

**Hardwick Parish Council**  
**Meeting held on Tuesday 28 August 2012 in the School at 7.45 pm**

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

In attendance: County Cllr Fiona Whelan, Mr Islam and Mrs K Baptie (Minutes Secretary – LGS Services).

**Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors**

Mr Islam was welcomed to the meeting and talked of his proposals to put in a planning application to build a hotel on the corner of St Neots Rd and Cambridge Rd. He presented his plans for a 14 room hotel with a restaurant and gym. He asked for the support of the Parish Council and offered to answer any questions it had. It was suggested that he should do away with the gym and make a bigger restaurant, but Mr Islam said that this would mean he would have to provide more parking spaces which he did not have room for. Another suggestion was to open up the gym to village residents, but again he said this would also mean he would have to provide extra parking. He was keen to speak to BT regarding a small piece of land to the rear of the proposed development, but so far had been unable to make any progress. Cllr Whelan recommended that he contact Cllr Tumi Hawkins who may have contacts at BT.

County Councillor Whelan reported on;

- BT Infinity – reminder for residents to sign up on the Connecting Cambridgeshire website.
- A resident on St Neots Rd was concerned about an ash tree on the grass verge outside his house. Cllr Whelan was looking into this.
- LDF – although Hardwick was not directly affected, there are a number of sites in Comberton and a large one on Bourn Airfield (3,500) which might impact on Hardwick. Cllr Chamberlain pointed out that the infrastructure needed to be put in place before any development takes place. The A14 needed to be improved and the A428 dualled from Caxton to the A1.

Cllr Whelan suggested that a member might like to attend other local Parish Council meetings for their views, such as Toft, Caldecote and Comberton as development in Comberton may help Hardwick to get extra services such as buses, doctors, cycle lanes.

It was thought that such a big development at Bourn will create extra traffic along the road from Bourn to Hardwick into Cambridge and will join up Bourn, Caldecote and Hardwick. Cllr Whelan was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 8.20pm

District Cllr Stewart advised that the Parish Council needed to formalise its response to the LDF. If any residents are concerned about anti- social activities in this area they can contact Sheree Lee at SCDC Housing, or the police are the contacts if anyone is concerned about antisocial behaviour.

**1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**

Apologies were received from Cllr Worland (out of parish)

**2. To approve the minutes of the previous meetings on 24 July 2012**

The minutes of the meeting on 24 July were approved <sup>(Prop AG, 2nd PJ)</sup> and signed by the Chairman, following an amendment on page 258 to item 4.3 to read ‘proposed annual rent’ instead ‘agreed annual rent’ and to amend the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph to read ‘copy of the valuation, however as this is about ongoing negotiation’ and page 259 item 5.2 to read ‘their insurance’.

**3. Matters arising and carried forward from the last or pervious meetings**

- 3.1 (4.3) HSSC lease – to consider quotation

The Chairman read out a letter from Savilles who were acting as agents for the Hardwick Sports and Social Club, who had raised a number of questions as to how the proposed increase in rent has been calculated and on what size floor area. The Parish Council will obtain these details from the District Valuer and forward to Savills. It would also respond that it was in discussions with its solicitor with regard to the new lease and advise that the Parish Council was proposing small increments over 5 yrs to take the rent to an appropriate level. The Parish Council had a duty to the residents of Hardwick to ask the HSSC to pay a proper rent, bearing in mind that it has only paid £10 over the last 10 yrs. It would also be seeking the advice of its solicitor as appropriate as this was seen to be acting in a responsible manner to the residents of the village.

It was agreed to accept the quotation of £500 from Irena Spence and to seek her advice as to whether the Parish Council are acting in a responsible manner by increasing the rent in stages over a five year period, within the quote. <sup>(Prop GC, 2nd JS)</sup>

3.2 (4.4 Recreation ground drains – to consider quotes

It was noted that several companies had been asked to quote but so far only one quote was available. John Pearce of Cambridge Land Drainage is to be invited to quote.

3.3 Pavilion Guttering

It was noted that item 3.4 of the lease states that guttering is the responsibility of the Hardwick Sports and Social Club and it was agreed that the quotes should be forwarded to them with a letter explaining this.

3.4 (4.7) Tennis courts staining – to consider quotes if received

It was agreed to accept Ian Lawson's quote of £450. <sup>(Prop CG, 2nd JH)</sup>

3.5 (4.8) Tennis courts electrical work – to consider report

Ian Hildrew's email was considered. He has yet to carry out the inspection but asked whether the Parish Council will be charging for use of the courts and if so whether a token timer would be required. It was agreed that this wouldn't be necessary at the present time.

3.6 (4.9) Quality Council status

It was agreed to proceed with this. <sup>(Prop JS, 2nd JH)</sup>

3.7 (5.4) SCDC Code of Conduct – to consider the Parish Council's policy, consider complaints procedure and dispensation procedure

It was agreed to adopt the model Code of Conduct. <sup>(Prop AG, 2nd GC)</sup>

It was also agreed to adopt the model Complaints Procedure amending the word Chair to Chairman in the document. <sup>(Prop JS, 2nd PJ)</sup>

The Dispensation procedure was considered and adopted. The Clerk was delegated to administer this.

3.8 (5.7) SCDC LDF Issues and Options consultation

This was discussed earlier.

3.9 (7.1) Millennium footpath – to consider quotation if received

It was noted that the recent clearance of the path had been an additional one for the Jubilee Walk, and that the Council already had a contract with CGM to cut the full length of the path in September.

3.10 Email from resident about hedges and trees near skatepark

Cllr Gill will take a closer look at this when the skatepark is not in use. The parish Council will respond to the resident that its tree warden is looking into the matter.

3.11 Dog Bin reply from SCDC  
It was noted that SCDC had agreed to install the additional dog bin on St Neots Rd, near Meridian Close on the opposite side to the properties.

3.12 RPM's quote for play areas  
It was agreed to accept RPM's quote and ask them to carry out the repairs as soon as possible as the work had been identified as a result of the RoSPA report.

3.13 The response from County Council regarding the speed limit signs was noted.

#### **4 Correspondence/communications received**

4.1 Resident – soundproof fencing on St Neots Rd and Highways Agency reply  
The response from the Highways Agency was considered as were the views of the resident on the Highways Agency's response. It was agreed to respond that the Parish Council sympathise with the resident but that it has done as much as it can and recommend that she contact Andrew Lansley directly.

4.2 Community Access Point (CAP) co-ordinator resignation  
Ela's Parmar resignation was noted. It was agreed to write to Mr Rasen asking if he would like to be the co-ordinator. His request for reimbursement of out of pocket expenses purchasing equipment for the CAP was also considered and he is to be asked to submit a receipt for his expenses. For the protection of young people using the computers, it was suggested that K9 Web Protection is a free internet filter recommended for schools and parents.

#### **5. Planning applications and decision notices**

5.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

5.1.1 S/1101/12/FL – Land off Lark Rise (amended) – to note response made between meetings

It was noted that the Parish Council made no recommendation on the original application and these minor amendments did not affect the Parish Council's original recommendation.

5.2 SCDC Decision Notices

5.2.1 S/1101/12/FL – Land of Lark Rise – Proposed single dwelling and garage – Permission granted.

5.2.2 S/1158/12/FL – 39 St Neots Road – Detached single garage - Permission granted.

5.2.3 S/1229/12/DC – 41 Hall Drive – Front, side and rear roof extension – Permission granted.

5.3 Tree works applications

None other than that mentioned in Cllr Whelan's report.

#### **6 Members reports and items**

6.1 Hardwick Pond, Main Street and to note emergency action taken between meetings

The report from JJ Consultants was noted and it was agreed to write to the Highways Department in the first instance to clarify whether this was their responsibility.

#### **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 at the end of the meeting. The payments as listed in the finance report were unanimously approved for payment <sup>(Prop PJ, 2nd AF)</sup> including Ian Lawson (removal of tree at 13 Sudeley Grove) £640, Broker Network (Insurance renewal) £2,774.31, Algar Signcraft (no ball games sign) £105.60, RPM (play equipment painting) £384.00, and LGS Services (Admin Support) £1331.62.  
Hardwick Football Club (reimburse weed treatment £234.00

G W Bevan (repair tennis court gate)	£80.00
Came & Co	£25.00
JJ Consultants Ltd ( Rec survey)	£378.00
Grounds by Rounds (grass cutting)	£303.01
Moore Stephens (annual audit)	£494.40
Valuation Agency (Pavilion valuation)	£600.00
CGM Landscapes (Millennium footpath cut)	£90.00
LG Stoehr (Salary)	£220.45
J Dyer (Salary)	£110.36
Credits and bank interest received since the last meeting was noted.	

7.2 Play areas and skate park inspection reports

Cllr Humphries reported that rivets were missing on skateramp.

Cllr Bhachu reported that a fence panel at Grenadier Walk had been damaged. It was agreed to ask Jim Rogers to quote for this.

7.3 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of health and safety or risk  
None.

7.4 Moore Stephens audit conclusion

“On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission’s requirements and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.”

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

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Signed .....Chairman .....date.

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