

MINUTES OF
AN ORDINARY MEETING
OF
HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Held in the Farley Room, Village Hall, Harbury on Thursday 28th April 2011

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Present: Cllrs Lockley (Chairman), Hancock, Knowles, Lewis, Mancell,
Patrick, Summers, Thompson & Thornley

In Attendance: Mrs N Thompson (Clerk to the Council), Mrs L Ridgley (Harbury
News), District Cllr Mann, County Cllr Stevens and three members
of the public.

011/046 APOLOGIES

The Council had received and accepted apologies from Cllr Ekins.

011/047 DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

The following interests were declared by members:-

Cllr Lockley declared an interest in item 5, Harbury Library as he is a member of the Steering Committee.

Cllr Patrick declared an interest in item 6v, Village Hall as she is a member of the Village Hall Management Committee.

Cllr Thornley declared an interest in item 6v, Village Hall as she is a member of the Management Committee.

Cllr Thompson declared an interest in item 6v, Village Hall as he is a member of the Management Committee.

Cllr Hancock declared an interest in items 6v, Village Hall as her husband is the Chairman of the Fundraising Committee.

011/048 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: 6 Chapel Street

A neighbour of 6 Chapel Street, Harbury, made representation to the Council on the proposed two storey extension for that property. It was suggested that the extension, if permitted, would block light to neighbouring properties and is an inappropriate development for this type of property. Members considered the plans of the proposed development and, following discussion, **it was resolved:** that the Council should make a comment on this application regarding the issues of light, the detrimental effect on neighbouring properties and the fact that the proposed extension extends beyond the building line of other properties in the row. The Clerk was also instructed to suggest that the planning officer visit the site in order to get a better idea of what is proposed.

11/049 MINUTES - 24th March 2011

It was resolved that the minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting** of the Parish Council of 24th March 2011 having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a true record.

011/050 HARBURY LIBRARY: Consideration of Proposal from Steering Group

Cllr Lockley outlined the proposals from the Steering Group for Harbury Library, which has been previously circulated to all members. It is proposed

that the Parish Council agrees to underwrite or guarantee the running costs of the Wight School building for a period of three years in the event of sufficient funds not being raised by activities held within the building. These costs would include utility bills, rates and overheads such as cleaning but would not include structural repairs or the costs of converting the building in readiness for new purposes as a grant for the latter is being sought from WCC. It is hoped however, that plans for the use of the building such as a café, adult education classes and the continuation of the library service in some form will mean that the running costs can be met without the need for the Parish Council to contribute to them. The building is held in trust by the Coventry Diocese whilst it is being used for educational purposes, however, should these end, ownership and the proceeds of any sale will revert to Warwickshire County Council. Cllr Mancell queried why the Steering Group will not have a formal agreement with the trustees on the continuation of the running of the building. It was explained that this would not be necessary as the Parochial Church Council will effectively be running the building and any guarantee or agreement given by the Parish Council will be made to the PCC. Other concerns were also discussed including the long term future of the building and the maintenance of it to date. Following this, **it was resolved:** that financial support for the proposals should be agreed in principle, subject to a suitable set of terms and conditions being drawn up and presented to the May meeting of the Parish Council and subsequently agreed by both the Parish Council and the PCC. Cllr Mancell will draft a document listing terms in conjunction with one other councillor.

011/051 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

- i Harbury School Governors (AW): Nothing to report.
- ii Public Safety
Cllr Summers reported that there had been a number of disturbances in the Village Hall car park recently and that residents living nearby were being encouraged to report all incidents to the police. It was agreed that Cllr Summers will attend the next Community Forum meeting in order to report these problems.
- iii Southam College (SH)
Cllr Hancock reported that the budget for the next school year had been approved and that planning was currently underway for building work to be undertaken in the next three years. After considerable delays, work on the new all-weather football pitch will commence soon.
- iv Twinning Association (SH)
The Association had recently held a successful skittles evening and is now awaiting the arrival of representatives from Samoia on 3rd June. It is hoped that some of the visitors will be able to participate in the Wheelbarrow Race.
- v Village Hall (JP)
The Management Committee had held its AGM on the 19th April; the committee members remain unchanged for the next year. The repairs on the roof have now been completed; new curtains have been ordered for the Hall and a new kitchen. It is also hoped that photovoltaic panels may be fitted in the future.

vi WALC/ NALC: Nothing to report.

vii SDC & WCC Reports

SDC: Cllr Mann reported that the District is currently considering an application made to the County Council for an anaerobic digestion facility at Gaydon. Although this is unlikely to affect Harbury to any great extent, it could result in greater traffic on Butt Lane and on the Fosse. It was agreed that the Clerk would formulate a comment on this application in consultation with Cllr Patrick. The next Cllrs' Corner will be held in Harbury on 14.5.11; Parish Cllrs Summers and Thornley will attend this.

WCC: Cllr Stevens reported that he is meeting with the officer from WCC to discuss the repositioning of the speed limit sign for Bush Heath Lane on 3.6.11; it was agreed that Cllr Thompson would also attend on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Stevens also reported that there may be opportunities for further amendments to the proposed bus service cuts and that the County is currently consulting on the Waste Consultation, Core Strategy. There may be changes to the Area Committee and Community Forums in the future.

011\052 DEPPERS BRIDGE

A. Matters Arising – nothing to report.

B Correspondence - none

C Members Items - none

011\053 PLANNING

A Decisions on Planning Applications

i Permission Granted with Conditions:

Hazebrook, The Pound: Construction of a timber framed art studio and workshop

19 Mill Street: Single storey timber outbuilding to replace existing dilapidated garage

ii The PC made no Representation on the Following:

Stapenhall Farm, Deppers Bridge: Extension of time to previously approved application (Ref: 08/01795/FUL) for substitution of house type (minor amendments to previous approved proposal 07/01269/FUL)

Chesterton House Farm: Proposed erection of agricultural barn

iii The PC Made Representations on the Following :

Churchlands Farm, Ufton Road: COMMENT: There are concerns about an increase in vehicle movements to and from this site associated with this application. Proposed provision for vehicles is described as “50+” cars, 20 motorcycles, 3 disabled spaces and 46 cycle spaces. This allows potential for a large number of vehicle movements per day and, although the adjacent Churchlands Farm is a light industrial area, it is also close to a largely residential area which would be adversely affected by this.

iv Permission Refused by SDC: nothing to report

v Applications Withdrawn:

1 Greenhill Farm, Station Road: Proposed single storey oak framed rear extension.

vi Appeals: nothing to report

B Other Planning Matters

i Bush Heath Lane Development

The Clerk had circulated information supplied by Linfoot Homes on the sale of the private housing at Bush Heath Lane to all members. With the exception of two properties, all the nine houses have now either completed or are sold subject to contract.

ii High Speed Rail Link – nothing to report

C Correspondence

i Stratford District Council: Pre-Application Advice, 8 Dovehouse Lane
Correspondence from SDC regarding pre-application advice given to the owners of the Dovehouse Lane site had been circulated to all members. The Clerk was instructed to respond to the planning officer stating that the Parish Council would welcome the opportunity to discuss any revised plans when they are received. Without seeing the plans previously submitted, the PC could not comment on them but would not support any proposals leading to a high density of development on the site.

D Members Items

Cllrs Hancock and Thompson had attended a planning forum on 1.4.11 which had included a series of presentations on the Core Strategy and planning. There had also been a useful overview given of the Localism Bill and details of this had been passed to the Clerk.

011/054 PROPERTIES

A Arising from the Minutes

i BMX Project

It was noted that the contractor still needs to complete the agreed work to improve drainage on the site.

ii Playground Reports

Painting of Equipment: The Clerk had not yet had an opportunity to obtain quotes for this work.

Picnic Table: The new picnic table has been ordered. It was noted that there were some issues with the old position of the previous table and it was agreed that the Properties W/P will meet to discuss a better position for the new table when it arrives.

Slabs Adjacent to Tennis Courts: A quotation for the repair of approximately 25 of these had been received for £175; **this was resolved.**

Central Post of Barrier System: The post had been temporarily removed to allow the surfacing contractors onto the playing fields and whilst unsecured, it had been removed. The clerk has ordered a replacement which should arrive in around two weeks.

iii Cemetery Risk Assessment

It was noted that the Properties W/P will discuss the remaining staked headstones when they next meet.

B Correspondence

- i Harbury Junior Football Club
The Junior Football Club had asked for permission to use the playing fields on 2nd July for a football tournament; this was agreed with the provision that any damage to the fields be made good.
- ii Campaign for Real Ale – Harbury Beer Festival
CAMRA had requested permission to use part of the playing fields as an overflow car park during the Beer Festival which is due to be held on the weekend of 3rd and 4th September. This was agreed with the provision that any damage to the fields be made good.
- iii Harbury Carnival 2011
Correspondence had been received from Harbury Carnival Committee requesting permission to use the playing fields for the Carnival as usual on 11th June. Permission for this was agreed with the provision that any damage to the fields is made good, that all litter is removed from the site and that the bollards are replaced at the end of the event.
- iv Stratford District Council: Highways Verge Cutting 2011
Correspondence had been received from SDC stating that S136 money paid to reimburse the Council for cutting SDC owned grass verges within the parish will be reduced by one sixth for the financial year 2011/12.

C Members Items

- i BMX Track
Cllr Thornley said that she had received an e-mail from a BMX enthusiast living in the village who had made a number of suggestions on how the current BMX track could be improved. Cllr Thornley had also visited a “pump track” in Bishops Tachbrook which had a limestone covering applied to it. It was agreed that the resident concerned should be invited to meet with the Properties W/P.

01\055 ENVIRONMENT

A Arising from the Minutes

- i Street Lighting
The Clerk reported that there has been a delay in the supply of the ordered new LED lights and that she will follow this up with the supplier.
- ii Village Improvements – nothing to report.
- iii Traffic Management – nothing to report.
- iv Update of Parish Plan
There have now been 225 responses received which includes all the hard copies received to date. These have been manually entered onto the system by the Clerk. A final notice about completing the plan will be in the May edition of the Harbury & Ladbroke News.
- v Energy Group

The Energy Group's last meeting included a talk on photovoltaic cells; the next meeting will be held on 25.5.11. The Group is hoping to organize training for a number of "Energy Champions" who would then be able to explain energy options to interested residents.

vi Reduction in Bus Services – WCC

The Clerk had been passed a copy of a petition signed by residents and others living in neighbouring villages protesting against cuts in the flexibus service. A copy of the petition has been sent to Warwickshire County Council.

B Correspondence - none

C Members Items

i Footpath: Hereburgh Way

Cllr Lewis pointed out that the footpath constructed to link Hereburgh Way (Bush Heath Lane) with the remainder of houses on Bush Heath Lane did not include a dropped kerb at the Manor Road junction. Also, an area of approximately 2ft linking the new footpath with the one in Manor Road had been left as grass. It was agreed that this would be raised with Linfoot Homes.

ii Japanese Knotweed

Cllr Thornley pointed out that there is a new crop of Japanese Knotweed growing on the road leading out of the village heading in the direction of the Bendigo Mitchell crossroads on the Fosse Way. The Clerk will report this to WCC.

011\056 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES

A Arising from the Minutes

i Audit & End of Year Accounts 2010/11

The final part of the internal audit will shortly be carried out.

ii Review of Standing Orders

Cllr Mancell reported that the Clerk has made some initial suggested changes to the Model Standing Orders and that these will now be edited and refined by himself and Cllr Lockley. A final draft of the document will be circulated prior to the May meeting.

iii Parish Office

Revised proposed terms of no increase in year one, followed by no more than 5% increase in years two and three had been made by the Parish Council to the landlord. The Clerk is waiting to hear back formally whether these terms are acceptable to the landlord.

iv Donations to Outside Bodies: nothing to report.

B Correspondence

i Harbury Village Hall

Correspondence had been received from Harbury Village Hall, thanking the Parish Council for their recent grant for professional fees incurred in the redevelopment of the Hall. It was noted that, at a recent meeting of the Village Hall Committee, it had been agreed that it should be clearly shown in the accounts what the Parish Council's grant funding had been used for.

C Members Items - none

011\057 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT Proposed by Cllr Lockley and seconded by Cllr Thompson. As per Appendix B – full details on request from the Clerk.

11/058 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i Annual Parish Meeting
Clerk reminded the heads of the working parties that they should forward their reports for the Annual Parish Report to her no later than 5th May.
- ii Councillor Training
Cllr Summers commented that she and Cllr Ekins had attended a training session aimed at new clerks and councillors. This had been very informative and it was reassuring to know that most practices at Harbury are correct.

011\059 ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA - none

011\060 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on **Thursday 12th May 2011** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. **The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council** will be held on **Tuesdays 24th May** at 7.30pm in Harbury Village Hall and will be followed by an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

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