

MINUTES OF
AN ORDINARY MEETING
OF
HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Held in the Village Hall, Harbury on Thursday 22 July 2010 Page 709

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

In Attendance: Mrs N Thompson (Clerk to the Council), Mrs L Ridgley (Harbury
News), Mr S Ekins, Mr B Haywood, Mrs P Summers and three
members of the public

10/091 APOLOGIES

The Council accepted apologies from Parish Cllrs Lockley and Patrick, District
Cllr Tonge and County Cllr Stevens.

010/092 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, in item 7i, Bush Heath Lane as she
has expressed an interest in properties on the development and item 10iii
Harbury Heritage Group as she is secretary to the Group.

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

010/093 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Cllr Thornley raised concerns about the system of housing allocation for
rented homes at the Bush Heath Lane development. This will be dealt with
using Stratford District Council system of "Home Choice Plus"; members of
the public will need to register in advance on the housing list and will then
need to "bid" for the properties, either online or by using a 0845 telephone
number. It is not SDC's policy to publicly advertise properties in the local
press. Cllr Thornley felt that a number of people in the village, particularly
older residents, are not aware of this system and that it has not been well
publicized. Following discussion, it was agreed that the clerk would raise
these concerns with the District Council representatives, that information
obtained from SDC by District Cllr Mann would be published in the Harbury
News and that the clerk would also obtain any publicity material available
from SDC to hand out to people calling in at the Parish Office.

Mrs Pratt raised a concern about the blocked drain in Park Lane, immediately
outside the Cemetery and also about the streetlight outside Park Lane Terrace
which is currently obscured by foliage making the corner very dark. It was
agreed that the clerk would report the drain to WDC along with the following:
two further blocked drains outside the Co-op in the High Street and the farm
entrance in Mill Street, overgrown hedgerows on the junction with Middle Rd
and the Fosse Way and overgrown vegetation around the barrier at the

Bendigo Mitchell crossroads again on the Fosse Way. The clerk will also write a letter to the householder concerned regarding the obscured street light.

District Cllr Mann joined the meeting.

010/094 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Details of the three candidates for co-option had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The Chairman gave the three candidates for the co-option an opportunity to speak briefly to the Council explaining their reasons for applying to be a Parish Councillor. It was also noted that, although a vacancy exists for the Deppers Bridge ward, no residents from Deppers Bridge have come forward. It would, however, be possible for one of the three existing candidates to represent Deppers Bridge as they live within three miles of the ward.

It was resolved: to exclude the press and public in order to allow the Council to vote on the co-option.

In closed session it was agreed that all three candidates were of a very high standard.

It was proposed that Pat Summers be co-opted to fill the Harbury vacancy; **this was resolved.**

It was further proposed that Steve Ekins be co-opted to fill the Deppers Bridge vacancy; **this was resolved.**

The candidates were informed of the Council's decision and Mr Ekins and Mrs Summers signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

010/095 MINUTES - 24th June 2010

It was noted that a query had been raised by Cllr Lewis regarding item 10/083 – Planning, Bush Heath Lane (use of the name Harbury Fields). Following discussion, **it was resolved:** that this item should have read in addition to the existing text: “The clerk was instructed to write formally to Linfoot Homes regarding the use of the name “Harbury Fields” as a marketing name for the development”. The clerk will annotate the minutes with this amendment and will write formally to Linfoot Homes setting out the Council's concerns on this matter.

It was resolved that the minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting** of the Parish Council of 24th June 2010 having been circulated be taken as read and signed as a true record.

010/096 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

i Harbury School Governors (AW)

The clerk had received a short written report from Mrs Winchester. The school has accepted 30 children for the Reception class in September. Following the refusal to grant permission for the proposed swimming pool by the Area Planning Committee, the Governing Body has voted on whether to appeal against this decision. Following considerable discussion and, after taking into consideration advice from the design architect, the Governors voted to proceed with the appeal.

ii Public Safety

The clerk had previously reported that the picnic table next to the tennis courts had been vandalized by having the top removed and broken. This section of the

table has now been removed from the site to prevent it being used to cause further damage and the incident has been reported to the Police.

- iii Southam College (SH)
Cllr Hancock reported that the Governing Body has been advised that the school will undergo an Ofsted inspection during the next year. One area highlighted for improvement in order to satisfy the current inspection criteria is that of security of the school site and improvements to this will be undertaken during the summer holiday. 234 children will be joining the school in Year 7 in September.
- iv Twinning Association (SH)
The recent Bastille evening had been successful and had raised £250.
- v Village Hall (JP)
Cllr Thornley reported that, following the launch of the “Buy a Brick” campaign, the response from the village has, to date, been excellent. Current work on the Hall includes the installation of sliding doors between the Farley Room and the former youth room; this work has been funded partly by a grant from Southam 20/20 Vision.
- vi WALC/ NALC
Cllr Lewis had attended a training session aimed at recently elected or co-opted members and had found this to be very informative. The Chairman explained that the most recently co-opted members would also have the opportunity to attend training events in the future.
- vii SDC & WCC Reports
SDC: - District Cllr Mann explained that she had forwarded details from SDC on the Home Choice Plus system to the clerk and requested that her contact details be included with the article for residents with queries.
WCC:. – nothing to report.

010\097 DEPPERS BRIDGE

A. Matters Arising

- i Telephone Kiosk
The clerk reported that she had placed a notice advertising the adoption of the kiosk by the Council within the kiosk itself.

B Correspondence - none

C Members Items - none

010\098 PLANNING

A Decisions on Planning Applications

- i Permission Granted with conditions by SDC:
The Lodge, Hall Lane: Change of use from paddock land to domestic tennis court. Construct tarmac tennis court hardstanding and fencing (retrospective).
Walworth Farm, Bishops Itchington: Erection of agricultural building
4 Wagstaffe Close: Proposed single storey extension and insertion of pitched roof to front projection of garage
W of Kinton Rd, Kinton Road Ind. Est, Tesco Stores: Variation 11 of outline planning permission to increase car parking spaces from 180 to 183

- ii Parish Council Made No Representation On The Following:
4 Wagstaffe Close: Proposed single storey rear extension and insertion of pitched roof to front projection of garage
11 Wagstaffe Close: Proposed single storey extension to front
Eastfields Far, Deppers Bridge: Erection of new steel portal framed building for the purposes of grain storage
Harbury House, Butt Lane: 2-3no. ash: prune back branches overhanging footpath and the garden of Meadowbank
6 Wagstaffe Close: Proposed single storey rear extension
- iii The PC Made Representations on the Following :
38 Farley Avenue: Proposed one and a half storey side extension and flat roof dormer to the front: COMMENT: The Parish Council does have some concerns that, due to the elevated position of this plot in relation to houses in Temple End, this will cause some properties to be very overlooked. The District Council should check if it has properly informed residents in Temple End of this proposed development.
- iv Permission Refused by SDC:
Harbury C of E Combined School, Mill Street: Proposed new swimming pool building

B Other Planning Matters

- i Harbury Fields, Bush Heath Lane
 It was noted that work to cross the car park with the rising main will take place in the next two weeks.
- ii High Speed Rail Link
 Cllr Thompson and Cllr Ekins agreed to meet informally in the future to discuss the proposed High Speed Rail link as this will have its greatest effect on Deppers Bridge. The clerk was requested to send copies of all previous correspondence on HS2 to Cllr Ekins.

C Correspondence – none

D Members Items

010/099 PROPERTIES

A Arising from the Minutes

- i BMX Project
 The first stage of the BMX track had now been completed and is being used.

The clerk had circulated the proposed wording for a sign for the track and this

wording was agreed as per the clerk's report with the exception of changing "motorbikes" to "motorcycles" – "Motorcycles and scooters are strictly prohibited from using this facility". **It was resolved** to accept a quotation for the production of the sign which was found to be £94 plus £13.50 for anti-vandal paint, plus £60 approx. for installation and poles. It was also agreed that the clerk would put a short article in the Harbury News, informing residents about the new track and warning parents that

their children should use appropriate safety equipment. Future maintenance of the track was also discussed and it was agreed that long term, a limestone covering should be investigated and in the short term, the site would need to be weed sprayed. Finally, the clerk was requested to gain a quotation for seeding the area between the track and the skateboard park which has now been levelled.

ii Playground Reports

It was agreed that the clerk will arrange for the base of the damaged table and the four seats to be removed from the site and that the Council will research alternative options for a new table to be included in the budget for next year. Cllr Thompson reported that a section of the surround netting of the tennis court had also been damaged. The clerk was instructed to get a quotation for its repair.

A quotation from Colin Sheasby had been received for the removal of the damaged tree at the children's play area, the cutting back of branches obscuring the play equipment and weed spraying and removal of a small tree in the Cemetery. **This was resolved**, cost £470.

iii Cemetery Risk Assessment – nothing to report.

iv Pineham Farm Allotments

Following negotiation with WCC, a revised rent of £650 per annum (currently £598) had been proposed for the allotments, set for 3 years. It was noted that this is £100 less than was previously proposed. **It was resolved**: that this rent be accepted. It was further noted that the allotment rent charged to tenants should be reviewed in 2011.

v Harbury Tennis Club – Rent Review of Water Easement

It was noted that it is now proposed that this will increase to £150 per year (formally £75), set for 5 years, after which it will increase to £200 per year. The previous proposal had been that it would increase to £200 immediately. The clerk had sought the views of the Tennis Club on this and reported that the Club remains unhappy about the proposed increase as it appears to have no justification in a time of relatively very low inflation. It was agreed that the clerk would ask WCC for a justification of the proposed rise. It was also noted that the review of the water easement and the review of the allotment rent are two separate issues and should be treated as such.

B Correspondence

C Members Items

010\0100 ENVIRONMENT

A Arising from the Minutes

i Street Lighting

The clerk was requested to monitor the streetlights outside Walnut Cottage and at the top of Hall Lane to check if foliage is obscuring their light and also to contact Linfoot Homes regarding any progress on the LED lights for the Bush Heath Lane development.

- ii Village Improvements
It was noted that the low stone wall in the Memorial Garden has now been repaired.
- iii Traffic Management
The clerk has requested further information on the bollards ordered for Binswood End but had, to date, not received a response from WCC.
- iv Update of Parish Plan – nothing to report
- v Energy Group
The Environment W/P will be meeting shortly to discuss the recommendations made by the Energy Group.

B Correspondence

- i Victorian Street Fayre – 9.10.10
Correspondence had been received from the group organizing the Victorian Street Fayre, seeking the Council's views on this including the closure of Chapel Street during the Fayre. It was agreed that the Council had no objections to this.

C Members Items – nothing to report

010\0101 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES

A Arising from the Minutes

- i Grants to Outside Bodies:
Cllr Thornley reported that the Theatre Group wished to make an application to help with the cost of the removal of items from the storage space in the roof of the Village Hall. The Group will write formally to the Council in time for the September meeting.
- ii Update of Office Equipment
Following research by Cllr Mancell, a quotation had been obtained from a Southam based company, Dealer Systems Ltd. This was for £710 for a Lenovo ThinkPad SL510 or for £760 if the Council decided to upgrade to the software package which includes Access. Cllr Mancell pointed out that this compares to £628 from Dell Computers but ordering is made considerably easier by using a local company as there is no need to use a personal credit card. It was also proposed that the Council purchase a 20inch wide screen monitor for use in the office £110, a scanner £60 and an extended 3 year on site warranty for £66. **This was resolved.**
- iii Harbury Heritage Group
Cllr Thompson declared an interest in this item.
Correspondence had been received from the Heritage Group requesting a formal letter of support from the Parish Council for the development of the Heritage Room. **It was resolved:** that the clerk should write to the group stating the Council's support for this project and giving examples of how the Council itself might make use of the room e.g. for the storage of archive material, as an open room for consultations and for the councillor's surgery mornings.
- iv Appointment of Cemetery Assistant

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It was resolved: that this item should be dealt with as the last item of business with the press and public excluded.

B Correspondence

C Members Items - none.

010\0102 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT Proposed by Cllr Hancock and seconded by Cllr Knowles. As per Appendix B – for full details please contact the clerk.

010/0103 ANY OTHER BUSINESS - none

010\0104 ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA - none

010\0105 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 23rd September at the Village Hall.

The Council went into closed session to discuss item 10/0101(iv) – Appointment of Cemetery Assistant.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

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