

**MINUTES OF**  
**AN ORDINARY MEETING**  
**OF**  
**HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

Held in Harbury Village Hall, on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2010

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Present: Cllrs Lockley (Chairman), Patrick, Mancell, Knowles, Hancock, Grey, Darlison and Lewis.

In Attendance: Mrs N Thompson (Clerk to the Council), District Cllr Patrick, District Cllr Mann, County Cllr Stevens, Mr J Hancock (Harbury News), Mr A Sampson, Mrs S Smart and two members of the public.

**John Ridgley**

Before the start of the meeting, the Chairman requested that the Council minute its formal remembrance of Mr John Ridgley who died recently after a short illness. Mr Ridgley had made a huge contribution to village life and the well being of the community over a long period of time and will be sadly missed.

**10/15 APOLOGIES:** Apologies had been received and were accepted from Cllrs Thornley and Thompson.

**10/16 DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

The following personal interests were declared by members:-

Cllr Patrick declared an interest in item 5v, Village Hall, -member of the Village Hall Management Committee.

Cllr Hancock declared an interest in item 5v Village Hall as her husband is Chairman of the Village Hall Fundraising Committee.

Cllr Grey declared an interest in item 6i as he is a member of the Deppers Bridge Residents Association.

**10/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**Mr A Sampson (Harbury D of E Group)** – Mr Sampson spoke on behalf of the Harbury Duke of Edinburgh Award Group. The group is now up and running and would like to request a further grant for the purchase of some gas stoves for use by the group when undertaking expeditions. It is anticipated that this will cost approximately £250. The group also has a fund raising quiz planned and will be approaching other funding sources to make up a shortfall of approximately £1000. There are currently 14 young people enrolled in the scheme working towards their bronze and silver awards. It was noted that this item will be discussed under F & GP.

**Mrs S Smart** - Mrs Smart explained that she and her husband are the new owners of the land west of the B4451 within the Bishop Bowl estate. They plan to live on site, eventually having a house constructed and also to develop the Lakes as a fishery. To this end, the previous owners have agreed as part of the sale, to apply for permitted development certificates for the clubhouse, manager's house and 21 fishing lodges, although Mrs Smart explained that it was unlikely that they would construct that number as they were planning 6 – 12 lodges at most. Mrs Smart concluded by saying that she and her husband were keen to be part of the community, to encourage younger fishermen in particular and that they will also be providing disabled access to the site as part of the development. Security of the lakes was raised as a possible issue as, in previous

years, a relatively large number of people have been attracted to the lakes for swimming and “tombstoning” (jumping from the cliffs) in hot weather.

#### **10/18 MINUTES - 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**It was resolved** that the minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting** of 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010 having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a true record.

#### **10/19 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**

- i Harbury School Governors (AW)  
The clerk had received a short report from Mrs Winchester. The school is still awaiting the final decision from SDC regarding the application for the proposed swimming pool. The children and parents have raised a total of £1117 for the Haiti appeal.
- ii Public Safety  
Cllr Lockley reported that the owners of an outlying farm have been reported to the police following an incident in which a dog walker was bitten by one of their dogs whilst using the public footpath which runs through the farm. Cllr Lockley also reported that persistent instances of dog fouling in the footpath between South Parade and Percival Drive had been reported to the Council; the best solution for this would be for residents to remain vigilant as to who the perpetrator is in order that they can be reported to the police. District Councillor Patrick reported that there had been a positive meeting held between District Cllrs and Insp. Devereux. There appeared to be no current plans to close Southam Police Station although there were also no plans to reinstate a police presence at parish council meetings. It had been generally accepted by Insp. Devereux that communication with parishes could be improved. Cllr Mann reported that she had attended the recent Community Forum meeting which had largely centered around issues concerning Southam. Whilst the meetings are now working better, Cllr Mann encouraged the Council to send representatives wherever possible.
- iii Southam College (SH) – nothing to report.
- iv Twinning Association (SH)  
The Association plans a coffee morning for the 6<sup>th</sup> March and a fundraising quiz for the 7<sup>th</sup> March.
- v Village Hall (JP)  
Members of the Council had been given a tour of the newly refurbished toilets on arrival at the meeting. Future fundraising events include a Mini Beer Festival on the 13<sup>th</sup> March and it is also hoped that a further grant for £2000 can be obtained from Vision for Southam.
- vi WALC/ NALC – nothing to report.
- vii SDC & WCC Reports  
**SDC:** District Cllr Patrick reported that, due to a legal technicality centering on the S106 agreement, the planning application for development at Bush Heath Lane had been re-presented to the SDC Planning Committee earlier in the week and again consent had been granted. It is likely that the S106 payment will be £54,000 which will go to Harbury Primary School and also possibly Southam College dependant on need. The budget rise for 2010/11

will be only 1.5% due to an agreement in which staff will receive no pay rises this year. There will be a Cllrs' corner on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

**WCC:** Cllr Stevens reported that the budget increase for this year will be 2.4%. The ongoing issue of the missing Harbury sign on the Fosse has been raised again with the Area Surveyor. An extra £100,000 has been agreed for emergency work on potholes following the recent bad weather. Following a query from Cllr Lockley, Cllr Stevens reported that the findings of the library review will be available in August; the delay is due to the difficulties in finding suitable solutions for smaller libraries such as Harbury.

## 10\20 DEPPERS BRIDGE

**A. Matters Arising – nothing to report.**

**B Correspondence – none.**

**C Members Items – none.**

## 10\21 PLANNING

### A Decisions on Planning Applications

i Permission Granted with conditions by SDC:

**The Wight School, High Street:** Demolition of existing dilapidated extension and erection of single storey extension to form new community entrance lobby, disabled toilets, office, storage room and kitchen.

**18 Pineham Avenue:** Erection of single storey side and rear extensions.

iii Parish Council Made No Representation On The Following:

**Bethren's Barn, 6A Mill Street:** Installation of solar panels on roof slope on south elevation.

iv The PC Made Representations on the Following : nothing to report

v Permission Refused by SDC: nothing to report

vi Applications Withdrawn: none

vii Enforcement notices issued - none

viii Appeals: none.

ix Tree Preservation Order: none.

### B Other Planning Matters

i Harbury Primary School – Swimming Pool

It was noted that no decision has yet been reached on this application and it has not yet been referred to committee. Cllr Darlison reported that SDC had requested further information on the ventilation system and hours of opening, and that confirmation on these two items has now been returned to SDC.

ii Bush Heath Lane Development – Proposed Easement for Sewerage

The clerk reported that the easement to allow the laying of a rising main across the playing fields was now nearly completed. Following advice from WALC, this will be signed outside of a meeting by two cllrs and witnessed by the clerk.

### C Correspondence -none

D Members Items - none**10/22 PROPERTIES**A Arising from the Minutes

## i BMX Project

Following on from last month's meeting where it was reported that the Council had been successful in obtaining a £6000 grant from the WCC Community Development Fund, the clerk and Cllr Thornley had spent some time going through various other funding sources in order to identify ways to make up the shortfall. So far, this had not been successful in this as, for various different reasons, the Council does not satisfy the criteria for a number of funding bodies. Some preliminary ground clearance had been carried out and the clerk and Cllr Hancock had also met with the Grants Officer from WCC in order to look at the site and discuss the project. It is possible that she may be able to give advice on alternative funding and it is also planned to meet with the contractor to discuss if it will be possible to carry out the project in phases.

## ii Playground Reports

Following last month's meeting, the contractor, AGD has met with the supplier of the chosen see saw, Komplan and discussed the Council's requirements with him. There would seem to be no problems with ordering that piece of equipment for that space in the play area so it should be installed in the next few weeks.

## iii Cemetery Risk Assessment

Following advice from the Diocese, the clerk explained that the Council does not need to apply for a faculty for retesting of the memorials but this would be necessary if it wished to repair or lay down any memorials. The Diocese however would be unlikely to grant a faculty for the laying down of memorials except in those cases where they are exceptionally dangerous. It is proposed scheduling the re- assessment for the week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> March. Cllr Lockley commented that the Diocese advice did not adequately cover the Council for possible injuries caused by dangerous headstones and that the Council needed to take what action it felt was necessary to make those safe.

## iv Village Maintenance Contract 2010

Three quotations had been received for the village maintenance contract which will run from April 2010 to March 2013. It was noted that the quotation from Philip Cook Landscapes was cheapest overall; the clerk had taken out the references supplied on this contractor and both were found to be excellent. Following further discussion, **it was resolved:** that the quotation from Philip Cook Landscapes be accepted.

## v Harbury Football Clubs

Correspondence had recently been received from Steve Fitchett who represents the Senior Football Club. Mr Fitchett had recently purchased some white liner for the pitches at a cost of £42.06 and he requested that the Council consider refunding both this and further supplies of the liner up to approximately 40 per year – this would cost £358 net although the Council could possibly get a discount for ordering in bulk and would not need to pay any VAT on the order. The current arrangement with both the senior and junior football clubs is that the Council pays every year in order to have the pitches permanently marked with a burning agent; the clubs then both pay for their own white liner which needs to

be topped up regularly as it wears away throughout the season. The senior club also pays the Council £200 per year for rent of the pitch.

Following discussion, **it was resolved:** that the Council could not reimburse any invoices retrospectively but that it would pay for up to a maximum of 40 bags of liner per year to be used by both the junior and senior clubs.

B Correspondence - none

C Members Items

**10\23 ENVIRONMENT**

A Arising from the Minutes

i Street Lighting

It was noted that, from the 1<sup>st</sup> April, street lighting faults will need to be reported by members of the public as WCC will discontinue nightly patrols. Two street lights, one in the Beeches and one in Mill St. were reported to the clerk as being in need of repair. It was also noted that the Council will be consulted on the street lighting for the Bush Heath Lane development in due course.

ii Traffic Management

The clerk has spoken to WCC regarding the outstanding traffic calming measures and has been informed that the delay with implementing the schemes in Binswood End and Temple End is due to the contractors needing to give further training to employees due to new regulations. A further consultation is needed to move the 40mph speed sign in Butt Lane and this will be carried out shortly. If necessary, however, the funding awarded to Harbury for these measures can be carried over into the next financial year.

iii Village Improvements

Two grit bins have been ordered, one for Honiwell Close and one for Heber Drive and these will be delivered within the next two weeks.

iv Environment Day 6.3.10

All the necessary organization for the forthcoming Environment Day is now in place. The Harbury Society will be providing refreshments during the day.

v Update of Parish Plan

Further to last month's meeting, the clerk has applied, on behalf of the Council, for a grant from SDC for the update of the Parish Plan; this involved submitting an outline of the work to be carried out plus approximate costs. Included in this is provision to update the Housing Needs Survey which would be necessary to allow phases 2 and 3 of the Bush Heath Lane development go ahead.

vi Highways – Entrance to Farm on Mill Street

It was noted that a number of possible options had been explored with WCC but, as yet, one that is acceptable to both the owner of Trice's Farm and WCC had not yet been found. Cllrs Stevens and Patrick will explore this further.

B Correspondence - none

C Members Items - none

**10\24 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

A Arising from the Minutes

- i Donations to Outside Bodies: Harbury Duke of Edinburgh Award Group  
Further to the representation given to the meeting by Mr Sampson under Public Participation, **it was resolved:** to award the D of E Group a grant of £500.

B Correspondence - none

C Members Items - none

**10/25 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT Proposed by Cllr Hancock and seconded by Cllr Darlison. As per Appendix B – full details on request from the clerk.**

**10/26 ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

- i Proposed Development of 8 Dovehouse Lane

**10/27 ANY OTHER BUSINESS – none.**

**10/28 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Thursday 25th March 2010** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.38pm.

Signed.....Date.....