

Hardwick Parish Council
Meeting held on Tuesday 13 December 2011 in the School at 7.45 pm

Present: Councillors: G Chamberlain (Chairman), A Gill, J Bowen, H Seaber-Shinn, P Joslin, T Bhachu, J Stewart and A Freeman.

In attendance: 3 members of the public including Mr Luke Edwards (Blue Lion); Mr and Mrs Shanahan, County Cllr F Whelan and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take Items 1 and 2 at this point.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies were received from Cllr Storr (family illness). Cllr Seaber-Shinn declared a personal and prejudicial interest under item 7.1 regarding the payment to Victoire Press. Cllr Stewart said that because he lived across Main Street from the Blue Lion he had thought carefully as to whether or not he had a personal interest, and had taken legal advice. His conclusion was that he did not have a personal interest and he would remain in the meeting.

2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 22 November 2011

The minutes of the meeting on 22 November were approved ^(Prop AG, 2nd PJ), and signed by the Chairman,

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

Mr Luke Edwards, landlord of the Blue Lion pub, expanded on the amended retrospective planning application and urged the Parish Council to recommend approval should the appeal be unsuccessful. He expressed a wish to reach a compromise with the neighbouring residents whereby some decking would be removed and planting reinstated. Mr Edwards stated that some planting had previously been removed at the request of the neighbours. He asked that the application be granted to enable the village pub to continue to trade.

Cllr Whelan arrived.

The neighbouring resident thanked those members who had accepted his invitation for a visit on site and reiterated his concerns regarding lack of consultation, the proximity of the patio to his windows, and the resultant noise and loss of amenity. He also expressed concerns regarding the quality of the decking and highlighted the comment in the refusal notice for the previous application that no appropriate mitigating measures were feasible.

The Parish Council emphasised that SCDC was the planning authority, responsible for making the decision.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 (3.1.1) S/2082/11 – Blue Lion, 74 Main Street – reduced timber decked section to existing pub garden area (retrospective)

Following a discussion, the decision to recommend approval, subject to the installation of adequate screening from the adjacent property at the expense of the applicant, was carried ^{(Prop AF, 2nd JB, carried with 3 in favour, 2 against and 3 abstentions including Cllr Stewart).}

Cllr Seaber-Shinn tendered his verbal resignation from the Council and left the meeting at 8.15 pm. The three members of the public also left the meeting.

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take the County Councillor's report next.

Cllr Whelan reported on:

- The approval of the Hardwick Primary School expansion application.
- The A14 Challenge consultation.
- The minor highways improvements application deadline has been extended until 1 February.
- The CCC 2012-13 budget and the possibility of borrowing for projects.

Cllr Whelan was thanked for her report and left the meeting at 8.22 pm.

3.2 (5.1.2) S2201/11 – 16 Ashmead Drive – garage conversion and extension

It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop JB, 2nd PJ) to recommend approval.

3.3 (3.3) Dog bin in Ellison Lane/Worcester Avenue

It was agreed ^(Prop PJ, 2nd JS) to proceed with the purchase of the bin at a cost of £62.00 and to accept the estimate from Ian Lawson of approximately £40 for installation, plus the costs of emptying by SCDC of £2.50 per week. It was noted that SCDC had reduced their cost from £4 per week.

3.4 (3.4) Millennium Way bridge repairs

It was noted that AK and JF Farms had withdrawn their quotation. It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop PJ, 2nd AF) to accept the quotation of £331 plus VAT from CGM (Cambridge) Ltd repair the bridge. The contractor is to be asked to contact Cllr Joslin prior to the commencement of the work so that she may attend.

3.5 (7.2) Egremont Road play equipment repairs

The acceptance of the quotation from Reids Playground Maintenance for £160 plus VAT for urgent repairs as an emergency action, was noted.

3.6 (3.2) Willow tree near 1 Laxton Avenue

It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop PJ, 2nd AG) to accept the quotation from Town and Country Tree Surgery in the sum of £120 plus VAT and to update the minutes of 22 November to reflect this.

The Clerk's report was noted.

4. Correspondence/communications received

4.1 St Mary's Church PCC – request to erect notice board

The request from the PCC was considered. Concerns were expressed about the proliferation of street furniture in the area and it was agreed to reply enquiring whether it might be possible for the notice board to be positioned under the lych gate, which would protect it from the elements.

4.2 CCC Local Minor Highway Improvements scheme

It was agreed to place a request for suggestions on the website and carry this item forward to the next meeting in the light of the extension of the deadline to 1 February.

4.3 Veolia Water Draft Drought Management Plan consultation

Members are to respond to the consultation via the website.

5. Planning applications and decision notices

5.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

5.1.1 S/2428/11 – 35 Cambridge Road – Erection of new main roof over existing ground floor including an increase in ridge height, insertion of roof windows and a flue in the new roof and the erection of a porch to the front of the property

It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop PJ, 2nd AG) to recommend approval.

5.1.2 S/2413/11 – 2 Limes Road – NMA to application S/1746/11 to increase size of windows

It was unanimously agreed ^(Prop JS, 2nd AF) to recommend approval.

5.2 Decision and appeal notices report

5.2.1 S/1934/11 – 3 Laxton Avenue – Single storey rear extension – permission granted. Noted.

5.3 Tree works applications

Cllr Gill reported on branches overhanging the property at 18 Sudeley Grove. It was agreed to inform the resident that he could trim back to the boundary any overhanging branches on the smaller trees at the rear, and that the Parish Council will ask a tree surgeon to inspect the large tree on the corner at the front and obtain quotes for any work required.

6. Members reports and items

6.1 Report on HCV strategy meeting on 29 November

Cllr Joslin's written report was noted and it was agreed that she should attend future update meetings and report back to the Parish Council.

7. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

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

The financial report was received and considered and invoices and bank statements were checked before the cheques were signed. The payments as listed in the finance report were unanimously approved for payment ^(Prop PJ, 2nd TB). Credits received since the last meeting, including Hardwick Happenings advertising and bank interest, were noted.

Lawson Tree (Pump Lane)	£200.00
LG Stoehr (Salary)	£176.80
J Dyer (Salary)	£110.36
LGS Services (Admin support & Legionella recording)	£1321.26
Victoire Press Ltd (Newsletter)	£585.00
Grounds by Rounds (Grass cutting)	£303.01

7.2 Play areas and skate park inspection reports

Reports were received from Cllrs Bhachu, Bowen and Freeman. Cllr Stewart reported that everything was in order at the Church play area. The lights at the skate park have been repaired.

8. Closure of Meeting

Vandalism resulting in the disconnection of gas supplies was reported.

The timing of the next Speedwatch survey is to be discussed.

The web hosting renewal is due. Cllr Bowen will pay and seek reimbursement for his out of pocket expenses.

The well near the Church needs cleaning and quotations are to be obtained.

It was agreed to accept the offer from the Connections Bus Project to attend a meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.12 pm

SignedChairmandate.