

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 25 June 2019
in the School at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors: A Gill (Chairman), P Joslin, D Wellbelove, P Ashton, E Croft and I Giddings.

In attendance: 2 members of the public; Liz Connell, Lydia Meeson and Wyn Evans (Countryside Properties); District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

Liz Connell and Lydia Meeson spoke to their presentation on the Bourn Airfield development. The indicative masterplan was currently with SCDC. They outlined the proposal, infrastructure, transport provision, education, health, supplementary planning document and proposed timetable. There was an opportunity for questions and answers.

The Parish Council asked about safety measures for pedestrians accessing the buses through the cillage to which the response was that this had yet to be determined. Discussions had taken place with the GCP. The rapid transit bus would only reach a high speed on the top road and was designed to slow down. Buses would have priority over cars.

The Parish Council queried how the Caldecote roundabout would cope with so much traffic and expressed concern about the impact on Hardwick. In reply the developers stated that measures would be introduced to mitigate any issues with capacity. Pedestrian and cycle routes were proposed to link to public rights of way, to provide as much connectivity as possible. The developers stated that Highways England would not support the provision of a direct access to the A428 as it wished to keep the trunk road as free flowing as possible and there was insufficient space. Any such junction would have had to be in the Local Plan and the time for this had passed. However, Highways England were working through the consultation responses. There was a highways mitigation plan whereby local roads would be monitored and if problems occurred, traffic calming measures would be proposed to mitigate them. Funds would be set aside within the S106 money for this purpose.

The Parish Council asked about mitigation via the S106 agreement and whether Parish Councils would have the opportunity to give an input into the mitigation. The developers replied that it would be necessary for the Council to request involvement, as there was no obligation by SCDC or the developers to involve parish councils, given that the S106 would be signed by SCDC, Countryside Properties and the landowners. It was open to the Parish Council to make representations as to what it would like to see when the Heads of Terms were being drawn up, and as it was hoped to start discussion about the legal agreements very soon, this would be the optimum time to do so.

The Council asked how the impact of traffic flows would be measured. A baseline would be set and the build up of traffic as building continued would be monitored. If a level of traffic acceptable to CCC was exceeded, discussions would take place about traffic calming. CCC were looking at the figures produced by the Transport consultants and deciding what level was acceptable or not acceptable.

The Council pointed out that a Park and Ride site at Scotland Farm would create additional pressure on local roads and roundabouts. Concerns were expressed that the current infrastructure would be swamped and this situation would persist for years and continue to deteriorate. The developers responded that a wide range of strategic junction improvements were being proposed, including the junction with the M11. They were unable to respond with

certainty regarding the proposals for the Caldecote roundabout due to the public transport route. The GCP were looking at several different options for the bus route crossing the roundabout and until this was clearer it was not possible to respond. One possibility might be a two lane approach to the roundabout from the Cambridge direction. The Council warned that traffic would back up with a knock on effect to Hardwick and that a feeder lane would be too small to cope with the huge traffic impact at this point. The developers responded that they could arrange for their transport consultant to explain the transport model. The Council also drew attention to the forthcoming new development at St Neots which with the Park and Ride site would increase traffic flow significantly. The developers stated that they were awaiting the Highways England written confirmation regarding their position on an A428 junction but if Highways England did not object, there would be a very significant cost to the development, possibly resulting in a reduction in some forms of housing or amenities. The independent access proposed to the A10 at Waterbeach did not create a precedent as each case was looked at individually, and Waterbeach was three times the size. The Parish Council expressed the view that discussion was needed imminently. In response to a question, the developers confirmed that the traffic figures had been combined with the St Neots and Scotland Farm figures.

The developers were thanked for attending and were asked to arrange for their transport consultant to contact the Clerk to come and speak to the Parish Council, as the Council wished to ensure that all the relevant information was to hand in advance of discussions on the Heads of Terms.

The representatives of the developers left the meeting at 8 pm.

District Cllr Chamberlain spoke to his previously circulated written report. He highlighted:

- The Local Transport Plan consultation, including the CAM Metro. This is available on the Combined Authority website.
- The Bourn Airfield development SPD, which was discussed at a meeting of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee on 21 May. There was concern about the number of estimated car movements and considerable opposition to the proposals, with an expectation of serious rat running. There was unanimous criticism of the lack of a direct connection to the A428 and that public transport provision would only run from the north of the site to the city centre and not to other centres of employment. There were concerns that the transport infrastructure would not be in place before the development was built; concerns about the buffer zones on the eastern and western sides of the development, and that these should not include gardens; and concerns about the lack of healthcare provision within the development. The Committee had recommended that significant amendments should be made as it could not support the SPD in its current form.

The Parish Council also highlighted that the A14 would only have one lane leading to the Girton interchange, so all additional traffic heading for centres of employment would be funnelled into one lane. Queues were currently building back beyond the Madingley junction, where there was another pinch point. Cllr Chamberlain expressed the view that the only solution was an all-ways junction for the Girton interchange with the M11 to take people to the biomedical campus.

1. To approve apologies for absence

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

2. Declaration of interests

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

None.

- 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 May 2019**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 28 May be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record, after correcting 'teh' to 'the' under item 9.2. ^(Prop IG, 2nd PJ, carried with 4 in favour and 2 abstentions)
4. **Matters arising and carried forward from the last or previous meetings for discussion/decisions**
- 4.1 (Open) Green initiatives
A suggestion was made for a line of additional trees on Egremont Road behind the existing trees to provide protection from vehicles and future succession. It was noted that the footpath to Caldecote, as a public right of way, was the County Council's responsibility.
On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take item 7.1.3 next.
- 7.1.3 Hardwick Community Centre Working Group suggestion that Hardwick Parish Council considers additional tree planting along Egremont Road
RESOLVED that the Council should obtain further information from the Woodland Trust as to the types, quantities and sizes of trees and hedging available, and to consider this further at the next meeting, including whether trees might also be needed in Limes Road and Ellison Lane as well as Egremont Road.
It was suggested that the School could involve children in tree planting.
RESOLVED that members may respond individually regarding Cllr Nieto's water initiative should they so wish.
- 4.2 (8.1) CCTV – to receive update from Neighbourhood Watch meeting and consider the next steps
RESOLVED, having noted the advice from the Police and correspondence from Orchard Park Community Council, to contact Orchard Park for further information about equipment providers, the cameras and control units needed, and information on the amount and costs of storage capacity, and the costs of ongoing maintenance.
- 4.3 (8.2) Emergency Plan update
Cllr Giddings reported on his discussions to date and provided a draft plan which is to be circulated to members for final consideration and adoption at the next meeting.
- 4.4 (8.4) To consider report and recommendation for oak bench near the Church
RESOLVED to accept Cllr Giddings's kind offer to apply furniture oil to the bench near the Church. The Council will reimburse Cllr Giddings for the cost of the furniture oil.
- 4.5 (8.5) CVC Duke of Edinburgh scheme volunteering – to consider what to take forward
RESOLVED to defer this item to the August meeting.
Thanks were expressed to the volunteer litter picker who had done a very good job.
- 4.6 (8.9) To consider report and recommendation on Worcester Avenue play area wall repairs
RESOLVED, to continue to monitor the situation given Cllr Wellbelove's verbal report that he had looked at the wall again and considered it to be structurally sound with only brick facings coming away.

4.7 (8.10) Comberton ways – to consider draft response to Greater Cambridge Partnership report

RESOLVED to approve the draft response provided by Cllr Rose, with the addition of the words “either by improvements to Toft Road or by the creation of a direct Greenways link, off the road, joining Portway directly to the Village College,” to read:

“Hardwick Parish Council notes the Comberton Greenway Consultation Report and has the following comments.

The village of Hardwick held a public meeting on 13th November 2018 which supported the principle of the Greenway but had concerns. See attached resolution.

The Parish Council is pleased that the consultation report has noted the importance of extending the Greenway from the Portway through to Limes Road and believes that Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) should now survey this extension.

The Parish Council is disappointed that the report does not address the lack of consultation with the village of Hardwick at the preliminary stages and presentation stage of the project with the result that the needs of Hardwick were not adequately considered when drawing up the consultation document. According to the Comberton Greenway Review document (Nigel Bringham and Associates October 2016) Comberton was chosen as an "obvious focus" as a Greenway destination because of the Village College at Comberton although Hardwick was named as a key destination. It is worth pointing out that Hardwick is a larger village than Comberton (and due to grow by another 25% in the next three years) and it is the largest feeder village for the Village College. The Parish Council believes the Greenway should initially provide for two key routes for Hardwick being Hardwick to Cambridge but also Hardwick to Comberton Village College. Hardwick will provide more users of the Greenway than Comberton who already have a cycleway into Cambridge through Barton. There are also opportunities for extending the Greenway from Hardwick to Caldecote (along the route of the Wimpole Way) and to Cambourne. In short the GCP appear to undervalue the importance of Hardwick and to Hardwick of this Greenway. The Parish Council would like to see this addressed by means of a public meeting with GCP in Hardwick before the final design is agreed. The Parish Council would also like the GCP to engage directly with it and address this obvious gap in its consultation process.

The consultation asked for opinions on two routes into Comberton, one through Portway and one down Long Road. The Long Road route has no benefit for Hardwick and this needs to be acknowledged and understood by GCP. The Green End route is better and much preferred but Hardwick is disappointed that the option of a direct route from Hardwick to Comberton Village College appears to have been dropped and the Parish Council believes this should be reconsidered, either by improvements to Toft Road or by the creation of a direct Greenways link, off the road, joining Green End directly to the Village College. (Prop AG, 2nd PA, unanimous)

4.8 (12.3) To consider the RoSPA report

RESOLVED to seek quotations for gaps in the safety surfacing and for the replacement of a broken swing seat at Grenadier Walk, and to order a replacement plug and caps from Kompan for the Multiplay Toddler unit at Egremont Road.

RESOLVED that Cllr Wellbelove should clean the algae from the equipment at the Church Play area and take a look at projecting bolts on the seat at Egremont Road and the skate park equipment including uneven concrete at the base of the fun box and flat bank at the Skate Park.

- 4.9 (13) Village Plan – to consider the next steps
RESOLVED that the Chairman should speak to the Hardwick Happenings Editor as it appeared that some areas in the village had not yet received their copies of the plan.
RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting.
RESOLVED that considering whether a Neighbourhood Plan should be undertaken is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.
- 4.10 (13) Request for matting at the Church play area
RESOLVED that the Chairman should measure the area concerned and that Cllr Giddings should provide further information about the product involved so that this matter can be considered further at the next meeting.
- 4.11 (Annual Parish meeting) To consider requests for grant funding if received
No applications had been received from the groups who expressed an interest at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 4.12 (4.9 of April meeting) Fly Posting
RESOLVED to note that the posters had now been removed.
Cllr Giddings's suggestion that he together with a number of other willing residents might be able to refurbish the other notice boards in the village, was gratefully accepted. RESOLVED to agree to Cllr Giddings proposed the formation of a village maintenance group of residents.
- 4.13 (3.2) To appoint representatives on any other organisation or authority, which the Council deems necessary
RESOLVED, gratefully noting Martin Cassey's willingness to continue in his previous roles for the time being, to re-appoint him as representative for the Community Bus, Village Plan and Healthcare provision. (Prop AG, 2nd DW, unanimous)
- 4.14 Cutting of grass area near the School – to consider reply from CCC
RESOLVED, noting that CCC cut the area three times a year, that the Parish Council wishes to retain the current arrangement whereby its contractor also cuts the grass. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)
- 4.15 (9.1) RESOLVED to note that Herts and Cambs Ground Maintenance were unaware that their accountant had chased for payment and would not expect the Parish Council to pay.
- 4.16 (9.2) RESOLVED to note regarding the recent break-in at HSSC that HSSC were responsible for the back door and would be claiming on their insurance.
- On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take item 7.1.1 next.
- 7.1.1 Hardwick Community Centre Working Group – Proposal that Hardwick Parish Council resolve to approach the Public Works Loan Board for an interest only loan of £424,000 commencing on or around July 2020 repayable on or around 2023
The Parish Council considered the proposal to approach the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) for a loan of £424,000, to cover a shortfall in S106 funding due to a delay of at least a year with the St Neots Road development. The Clerk's advice and the advice of James Fisher of SCDC were noted.
On a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was suspended to enable the Chairman of the Hardwick Community Centre Working Group to speak. He sought the Council's view as to when the funds might be available, as architects had now been employed, and requested clarification for their forthcoming meeting on Monday as to whether the brief would need to be changed.

The Parish Council expressed reservations about the risk of entering into such a commitment without the certainty of early repayment, given also that building had not commenced, and was not in favour of asking the community to cover the shortfall from an increase in the precept. A suggestion was made that the building might have to be built in a modular way, in stages, using the funds that were available.

RESOLVED to write to James Fisher at SCDC to ask whether he can obtain the necessary information as soon as possible to clarify the position, and contact the PWLB to make enquiries, for information only, whether a loan might be available in principle, and confirm the costs previously indicated and what the terms and conditions would be. In the meantime the Working Group Chairman should raise with the architects the possibility of an amended brief and building a modular building in two phases with an initial phase costing £600,000. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

Cllr Giddings left the meeting at 9.45 pm and returned at 9.47 pm.

7.1.2 Hardwick Community Centre Working Group – Proposal that Hardwick Parish Council approve the proposed location of the new community centre on the MUGA subject to planning approval

At 9.47 pm, on a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was briefly suspended to enable the Chairman of the Hardwick Community Centre Working Group to speak. The meeting resumed at 9.49 pm.

RESOLVED, given that one site was not available as it was the location of the Scout and Guide Hut, and that all the other suggested sites had disadvantages, that the Parish Council approves the proposed location of the new community centre on the MUGA , subject to planning approval by SCDC. (Prop AG, 2nd EC, unanimous)

7.1.3 Hardwick Community Centre Working Group suggestion that Hardwick Parish Council considers additional tree planting along Egremont Road

RESOLVED following earlier discussions that the Parish Council is willing for additional planting to take place and to await the advice of the Woodland Trust on suitable trees for Egremont Road and possibly other areas in the village.

Cllr Chamberlain and the Community Centre Working Group Chairman left the meeting at 9.55 pm.

5. Correspondence/communications received

5.1 Resident suggestion for use of telephone kiosk

RESOLVED to defer this item pending the decoration and cleaning of the kiosk.

5.2 CCC Invitation to apply for Local Highways Improvement funding 2020/2021

RESOLVED to defer consideration of the LHI application to the July meeting following discussion of the village plan priorities.

On a proposition by the Chairman it was agreed to vary the order of business to take item 7.4 at this point.

7.4 Proposal that the Council submits Millers Way and St Neots Road from No 1 to Cambridge Road as suggestions for roads/paths requiring repair in response to Cllr Nieto's email

RESOLVED to propose the re-surfacing of Miller's Way in response to Cllr Nieto's request for suggestions of roads/paths requiring repair.

5.3 CCC – Street lighting electricity – to consider what arrangements need to be made

RESOLVED to await further information on the costs along with guidance from CCC.

5.4 Hill – allotments and associated parking area to consider if the Council wishes to accept the transfer or to agree alternative arrangements

The Clerk's advice that only "statutory allotment sites" had legal protection, was read out and noted.

Cllrs Giddings and Wellbelove declared an interest as allotment holders.

RESOLVED to respond to Hill that the Parish Council wishes to accept the transfer of the allotment provision and associated parking area to the Parish Council, as a statutory allotment. (Prop PJ, 2nd IG, unanimous)

RESOLVED that Cllrs Wellbelove and Giddings should enquire with the Chairman of the Allotments Association whether the Association wishes to take on the management of the allotments.

Cllr Ashton left the meeting briefly at 10.12 pm and returned at 10.14 pm.

6. Planning Applications and Decision notices and tree works applications

6.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

6.1.1 S/1858/19/FL – 6 Bramley Way – Demolition of existing garage and erection of two storey side and front extension and single storey rear lean-to extension

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

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied to take item 6.1.3 next.

6.1.3 S/2021/19/FL – 23 Bramley Way – Two storey side and rear extension, single storey front extension and dropped kerb

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

6.1.2 SCDC – Draft Bourn Airfield New Village Supplementary Planning Document

RESOLVED to hold a public meeting in mid-July. The Parish Council will consider its formal response at its July meeting.

RESOLVED that the public meeting be publicised on the notice boards and on the website and Facebook to promote awareness of the consultation among residents. Cllr Chamberlain is to ask District Cllr Tumi Hawkins and Cllr Des O'Brien of Bourn Parish Council if they can attend. District Cllr Chamberlain left the meeting at 10.22 pm.

6.1.4 S/4619/18/RM – Land east of Highfields Road, Highfields Caldecote – Approval of matters reserved for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline planning permission S/2510/15/OL for phase 1 (66 dwellings) of the residential development with associated infrastructure

Noted.

6.2 SCDC Decision Notices

None.

6.3 Tree Works Applications

None.

7. Members reports and items for information only

7.1 New Housing Developments and Planning Obligations

Cllr Rose's previously circulated written report was noted.

7.1.1 Hardwick Community Centre Working Group – Proposal that Hardwick Parish Council resolve to approach the Public Works Loan Board for an interest only loan of £424,000 commencing on or around July 2020 repayable on or around 2023

Taken earlier.

7.1.2 Hardwick Community Centre Working Group – Proposal that Hardwick Parish Council approve the proposed location of the new community centre on the MUGA subject to planning approval

Taken earlier.

7.1.3 Hardwick Community Centre Working Group suggestion that Hardwick Parish Council considers additional tree planting along Egremont Road

Taken earlier.

7.2 (3.2) Speedwatch - to consider whether the group is a volunteer group or a working group of the Parish Council

The Clerk’s advice was noted. RESOLVED that the Parish Council affirms that the status of the Speedwatch group is a working group of the Parish Council and should be listed as such at the Council’s annual meeting.

Cllr Joslin provided her written report which is to be circulated to members. The new MVAS equipment is in operation. There are now ten active volunteers.

7.3 Proposal that the Council considers installing Community Speedwatch signage and whether the equipment should be security marked

RESOLVED that Cllr Joslin should speak to the Police to obtain more details of the signs and obtain a quotation, and submit a grant request for three signs to be located at the entrances to the village.

RESOLVED that Cllr Joslin should ask Alan Everitt to provide more information regarding security marking.

7.4 Proposal that the Council submits Millers Way and St Neots Road from No 1 to Cambridge Road as suggestions for roads/paths requiring repair in response to Cllr Nieto’s email

Taken earlier.

8. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

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

Cllr Giddings reported that the notice board posts on the board near Portway may need reinforcing. RESOLVED to monitor the situation as the board may need to be moved when the path is done.

8.2 To receive play areas and skate park inspection reports

The play inspection reports were received.

8.3 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 I Giddings (Notice board expenses) £17.99 and £2.75. (Prop DW, 2nd PJ, carried with 1 abstention)

Salary	£90.36
Salary	£142.31
HMRC (PAYE)	£135.40
NEST (Pension) (DD)	£173.53
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1392.69
RH Landscapes (Grass cutting)	£1008.00

Credits, including investment interest and rent, were noted.

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

The consultation meetings regarding the Cambourne to Cambridge busway will take place on 11 July from 5 pm to 8 pm and on 13 July from 10.30 am to 1.30 pm.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.43 pm.

SignedChairmandate
