated a further, final letter from the Planning Officer to members and invited comments. The following points were raised:

- The position with regard to the Scout and Guide Hut was undecided. A meeting would be taking place in early April to consider whether they would continue with their present plans or approach the Parish Council on a possible joint venture.
- It was suggested that it would be more cost effective for the referees’ building to be attached to the Pavilion rather than a separate stand alone building. Cllr Rose undertook to take this up with the Planning Officer.
- The Planning Officer expects the St Neots Road application to come forward in the next three months. This is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council accepts the recommendation of the Planning Officer as detailed in his letter of 11 November. (Prop SR, 2nd JH, unanimous)

RESOLVED to note that the position of the Trustees was in favour of a Community Centre being built on the Recreation field, in accordance with correspondence between the Trustees and Peter McKeown of Carter Jonas.

RESOLVED to defer consideration of the ownership and operation of the Community Centre to the next meeting as this will require a prior meeting of the Trustees regarding how to progress. This will take place before the next Parish Council meeting and the Trustees will put forward their ideas.

A query was raised as to whether the old Scout Hut building, which was dilapidated, could now be demolished and an offer to use the new building extended to the Scouts and Guides. This matter was in the hands of the Scouts and Guides but more information may become available next month.

It was noted that it would be necessary to establish the way forward with the Trustees before giving consideration to the administration of a potentially larger building. Cllr Rose undertook to bring the views of the Trustees as to how the administration might operate to the next meeting.

5.4 (5.5) Litter picker’s report – to consider report and recommendation regarding litter by the goals and the area he should litter pick near the pavilion

Cllr Gill reported that there were various items in the area, including parts of nets and old goal posts, which appeared to have been there for a long time.

RESOLVED to write to the Football Club asking that they remove and dispose of these items from the recreation field if there was no ongoing need to use them. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

5.5 (5.5) Current scope of litter picker’s role

RESOLVED not to vary the scope of the litter picker’s role. (Prop SR, 2nd DW, unanimous)

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take item 6.1 next.

6.1 Coalition of Parish Councils – EIP submission Bourn Airfield

RESOLVED to support retrospectively the submission by the Coalition to the Examination in Public. (Prop BS, 2nd AG, unanimous)

5.6 (10) To consider membership of the Coalition of Parish Councils

The proposal was withdrawn.

5.7 (5.3) Refurbishment of benches

RESOLVED to accept the recommendation and quotation from Ian Giddings for the remaining benches for a total of £155.00 plus £70.00 labour. (Prop JH, 2nd BS, unanimous)

5.8 (5.4) To note the outcome of the Village Meeting on the City Deal proposed busway and park and ride

RESOLVED to note the emailed correspondence previously circulated by the Chairman. The City Deal has been asked to reconsider and look at other options. There would be a public consultation in due course regarding the recommended routes, but the options were not yet known.

Consideration was given to whether the Parish Council should revisit the decision as to its preferred route, in the light of the fact that neither the public meeting nor the Village Plan survey had supported the Parish Council's view. RESOLVED that the revisiting of the decision should be deferred until further information and details of further alternative options were available.

6. Correspondence/communications received

6.1 Coalition of Parish Council's – EIP submission Bourn Airfield

Taken earlier.

6.2 Madingley Parish Council – request for Speedwatch collaboration

Cllr Gill reported that he had been in touch with Madingley and would provide an update to the next meeting. It was noted that there had been difficulties in contacting the Police Co-ordinator.

6.3 Highways England – A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet improvements consultation

Cllr Joslin reported on her attendance at the exhibition.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council had no comments on the consultation.

6.4 CAPALC – consultation on a new draft CAPALC Membership Agreement

Noted.

6.5 SCDC – Street trader request to trade on the car park outside the Sports and Social Club from 5 pm – 11 pm Tuesday to Sunday

RESOLVED that the Parish Council objects to the application as the proposed site is a not appropriate, being in a densely populated area; the trader would occupy the parking spaces; the hours are too long; there would be smells and excess litter and it would attract vermin such as foxes. (Prop BS, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

6.6 Application for a Definitive Map Modification Order to register a Public Right of Way at Miller's Way, Hardwick – Section 53, Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

RESOLVED to respond that the Parish Council approves the application and would comment that this has been a Right of Way as long as members can remember. (Prop PJ, 2nd DW, carried with 1 abstention)

6.7 Zurich Municipal 6 Sudeley Grove – claim closed with no settlement made

Noted.

6.8 SCDC – Street trading application Hardwick Nisa Shop Car Park

RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no comments. (Prop DW, 2nd SR, unanimous)

6.9 HSSC – Guttering and fencing

RESOLVED, given the continuing problems with the guttering, to ask Ian Giddings if he would be able to clean the gutters on the Pavilion and report back on the cleaning and maintenance requirements to the next meeting.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the Parish Council returned to item 5.4.

5.4 (5.5) Litter Picker's report – to consider report and recommendation regarding litter by the goals and the area he should litter pick near the pavilion (continued)

RESOLVED, having noted that according to the lease, clause 3.6, the area around the back and front of the pavilion are the responsibility of HSSC, to inform Ian Giddings accordingly.

7. Planning Applications and Decision notices and tree works applications

7.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

7.1.1 S/0915/17/FL – 61 St Neots Road – Extension

RESOLVED to support the application. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

7.1.2 S/1030/17/FL – 109 Bramley Way – 2 storey side extension and single storey porch replacement

RESOLVED to support the application. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

7.1.3 S/0291/17/LD – 50 Hall Drive – Lawful development certificate for proposed two storey rear extension and single storey side extension, conversion of garage to residential

Noted for information only.

7.1.4 S/3234/16/FL – 3 Laxton Avenue – Change of use from residential to a mixed use of residential and childminding business

Cllr Gill reported that in response to a query from the Planning Officer, a request had been made for the application to go to the Planning Committee, as the Parish Council supported the application. RESOLVED that Cllr Gill be authorised to attend and speak at the Planning Committee if necessary. (Prop SR, 2nd DW, unanimous)

7.2 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/>.
None.

7.3 Tree Works

7.3.1 S/1029/17/TC – The Vicarage, St Mary's Church

RESOLVED there were no objections.

8. Members reports and items for information only

8.1 Neighbourhood Plan update report

Nothing to report.

9. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

9.1 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk and Clerk's use of delegated powers

None.

9.2 To receive play areas and skate park inspection reports

RESOLVED to receive the reports on the Egremont Road and Church play areas.

9.3 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

RESOLVED that the payments as listed in the finance report should be paid, plus Herts and Cambs Grounds Maintenance (grounds maintenance) £336.00 and £336.00, and Hardwick School (Room hire) £73.50. (Prop JH, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

Salary	£22.38
Salary	£100.00
HMRC (PAYE/NIC)	£409.98
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1306.80

RESOLVED that the payment for £1704.00 in favour of AH Callus be placed on hold for the time being pending receipt of a breakdown of the costs of the refurbishment of the benches.

Credits, including bank interest, were noted.

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

Cllr Joslin reported that the recent village litter pick had collected 48 bags of rubbish, as well as building waste dumped behind the bus stop. Appreciation was expressed for the work of the litter pickers.

RESOLVED the Annual Parish Meeting be held on Tuesday 9 May at 7.00 pm. The arrangements and format of the meeting are to be an agenda item for the April meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.41 pm.

SignedChairmandate.

