

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 23 July 2019
in the School at 7.00 pm

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

In attendance: 6 members of the public; Laura Gates (Communications Manager, Greater Cambridge Partnership), James Montgomery and Jo Baker (Mott McDonald); District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

Laura Gates (Greater Cambridge Partnership) and her two colleagues spoke to their presentation and gave an update on the project. The Phase 2 consultation findings showed the percentage preferences for the link between Madingley Mulch and Bourn Airfield and for the Park and Ride location. They were addressing concerns about issues including the St Neots Road cross section; air pollution and noise; traffic issues and bus stops. They described the ongoing work around Environment and mitigation issues; the continued dialogue with the Local Liaison Forum; and technical group work. There would be stakeholder engagement and a further Local Liaison Forum meeting in the autumn, in advance of an outline business case being presented to the GCP Executive bourn for a decision on a preferred scheme.

Questions were invited.

Q: A question was asked about the continuation of the Citi 4 service and the problems which bus stops for servicing that route.

A: This is a commercial service. The Mayor has the power to establish a franchise but it will be down to the operator. There will need to be discussion with the operator regarding the final layout.

Q: The Parish Council asked about the St Neots Road cross section and the changes to the widths of the verges.

A: There would be an opportunity to change this and to have a wider verge nearer to the properties.

Q: Concerns were expressed about the availability of seats for Hardwick residents on the route from Bourn Airfield.

A: The operator should take into account but this could not be guaranteed. However the operator should be motivated into providing the service and enough seats.

Q: The Council asked how many buses an hour there would be and why the road could not be used for the buses. A comment was made that the traffic bottleneck started on the Cambridge side of Madingley Mulch.

A: It was explained that the plan was a build for the future and aimed to ease traffic flows, but the final decision was still open.

Q: A comment was made about visibility for cyclists, who felt safer cycling on the road than past high hedges.

A: A lot of people supported a segregated route but they would look at visibility impact studies and adjacent properties should be aware of the cycle path.

Q: A question was asked about noise and the mitigation.

A: There would be a wooden lapped fence, with height unknown at present, and if space allows, a sapling hedge. The existing vegetation would not be removed.

Q: A comment was made that noise was not attenuated by vegetation. Concerns were expressed that the scheme did not deliver the quick win and reduce noise and pollution for residents along St Neots Road.

A: There is fencing that will mitigate noise.

The baseline surveys would start after the school holidays but modelling was based on traffic numbers.

Cllr Joslin declared an interest as a resident of St Neots Road. She raised that there was no top coat on the road by her home and asked that the GCP take this into consideration.

Q: A question was asked whether data on traffic movements along St Neots Road were available.

A: It was possible to make these available. Countryside Properties would set out a transport assessment. The GCP would be assessed on the basis that Bourn Airfield had been given planning permission and the model from CCC as a sequential process.

District Cllr Chamberlain asked that the Bourn Airfield data received be reviewed as there was concern about this.

The representatives were thanked for attending and left the meeting.

District Cllr Chamberlain reported on:

- The village being under threat from development concerns
- Parks and green spaces funding
- Cllr Chamberlain had spoken to Planning Enforcement regarding the burnt out building; the gas situation was still the same and another appointment was awaited. The owner was in discussion with the planners about flats, but it was not possible to action the S215 notice until the gas issue had been resolved. The adjacent landowner was seeking written assurances before the gas works started.

1. To approve apologies for absence

Cllr Giddings was not present.

2. Declaration of interests

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

None at this point.

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 25 June 2019

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 25 June be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record, after the following amendments: under open session, paragraph 2, add “through the village” after “buses;” under final paragraph and in item 4.7, change “A14” to “A428;” and under item 4.7, change “Green End” to “Portway” in paragraphs 1 and 6. (Prop AG, 2nd DW, carried with 1 abstention)

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

4.1 (4.1 and 7.1.3) To consider tree planting in the village in the light of information from Woodland Trust

RESOLVED, having considered information on the sizes and contents of the free tree packs, to obtain a small pack to be used on the Recreation Ground, Ellison Lane,

Egremont Road and other areas in the village, with delivery to Cllr Gill, for planting in the spring possibly by a group of volunteers. (Prop AG, 2nd PA, unanimous)

4.2 (4.3) Formal adoption of Emergency Plan

RESOLVED, having checked with Cllr Giddings whether this is his final plan, that if not the Clerk should work with Cllr Giddings to re-draft the final plan and remove personal information, to bring it in line with other published plans (Prop AG 2nd SR unanimous)

4.3 (4.8) To consider quotations for play area repairs if received

RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting to enable a second quotation to be obtained.

4.4 (4.9) Village Plan – to consider the next steps

RESOLVED, noting that there were many suggested actions, that Cllrs Gill and Joslin should identify Parish Council owned trees obscuring street lights and Cllr Croft should place a link on the website to enable the reporting of problems to CCC and SCDC.

RESOLVED that this will be a standing agenda item for all future meetings and that all members should consider what can be done. (Prop SR, 2nd AG, unanimous)

4.5 (4.9) To consider whether to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan and the next steps

RESOLVED that the Clerk should provide Cllr Croft with the details of the relevant SCDC officer and the Neighbourhood Plan procedures, and that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

4.6 (4.10) Matting at Church play area – to consider specification and costed proposal

RESOLVED to note the cost of a light quality matting for occasional parking would be approximately £6000.00 plus installation, for an area of 55m x 6m, and to consider this further at the budget setting meeting.

4.7 (4.12) Proposal for volunteer village maintenance group

RESOLVED to note the Clerk's advice on the use of volunteers.

RESOLVED that Cllr Giddings should lead the volunteer maintenance group. (Prop SR, 2nd AG, unanimous)

4.8 (5.2) CCC Invitation to apply for Local Highways Improvement funding 2020/2021

RESOLVED that Cllr Joslin should submit a proposal for a traffic calming scheme in the village and that the Parish Council should contribute the sum of £2000.00, and that the proposal be submitted now as advised by Josh Rutherford, subject to further consideration once the PFHI survey report is received. (Prop PJ, 2nd PA, unanimous)

4.9 (6.1.2) SCDC – Draft Bourn Airfield New Village Supplementary Planning Document including report on public meeting held on 18 July

RESOLVED having considered the draft prepared by the Chairman and amended and added additional information to object to the application on the following grounds:

Part one

It is disappointing to note that the SPD endorses much of the outline applicaiton with particular regard to the transport infrastructure and medical facilities.

The SPD also seems to have disregarded the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee again on transport and medical provision.

Hardwick Parish Council held a Village meeting last week attended by about 60 residents, and again the main topic of debate was the transport infrastructure, and particularly the provision of an all ways junction onto the A428 from the Bourn Airfield development.

The traffic movement figures provided seem to considerably under estimate the traffic movements, when compared to other surveys carried out for other developments in the area.

A no left turn at the Broadway exit/entrance, and two lanes for a short distance at the Caldecote roundabout for traffic from the east, is a poor solution for a settlement of around 3500 houses.

A proper access to the settlement needs to happen before building commences, mitigation of the problem after this is too late. If the Broadway is kept as a country road by preventing traffic from the settlement turning left, then why is the St Neots Rd not classified the same.

It surely can't be too late for SCDC planners to lobby Highways England (HE) for a junction onto the A428, as it seems from the SPD that HE have not closed the door for any further discussions.

At a meeting with Hardwick Parish Council, the developers admitted that providing a junction onto the A428 would mean less facilities on the settlement, should this be at the surrounding villages expense and quality of life or their bottom line?

Part 2

The other main topic discussed was the lack of a medical centre on the settlement and the possible reliance on Cambourne to provide the facilities; this makes no sense at it would mean car owners would have to drive there, and residents without transport would have to walk to the north side of the site to get public transport to Cambourne.

We thought the idea was to get people out of their cars, but this would just increase traffic movements throughout the day.

Although some residents objected to the use of traffic calming because of possible queues, and more pollution, and difficulty getting in and out of drives and onto junctions, it is part of the developers plan to mitigate problems if they arrive.

This particularly concerns rat runs through the surrounding villages and these will be monitored and traffic calming considered.

If there is no agreement on a junction on to the A428, then there should be a traffic management/ restriction on the A1303 from Bourn Broadway to the Madingley Mulch roundabout.

The developers need to make sure traffic is monitored, and a base line established before development so comparisons can be accurately made.

Part 3

The position of the Village Centre needs addressing, as at the moment being in the NW corner it is nearer Cambourne and will be difficult to reach by walking from the south of the development.

A better position would be to put as near as possible to the actual centre, so shops etc could be more easily reached by everyone and improve their quality of life.

Cllr Rose left the meeting at 9.10 pm and returned at 9.13 pm.

4.10 (5.3) CCC street lighting energy – to consider arrangements and further information if received

RESOLVED to delegate to the Clerk and Chairman together to accept a quotation and to note the involvement of Utility Aid which were assisting in gathering the required quotes and certificates. (Prop AG 2nd PJ unanimous)

Cllr Ashton left the meeting at 9.15 pm.

4.11 (7.3) Speedwatch signage – to consider quotation and how this is to be funded

RESOLVED that Cllr Joslin should submit an application for three signs to be erected at the entrances to the village at a cost of £88.00 each. Cllr Joslin will provide the required photos (Prop PJ, 2nd AG, unanimous)

- 4.12 (7.3) Speedwatch – to consider suggestion for security marking
RESOLVED not to proceed with security marking. (Prop AG, 2nd EC, unanimous)

Cllr Ashton rejoined the meeting at 9.20 pm.

5. Correspondence/communications received

- 5.1 Combined Authority – Consultation on Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority Local Transport Plan

RESOLVED that members may submit their own comments should they so wish.

- 5.2 SCDC guidance on responses for tree works applications

Noted.

- 5.3 Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership – Cambourne to Cambridge Project

RESOLVED that there is nothing further to add.

At 9.27 pm, on a proposition by the Chairman, the meeting was briefly adjourned to enable a resident to ask the Parish Council to cut back brambles on the open space in Laxton Ave.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied to take item 8.2 next.

- 8.2 To receive play area and skate park inspection reports and consider if any work is required

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from RH Landscapes for the sum of £250.00 to cut, clear and treat brambles and bindweed in the Laxton Way public open space. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

6. Planning Applications and Decision notices and tree works applications

- 6.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

At 9.27 pm the meeting was adjourned to allow the applicant to speak.

- 6.1.1 S/2151/19/FL – 119 Bramley Way – Erection of open porch to front of dwelling

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

- 6.1.2 S/2107/19/VC – Agricultural field west of Grace Crescent – Variation of condition 2 (Site layout) of planning permission S/1694/16/OL

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

- 6.1.3 S/2217/19/VC – 27 St Neots Road – Variation of condition 14 (First floor windows) of planning application S/1128/14/FL – Replacement dwelling with double garage

RESOLVED to object to the application on the grounds that the applicant should comply with Condition 14 of planning application S/1128/14/FL which required frosted glass. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

- 6.1.4 S/2149/19/FL – 52 Limes Road – First floor front and rear extension and single storey rear extension

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

- 6.1.5 S/2058/19/FL – Rear of 181 St Neots Road – Two new dwellings with ancillary works to the site including hard/soft landscaping and the parking spaces

RESOLVED to make no recommendation. (Prop SR, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

- 6.2 SCDC Decision Notices

- 6.2.1 S/1645/19/VC – Agricultural field west of Grace Crescent – Variation of condition 2 (Materials) of planning permission S/4551/17/RM – Permission granted.

- 6.2.2 S/1644/19/NM – Agricultural field west of Grace Crescent – Non-material amendment of planning permission S/4551/17/RM – Permission granted.

6.2.3 S/1498/19/OL – 31 Cambridge Road – Outline planning permission with some matters reserved except for scale for a proposed erection of single storey bungalow – Withdrawn.

6.2.4 S/1482/19/FL – 17 Lambourn Road – Proposed single storey front and rear extensions linked by a section of raised roof – Permission granted.

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. Hardwick Community Centre Working Group is only considering a delay or phasing, not a bridging loan.

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

7.1.3 Proposal that a planning application is submitted for the complete Community Centre and the Parish Council to agree the cost of the application and its submission

RESOLVED to note that the Planning submission will be in approximately 9-12 months' time based on the plans already seen, costing approximately £880,000 which is 10% more than previously thought. There is a shortfall of £68,000 on a budget of £1.1m. The S106 monies will be £1,032,000.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council agrees to the Working Group submitting a planning application in approximately 9-12 months time based on the plans already seen based on a budget of £1.1m without any commitment on the Parish Council at this time on if or how any shortfall in funding might be met. (Prop AG, 2nd DW, carried with 2 abstentions)

7.1.1 Proposal that the Council considers how it may make decisions more frequently on the Community Centre

RESOLVED to delegate to the Clerk, Cllr Rose and the Chairman together to spend up to £20,000 for any reports, surveys, etc, required to take the project up to Stage 1 planning application. (Prop AG, 2nd DW, carried with 1 abstention)

7.1.4 Proposal that the Parish Council appoints CJ Surveys to undertake a topographical survey

RESOLVED to note that the Clerk, Chairman and Cllr Rose would use their delegated power to contract CJ Surveys to undertake the topographical survey at a cost of £995.00 plus VAT using the previously delegated budget.

7.1.2 Proposal for the appointment of the VAT advisor

RESOLVED that this be delegated to the Clerk, Cllr Rose and the Chairman together using the previously delegated budget. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

7.2 Speedwatch

No report.

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

RESOLVED to note that the Clerk had used her delegated powers to contract RH Landscapes on the grounds of health and safety to carry out a crown lift of trees on the open spaces ordered so that the grass cutting operatives may cut the grass safely, at a cost of £425.00 + VAT.

8.2 To receive play areas and skate park inspection reports continued

The play inspection reports were received.

RESOLVED to contract RH Landscapes to clear weeds from the perimeter at the Worcester Avenue play area and cut the grass and shrubs overhanging the fence. ^(Prop DW, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

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

Cllr Gill declared an interest in the payment for reimbursement of his expenses.

RESOLVED that the payments as listed in the finance report should be paid, plus Hardwick School (Room hire) £136.00 and (Neighbourhood Watch meeting) £10.00 and to reissue the cheque to S Turner. ^(Prop DW, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

Salary	£90.36
Salary	£137.11
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1341.73
A Gill (Expenses – mileage and APM refreshments)	£52.96
Ridgeons (Notice board materials)	£201.97
RH Landscapes (Grass cutting)	£1038.00
NEST (Pension) (DD)	£173.53

Credits, including investment interest and pavilion rent, were noted.

RESOLVED to explore internet banking with Unity Trust Bank.

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

The August meeting will be held at the Pavilion as the School is closed.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 10.45 pm.

SignedChairmandate
