

**Hardwick Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 22 March 2016**  
**in the School at 7.45 pm**

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

In attendance: 3 members of the public including Anne Jones, District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

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

Simon Gibson, a resident of Cambourne, outlined his intentions for using a site on St Neots Road for his cider making and fencing businesses, and sought the Parish Council's support with pre-planning discussions with SCDC. The Parish Council explained that it would consider the planning application when it was received.

Anne Jones asked that the wording of the minutes under the open session, paragraph 2, be changed from "the WI's centenary in 2014" to "the National Federation of Women's Institutes' centenary in 2015". She asked that it be noted that the plaque would be put up on the village sign on Saturday 23 April at 10 am and there would be a photoshoot at which all were welcome.

Anne Jones thanked the Parish Council for the donation of £50 towards the Clean for the Queen event and reported that over 60 bags of litter had been collected from around the village, noting that St Neots Road was particularly bad for litter. She asked that a litter bin be installed at every bus stop, and in the lay-by at the Cambridge end of St Neots Road, and that a dog waste bin be provided by the Hardwick sign in the same vicinity. Regular volunteer litter picking sessions, either monthly or bi-monthly, had been proposed. Mrs Jones sought the Council's views and asked for equipment, hi-visibility jackets and gloves to be provided for this purpose, indicating that a bid for funding for litter pickers and other equipment would be submitted at the Annual Parish Meeting. The need for training, and the legal and insurance position in this connection, will be checked.

District Cllr Chamberlain expressed thanks to the litter pickers and suggested that they approach SCDC for Community Chest funding. He reported on:

- The fire damaged building at the corner of St Neots Road/Cambridge Road, which the owners had agreed with SCDC should be demolished this summer. It was not known what would replace it.
- The Government's announcement on the proposed Eastern Powerhouse. SCDC were awaiting further information and would make a decision at the end of June.
- The Local Development Framework was going to the District Council tomorrow. The timetable for the process was outlined. In the meantime a large number of planning applications were being submitted.

**1. To approve apologies for absence**

Apologies for late arrival, due to attendance at the SCDC Planning Forum immediately prior to the meeting, had been received from Cllr Joslin.

RESOLVED to write to Cllr Stephen Frost as he had not attended a meeting for many months, encouraging him to attend future meetings. (Prop JS, 2nd SR, unanimous)

**2. Declaration of interests**

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

Cllrs Stewart, Cracknell, Rose and Skingle declared an interest in item 4.1 as members of the HSSC, and also the existence of their dispensations allowing them to speak and vote.

Cllr Stewart declared an interest in item 6.3 as the applicant was his daughter, and indicated that he would leave the meeting while this item was discussed.

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 23 February 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 23 February 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record, after an amendment under the open session paragraph 2 to read “centenary of the National Federation of Women’s Institutes in 2015”, and under 6.3, to add “Club” after “Cricket”. (Prop AG, 2nd BS, unanimous)

Cllr Joslin arrived at 8.20 pm.

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

4.0.1 RESOLVED given concerns expressed that streetlight SC12 was still not working, despite having been reported again since the last meeting, and obstacles on the path caused a hazard in the darkness, that the Chairman should write to the Leader of the County Council to complain at the lack of action.

4.1 (4.4) To consider quotations for survey of Pavilion drains

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Dyno Rod for £420.00 plus VAT. (Prop JS, 2nd JH, unanimous)

5. Correspondence/communications received

On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take items 5.1, 5.2 and 5.8 together at this point.

5.1 Resident – Litter collection arrangements and complaint about litter at bus stops and around the Social Club

RESOLVED to obtain alternative quotations for the supply and installation of litter bins for the bus stops on St Neots Road and at the Toft end of Main Street, and to check that SCDC would be willing to empty them.

RESOLVED to consider if a litter bin should be installed at the lay-by past the Cambridge Road turn. Cllr Worland is to check how many bins would be required and this matter will be considered further at the next meeting when the costs are known.

Cllr Bhachu left the meeting during this item at 8.38 pm.

RESOLVED not to proceed with the installation of a dog waste bin, given that there were other dog bins within a short distance.

RESOLVED having considered the areas covered by the litter picker that the Chairman will contact the Clerk.

5.2 Resident – Possible litter picking group and request that the Parish Council fund the cost of litter picking equipment and litter bins at all bus stops

RESOLVED to investigate the legal and insurance implications of a volunteer litter picking group and to await a proposal for funding at the Annual Parish Meeting. (Prop PJ, 2nd JH, unanimous)

5.8 Resident – discarded rubbish on open space between Ashcroft and Sudeley Grove

RESOLVED to report the discarded material to SCDC as fly tipping and subject to confirmation that SCDC will collect, when the date is known, that Cllrs Gill and Humphries should move the items to an appropriate place for collection by SCDC,

after carrying out a risk assessment and submitting it to the Clerk. (Prop SR, 2nd BS, unanimous)

5.3 SCDC S106 agreement indemnity for land adj. 311 St Neots Road – to authorise its signing

RESOLVED that Cllrs Rose and Stewart should sign the S106 agreement on behalf of the Parish Council. (Prop PJ, 2nd CC, unanimous)

5.4 Resident request for no cycling signs on Grenadier Walk

RESOLVED to check who has the power to authorise the signage and consider this further at the next meeting. (Prop JS, 2nd AG, carried with 7 in favour and 1 abstention)

5.5 SCDC – Proposed Deed of Easement to Land at Grace Crescent, Hardwick

RESOLVED to note this.

5.6 Resident – hedges along Limes Road

RESOLVED that the Parish Council will keep the hedges under observation and cut them back when necessary. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

5.7 Cider maker and fencing contractor – request for support to develop land and buildings at the rear of 25 St Neots Road

RESOLVED to await the application.

5.8 Resident – discarded rubbish on open space between Ashcroft and Sudeley Grove

Taken earlier.

**6. Planning Applications and Decision notices and tree works applications**

6.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

6.1.1 S/0559/16/FL – 52 Laxton Avenue – Addition of conservatory to rear of house

RESOLVED to recommend approval. (Prop PJ, 2nd JS, unanimous)

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.scambbs.gov.uk/>.

6.2.1 S/2935/15/FL – 44 Main Street – Extension to and change of use of existing self catering holiday accommodation unit to residential dwelling with new cart lodge and alterations and extension to the existing dwelling – Permission granted by SCDC.

6.2.2 S/3191/15/FL – Wallis Farmhouse, 98 Main Street – Stationing of timber Shepherd's Hut building and associated package treatment plant – Permission granted by SCDC.

6.3 Tree Works

6.3.1 7 Sudeley Grove

Cllr Stewart, having previously declared an interest, left the meeting at 9.19 pm.

RESOLVED to respond that the tree shown in the application belongs to the Parish Council and the Parish Council has previously informed the resident that if they wish to trim back branches to the boundary they can do so. The Parish Council objects to its removal. (Prop PJ, 2nd AG, carried with 1 abstention)

Cllr Stewart re-joined the meeting at 9.30 pm.

6.3.2 98 Main Street

RESOLVED having noted that a Tree Preservation Order had recently been made that the Parish Council had no comments.

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

7.1 Report on Village Plan committee meeting on 17 February

RESOLVED to receive Cllr Joslin's verbal report that minutes will be circulated, a bank account has been opened and that the relative merits of a Neighbourhood or Village Plan are still being discussed.

Cllr Chamberlain will provide details of villages with a Neighbourhood Plan and ask SCDC to organise a briefing session and suggested that someone from the Planning Department could address the Annual Parish Meeting. SCDC are encouraging Neighbourhood Plans. There are concerns over the volume of potential planning applications. Cllr Joslin will attend the next meeting on 24 March.

7.2 Report on City Deal Local Liaison Forum meeting on 7 March

Cllr Chamberlain left the meeting at 9.40 pm.

RESOLVED to receive the verbal report from Cllrs Gill and Joslin. A Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the group have been appointed. Various aspects of the City Deal were explained. The local forum will feed into the decision made by the City Deal board. Ideas to take forward are being prepared for the next meeting, which Cllrs Gill and Joslin will attend.

At 9.47 pm a point of order was raised by Cllr Skingle regarding the duration of the meeting.

7.3 To consider the Connections Youth Bus correspondence

RESOLVED that this should be deferred to the next meeting when a request for funding from the Evangelical Church to hire the hall for a weekly Youth Club will also be considered.

**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

RESOLVED to receive reports for Egremont Road, Church play area and the skate park.

RESOLVED to obtain quotations for the replacement of the rubber surround on the handles of the swings at the Egremont Road play area for the next meeting. (Prop JH, 2nd JS, unanimous)

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 are signed.

RESOLVED that the payments as listed in the finance report should be paid, plus R Cassey (Webmaster) £53.00, Hardwick Community Association (Affiliation Fee) £45.00, Hardwick School (Room hire) £63.00, Town & Country Tree Surgery (Priority C tree work) £1416.00, Pippins Cafe (Clean for the Queen event) £43.00 and Smartwater Technology (Sign) £42.00. (Prop JH, 2nd CC, unanimous)

Valuation Office Agency (Land valuation)	£600.01
Grounds by Rounds (Grass cutting)	£309.07
Victoire Press (Hardwick Happenings)	£641.00
Salary	£227.97
Salary	£121.33
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1213.90

Credits, including investment income and advertising income, were noted.

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

The following will be agenda items for the next meeting:

- The condition of the footpath between the Church and the pub, which is narrow and uneven
- Placing a request for Speedwatch volunteers on the website and in Hardwick Happenings
- P3 paths, signage and assistance with putting up waymarking signs received from the ROW officer.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.08 pm.

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

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APPROVED