

MINUTES OF
AN ORDINARY MEETING
OF
HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Held in the Village Hall, Harbury on Thursday 24 June 2010 Page 701

Present: Cllrs Thompson (Chairman), Hancock, Thornley, Knowles, Mancell, Lewis

In Attendance: Mrs N Thompson (Clerk to the Council), Mrs L Ridgley (Harbury News), Mr D Bristow (Harbury Energy Group), Mr T Stubbs (Village with a Vision), PCSO Katrina Pedlar and five members of the public

IORY DAVIES

Before the start of the meeting, Cllr Hancock paid tribute to Mr Davies, a former Chairman of the Parish Council who died recently. Mr Davies was also a school governor for a number of years, sat on a number of other village committees and served the community in numerous ways; he will be remembered as someone who contributed greatly to village life and will be sadly missed.

10/077 APOLOGIES

The Council accepted apologies from Parish Cllr Lockley, District Cllrs Tonge and Mann and County Cllr Stevens. Parish Cllr Patrick had also sent her apologies for being late although she hoped to join the meeting later.

010/078 DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

The following interests were declared by members:-

Cllr Thornley declared interests in item 5v, Village Hall as she is a member of the Village Hall Management Committee.

Cllr Thompson declared an interest in item 5v, Village Hall as he is a member of the Management Committee.

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

010/079 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

David Bristow, on behalf of the Harbury Energy Group, gave a short presentation on his report which had been circulated to all members in advance of the meeting. The group, which includes Cllr Patrick and Cllr Lewis, has been meeting to discuss ways in which the community can reduce its carbon footprint both by individual actions and collective ones. It had been agreed that reducing energy consumption was the most practical way of doing this by encouraging residents to think about generating their own energy and by ensuring that new builds are as energy efficient as possible. The group had reached a consensus that community generating would probably not be practical in the immediate future although the group should be authorized to keep watch on emerging community projects elsewhere. The Chairman thanked Mr Bristow and the group for its very thorough and informative report and presentation. Following discussion, **it was resolved:** that the Council

would agree to the immediate implementation of suggested action points 4 (monitoring possible sources for grants and other incentives), 5 (authorizing the group to liaise with other village organizations) and 7 (ask the group to watch other community heat and power generation developments nationally). The Environment W/P will be asked to give its view on the other recommendations with a view to taking these forward also.

It was proposed by the Chairman and resolved, to take item 010/081ii – Public Safety as the next item of business.

10/081ii: Public Safety

PCSO Pedlar explained that she had been asked to attend due to some recent acts of vandalism and anti-social behavior in the village. Recently, 4 motorbikes carrying passengers without helmets had been issued with seizure notices. PCSO Pedlar urged residents witnessing a crime to report the matter to the police at the time it is taking place. She also recommended that representatives from the Parish Council attend the Community Forum meetings in order that their problems can be heard. Other recent incidents include the theft of a JCB from the Bush Heath Lane building site (recovered) and the dumping of a body near Chesterton (person charged). The clerk reported some incidents of nuisance in the car park and also the deliberate vandalism of a tree near to the children's play area. Cllr Hancock reported the issue of speeding delivery vans in the village particularly those making deliveries to the chemist and the doctor's surgery.

10/079 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Stubbs spoke on behalf of Village with a Vision and expanded on the group's report to the Council which had been circulated to all members. The group has recently carried out a housing needs survey and received roughly 28% feedback which has indicated that there would seem to be enough support in the village for a scheme for sheltered, supported housing to go ahead. The group's next action will be to hold an open meeting on 9th July. WCC have been wholly supportive of the proposed scheme to date and the group now has 12 days of support from the Institute of Public Care funded for its use. Members of the group have visited comparable schemes in other parts of the country and it is envisaged that the Harbury scheme would be for around 12+ units. Three possible pieces of land had been identified all of which are owned by the same family trust. Following discussion, **it was resolved:** that the Council would support the scheme in principle and that the clerk will write to the Village with a Vision group in order to confirm this. **It was further resolved :** that a decision on Parish Council funding for the group should be deferred until the July meeting.

010/080 MINUTES - 27th May 2010

It was resolved that the minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting** of the Parish Council of 27th May 2010 having been circulated be taken as read and signed as a true record.

010/081 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

- i Harbury School Governors (AW) – nothing to report.
- ii Public Safety

Further to the items discussed earlier in the meeting, Cllr Thornley had attended a joint WALC and WCC meeting held in Norton Lindsay which had focused on youth issues and provision. There had been examples from two local parishes, Bishops Itchington and Ufton, on provision for young people including a refurbished community centre at the former British Legion Club in Bishops Itchington and a youth council and free bus travel in Ufton. Cllr Thornley will investigate further how these ideas have worked and whether any might be suitable for Harbury.

- iii Southam College (SH) – nothing to report.
- iv Twinning Association (SH)
The visit to Samoa took place on 28th – 30th May with 60+ people travelling from Harbury. Cllr Hancock gave the group's apologies to the Council for not replying earlier to a request for further information on how the grant funding had been spent – this had been used to subsidize travel to Samoa for the young people included in the visit.
- v Village Hall (JP)
The fundraising committee will be hosting a coffee morning at the Tom Hauley Room on 26th June, at which plans for the next stage of renovation will be displayed. The Buy a Brick campaign has been launched and donations are already being received.
- vi WALC/ NALC – nothing to report.
- vii SDC & WCC Reports
SDC: - nothing to report.
WCC: - nothing to report.

010\082 DEPPERS BRIDGE

A. Matters Arising

- i Co-option of New Cllr
The clerk reported that, to date, there had been no response to the current vacancy for a new councillor for Deppers Bridge.

B Correspondence - none

C Members Items - none

Cllr Patrick joined the meeting.

010\083 PLANNING

A Decisions on Planning Applications

- i Permission Granted with conditions by SDC:
- ii Parish Council Made No Representation on The Following:
Tesco Stores Ltd, W of Kineton Road, Land off Northfield Rd, Kineton Rd Industrial Estate, Southam: Erection of new foodstore – revised design
- iii The PC Made Representations on the Following : nothing to report

iv Permission Refused by SDC: nothing to report

v Applications Withdrawn: none

vi Enforcement notices issued - none

vii Appeals: none.

viii Tree Preservation Order: none.

B Other Planning Matters

i Harbury Fields, Bush Heath Lane

A short "Start on Site" ceremony had taken place on 17.6.10 and was attended by Cllrs Lockley and Thornley. Work on the rising main across the playing fields had now commenced.

Name of site: Concerns about the name of the new development had been raised by Mr Davies who runs a caravan site called "Harbury Fields Farm" in Middle Rd. Mr Davies is anxious that confusion does not arise from his customers being misdirected to the new development and vice versa. The clerk reported that she had contacted Linfoot Homes regarding this but had not yet received a reply.

S106 Agreement: Linfoot Homes have contacted the Council with a suggestion that people with children registered at Harbury School (for a minimum of 12 months) should be included as a priority group within the S106 agreement.

Members felt however that the houses were intended for those with a strong connection with Harbury and that having a child at the school did not constitute this. The clerk was instructed to respond to Linfoot Homes to the effect that the S106 agreement should remain in its present form.

ii High Speed Rail Link – nothing to report.

iii East Area Planning Committee

Cllr Patrick reported that she had attended the earlier meeting of the East Area Planning Committee at which the application for the primary school's swimming pool had been refused planning permission on the grounds of the size of the development and intrusion on neighbours. The retrospective planning application to build a tennis court at The Lodge, Hall Lane had been given approval.

C Correspondence – none

D Members Items

010/084 PROPERTIES

A Arising from the Minutes

i BMX Project

The clerk has received confirmation from the contractor that the work on the track will commence and be completed before the children break up from school. Cllr Thornley request that the contractor be given a contact number for additional soil should he require it.

ii Playground Reports

The new see saw has been installed. It was noted that the playground inspections carried out by Cllrs Thompson and Knowles will continue to be done on a fortnightly basis through the summer with the exception of the school holidays when they will be done weekly. The clerk thanked Cllr Knowles for his help recently in removing a large quantity of chocolate from the children's play equipment.

iii Cemetery Risk Assessment

There is nothing further to report at present. The clerk has attached small cards to the memorials that remain staked giving a contact telephone number for relatives visiting the graves.

iv Pineham Farm Allotments

It had been proposed by WCC to increase the rent for the allotments to £750 per year (currently £598). This is the first rent increase for ten years. It was noted that the allotments currently yields £880 in rent by charging £20 per allotment per annum and that all the plots are full with a waiting list. During the previous financial year the total running costs had been in the region of £1300 which had included water rates and the extension of the water supply to the allotments at the top of the site. Cllr Mancell stated that he believed that the County Council needed 12 months notice to change the rent in the same way that the Parish Council gives its own tenants 12 months notice of increases. The clerk was instructed to check if this is the case.

v Harbury Tennis Club – Rent Review of Water Easement

It had been proposed by WCC that the annual charge for the water easement should be increased from £75 per year to £200 but that WCC would enter into a 10 year agreement in exchange for this increase with one additional increase of £50 per year after five years and with legal fees for the cost of drawing up the new agreement to be met by WCC. Members felt that this increase was excessive and unreasonable and the clerk was instructed to query this with WCC. The Tennis Club has been sent details of the proposed increase and the clerk will seek their views on it.

B Correspondence

i Beer Festival 2010

Permission to use the playing fields as an overflow car park for the Beer Festival on the first weekend of September had been requested by the Campaign for Real Ale. This was granted.

C Members Items

i Memorial Garden

The clerk pointed out that the small wall in the Memorial Garden has been broken again. It was agreed that this should be repaired.

010\085 ENVIRONMENT

A Arising from the Minutes

i Street Lighting

The clerk was instructed to check with Linfoot Homes, whether LED lights could be fitted in the new development.

ii Village Improvements – nothing to report.

iii Traffic Management

It was noted that the white line restricting parking opposite to Tryce's Farm has now been installed but that it is not considered long enough to resolve the parking problems. The clerk reported that plans to move the 40mph speed sign in Butt Lane have been abandoned by WCC due to opposition by the police to the proposal.

iv Update of Parish Plan – nothing to report

B Correspondence

i Warwickshire Draft Local Transport Plan

Correspondence had been circulated to members regarding the draft Local Transport Plan (LTP3); the deadline date for this consultation is 28th August 2010. Cllr Patrick commented that she had attempted to enter comments online but that the consultation form has not been well thought out and provides little “structure” for responses to be made.

C Members Items – nothing to report**010\086 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**A Arising from the Minutes

i Grants to Outside Bodies: nothing to report

ii Review of Internal Audit 2010

Cllr Mancell reported that the F & GP W/P had met to review the process of the internal audit for 2010. The process was considered to be working well and it was considered that adequate checks on the finances of the Council are in place. It had been recommended that the Council include in its accounts for next year, a breakdown of its funds including “ring fenced” accounts. It has also been agreed with the internal auditor that the process of audit will ideally start earlier next year in order to prevent a large amount of work close to the deadline.

iii Approval of Statement of Accounts for the Financial Year to March 2010

The Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement had been circulated to all members. **It was resolved:** that the Council accepts the accounts for the financial year to March 2010 and that the Council answers “yes” to all questions on the Governance Statement, proposed by Cllr Mancell and seconded by Cllr Patrick. Following this, the Chairman signed the Statement on behalf of the Council.

iv Budget Monitoring

Budget figures updated for the first two months of the financial year had been forwarded to all members in advance of the meeting. There were no queries regarding the figures.

v Update of Office Equipment

Cllr Mancell explained that he and the clerk are currently researching for a replacement for the current laptop used by the clerk which is now 4 years old. It is proposed to replace this with an updated specification laptop possibly of a slightly smaller physical size. The cost of this is estimated to be in the region of £650. Cllr Mancell also explained that, once the best value machine had been

found, a Council resolution will be required to allow either him or the clerk to purchase this using their private credit card.

vi Change of Meeting Date – November 2010

Cllr Lockley had requested that the November meeting date be changed from Thursday 25th November to either Thursday 18th or Tues 23rd. Following discussion, **it was resolved**; that the date should be changed to Tuesday 23rd November. The clerk will circulate an update list of meeting dates.

B Correspondence

i Harbury Rugby Football Club

Correspondence had been received from Harbury Rugby Football Club thanking the Council for their recent grant of £3000.

ii Harbury Choir School

Harbury Choir School had sent a card thanking the Parish Council for their recent grant which had been spent purchasing an overhead projector for the use of the group.

C Members Items - none.

010\087 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT Proposed by Cllr Patrick and seconded by Cllr Mancell. As per Appendix A; full details available on request from the clerk.

010\088 ANY OTHER BUSINESS - none

010\089 ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA - none

010\090 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 22nd July at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.27pm.

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