

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

Held in the Farley Room, Harbury Village Hall, Harbury on Thursday 28 June 2012 at 7.30pm.

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

In Attendance: Mrs A Biddle (Clerk to the Council), County Cllr R Stevens, Mrs L Ridgley (Harbury News), Cllr S Tagg-Wilkinson (Bishop's Itchington PC) and 1 member of the public

**12/095 APOLOGIES:** District Cllr Mann; District Cllr Hamburger

**12/096 DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

The following interests were declared by members:-

Cllr Lewis declared an interest in item 11B.i, as her child attends Harbury Pre-School.

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

Cllr Lockley declared an interest in item 5, Harbury Library as he is Chairman of the Library Steering Group, and also in item 11B.i as his child attends Harbury Pre-School.

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

**12/097 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Harbury Pre-School – Grant Application**

The chairman altered the order of the agenda to allow a representative from Harbury Pre-School to talk about their request for a grant towards the cost of installing a canopy for the outside play area. Various funding bodies have been approached, including the parish council. £2,000 is still needed. After a short discussion, the council **RESOLVED** to give a grant of £500.

**Wind Farm Planning Application**

A representative from Bishop's Itchington Parish Council gave a presentation about the current planning application for a wind farm between Bishop's Itchington and Knightcote. He explained why Bishop's Itchington PC and other neighbouring parishes had objected to the application and provided more detailed information about the proposal and the effects it would have on the surrounding area. Councillors asked questions for clarification of some of the facts. It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the appropriate time on the agenda.

**12/098 MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the following meetings of the parish council having already been circulated, were to be taken as read and they were therefore signed as a true and complete record of those meetings:

Annual Meeting, 10 May 2012

Ordinary Meeting, 10 May 2012

Special Meeting (planning matter), 24 May 2012

**12/099 HARBURY LIBRARY****i. Interim Agreement**

A draft interim agreement between the parish council and the Wight School Trustees had been prepared as a temporary measure until the proper lease is finalised. Cllr Mancell (chairman of the library working party) and Cllr Thompson (vice- chairman of the parish council) duly signed the document.

**ii. Quotations for boiler service and maintenance**

This was not discussed because late this afternoon, a revised draft lease had been received from the parish council's solicitor which raised a number of questions including who is responsible for the boiler. These points need to be clarified before making any decisions about a maintenance contract. It was agreed that the working party should meet to discuss further and report back at the next PC meeting.

**Update**

Cllr Lockley reported that everything is going well. The café is currently making enough money to support the library and it is hoped that the café's opening hours can be extended. It has been agreed with Harbury Pre-School that the Library Group will pay 75% of the utilities bills. They are currently trying to get Severn Trent to review the water charges as it appears that most of the water does not drain into a public sewer.

**Formal Opening**

The formal opening will take place on Saturday, 21 July 2012 at 2.00pm. Author Celia Rees will be the special guest. Members of the parish council are invited to attend.

**12/100 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES****i. Harbury School Governors**

No formal report had been received. It was noted that a new Y5 teacher has been appointed.

**ii. Public Safety**

Marion Millington continues to attend the IAG meeting but there had been nothing to report. She has made some leaflets available.

Cllr Patrick has suggested to the PCSO that it might be better to use the library for his surgery instead of the Co-op. He has said that he will discuss this with his colleagues.

**iii. Southam College**

No formal report has been received. It was noted that the college is currently consulting on whether to become an academy.

**iv. Twinning Association**

Nothing to report.

**v. Village Hall**

The Harbury Games has raised £1500 for village hall funds. The new kitchen provides excellent catering facilities for events such as this.

**vi. WALC/ NALC**

The clerk reported that she had completed her training on the new general power of competence this afternoon. She now has to submit a piece of written work in order to update her qualification so that the council can use the new power.

**vii. SDC & WCC Reports**

Cllr Stevens had attended the Local Government Association's conference. The discussions had included:

- The police commissioner elections in November 2012
- The ageing population and the impact on the amount spent on providing health care. It is hoped that the NHS and social services will work more closely together.
- The new community right to challenge, and how local councils can take on delivery of services.

Cllr Stevens also reported that a transport and highways update had been circulated. The business case for HS2 is weakening although the Government still seems determined to go ahead.

Cllr Lockley complained that WCC had not given enough notice about the surface dressing work carried out in Mill Street.

There is a problem with overgrown vegetation along the crash barrier by the speed camera at the Fosse Way/Harbury Lane junction. It needs to be cut back at the same time as the rest of the verge and on a regular basis. The clerk will report this.

**12/101 DEPPERS BRIDGE****A Matters Arising****i. Sewer Problem**

Some progress has been made. A camera is to be used to find out the condition of the pipe and give Severn Trent an idea of the cost of repair.

**B Correspondence**

None

**C Members Items**

None

**12/102 PLANNING****A Decisions on Planning Applications**

- i. Permission Granted with Conditions:  
**2 Penelope Close:** Single storey front extension  
**1 Park Lane:** Single storey rear extension  
**Western House, Station Road:** T1 – Willow- Fell  
**Village Hall, South Parade:** T1 – Horse Chestnut – Fell; T2- Horse Chestnut – remove dead wood; G1 – Sweet Chestnut – remove deadwood
- ii. The PC made **no representations** on the following:  
**The Cottage, High Street** – LBC - Re-pointing of north (front elevation) of cottage. Current cement mortar removed and stone re-pointed using sand and hydraulic lime mortar  
**Land between Bishop's Itchington, Gaydon and Knightcote to south east of B4451:** Proposed erection of 5 wind turbines, up to maximum tip height of 125 metres, and other ancillary development including a new vehicular access of Gaydon Road (B4451), access tracks, vehicular accesses, crane hard standing areas, a control building, underground cabling, construction compound and meteorological mast  
**Scout Hut, High Street:** T1 – Ash - Fell
- iii. The PC **commented** on the following as shown:  
**Land off Ivy Lane:** Proposed new dwelling on existing vacant plot utilising existing access and garaging. **Comment:** The parish council is concerned that this is backland development and also over development of the site.  
**Harbury Fields Farm, Middle Road:** Conversion of a barn and stable range to four dwellings and associated site works including the dismantling and re-erection of a timber framed garage on an adjacent site and with the demolition and clearance of a range of Dutch barns. **Comment:** This is a sympathetic development which is appropriate to the site. It is a well considered design which incorporates the re-use of materials. The environmental aspect has also been taken into account and includes a communal garden/orchard area as well as provision for bats. The mixed size dwellings provide variety. It would be welcomed if these dwellings were only made available to local people in the first instance.  
**Lawston House, Chesterton Road:** Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and the erection of a two-storey replacement dwelling and detached garage – revision of planning permission 09/02023/FUL, together with the creation of a new domestic driveway and creation of vehicular access on to Chesterton Road, as previously approved under 10/00579/VARY. **Comment:** An interesting design which is eco- friendly. The only concern is that it is only 160m from the road; what will be the impact when viewed from the Fosse Way and Middle Road?
- iv. Permission refused by SDC: nothing to report
- v. Applications withdrawn: nothing to report
- vi. Appeals – nothing to report

**B Other Planning Matters****i. Wind Farm ref: 12/03330/FUL on land between Bishop's Itchington and Knightcote.**

The facts relating to the proposed development, as presented by a representative of Bishop's Itchington PC earlier in the meeting, were considered and the council **RESOLVED** by a majority of 7 to 3 to object to the planning application on the following grounds:

- It is in the wrong place – not enough wind
- It would destroy the landscape, habitat and local archaeological heritage
- It would have an impact on the visual aspect from Harbury

This supersedes the parish council's previous response of no representations.

**ii. Adoption of Parish Plan Update**

It was **RESOLVED** to formally adopt the parish plan update. This document will now also be formally adopted by SDC and used as material consideration in planning matters.

**iii. Responding to Planning Applications**

The parish council's internal process for dealing with planning applications had been reviewed by the planning group and a proposal put forward which requires the planning group to meet each month to consider each application and agree its recommendation to the full council at the next PC meeting. It was agreed to adopt the new procedure and see how it works over the next few months.

**iv. Neighbourhood Planning**

CPRE is holding a workshop for councils which intend to prepare a neighbourhood plan but haven't actually started the process yet. It was agreed not to pursue this at the current time.

**C Correspondence**

A new planning application has been received for 1, Park Lane. This appears to be the same as one received a few months ago which has recently been granted permission by SDC. The clerk will investigate.

**D Members Items**

The track leading to the allotments, which is a public footpath, has recently been used for vehicle access during construction work at the rear of a property in Pineham Avenue and this has damaged the surface. The clerk was instructed to write to the person concerned and ask them to make good any damage as soon as possible, with a copy to WCC. The matter has been reported to the rights of way officer at WCC.

**12/103 PROPERTIES****A Arising from the Minutes****i. BMX Project**

The clerk has written to the contractor and also telephoned him but has not received any response. None of the required documents have been received either. It was agreed to look for a new contractor. Cllr Thornley will liaise with the clerk.

**ii. Playground Reports:****a) Play Area Fire**

The remains of the bench now need to be removed. It was agreed not to replace it for the moment. The clerk will contact the insurance company.

**b) Multi-Play Unit Repairs**

It was agreed to order a replacement rope ladder. It is difficult to work out the prices for the individual components. The clerk will arrange a site meeting with Wicksteed to discuss further.

**iii. Playing Fields****a) New Bench Request**

The council was open to the idea of installing a bench, but was not minded to do so at the moment in the wake of the recent fire. It was agreed to defer this matter until a reply has been received from the insurance company (see A ii.a above)

**iv. Car Park**

The feasibility report commissioned by the parish council will be received in time for the next PC meeting.

**v. Cemetery****a) Tree Works**

It was **RESOLVED** to go ahead with the proposed work at a cost of £380. This is in respect of a copper beech which is overhanging an adjacent garden in South Parade.

**B Correspondence****i. Fields in Trust**

The deed of dedication was signed by the chairman and the clerk and witnessed by Cllr Patrick.

**C Members Items**

A tree has fallen down in the top left of the hedge on the playing field. Cllr Lockley will see if he can remove it.

The clerk will ask the contractor to repair/tighten the netball fence. The cost of this may have to come out of the sinking fund.

Cllr Thornley has met with James McGrath from Urban Ramps. The two boys involved had brought along their petition. The proposals are to be emailed to the clerk along with the costs. The boys are expected to do some fund raising.

Cllr Patrick reported that the area around the bench at Treen's Hill needs strimming. The clerk will organise this.

A request has been received from the junior football club for new goal posts. The clerk has asked them to specify the type and cost. This matter will be put on the agenda for the next PC meeting.

The skateboard ramps are deteriorating quite quickly. The clerk was asked to obtain some estimates.

## **12/104 ENVIRONMENT**

### **A Arising from the Minutes**

#### **i. Street Lighting**

Nothing to report

#### **ii. Village Improvements**

It is believed that the installation of a safety barrier outside the Co-op has been approved.

#### **iii. Traffic Calming**

Bus stop markings are being put in at Binswood End .

#### **iv. Energy Group**

An electric car was provided for the carnival.

Feedback is needed on solar panels which have been installed. Volunteers are required to help with this.

#### **v. The Spinney**

The book on the law relating to the registration of village greens has been received and passed to Cllr Lewis.

### **B Other Matters**

#### **i. Public Footpath SM59**

This item had already been discussed – see Planning Matters, Members Items

#### **ii. Tree Works**

The revised report had not been received so this item was not discussed.

### **C Correspondence**

None

### **D Members Items**

Complaints have been received about overhanging vegetation from gardens causing an obstruction on footpaths. Cllr Lockley will put a notice about this in the Harbury & Ladbroke News.

It was noted that the footpath in Mill Street, where it crosses the farm entrance, has been repaired.

The top is missing from the tap at the allotments. Cllr Knowles will replace it.

The Heber Drive sign has still not been reinstated. The clerk will follow this up.

## **12/105 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

### **A Financial Matters**

#### **i. Internal Auditor's Report**

This had been received and its contents noted. Everything is in order.

**ii. Financial Statements Year Ending 31 March 2012**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the financial statements which were duly signed by the chairman and the clerk.

**iii. Annual Return Year Ending 31 March 2012**

All of the questions relating to the annual governance statement were answered in the affirmative. The annual return was therefore completed, approved by the council and duly signed by the chairman and the clerk.

**iv. Tennis & Netball Club Sinking Fund Signatories**

It was agreed that the signatories to this account should be:  
Cllr Tim Lockley, Chairman of the Parish Council  
Cllr Anthony Mancell, Member of the Parish Council  
Mrs Alison Biddle, Clerk to the Council

The clerk will write again to NS & I to confirm this.

**v. Playing Field Maintenance Work – Authorisation of Cost**

It was agreed to authorise the maintenance works, as per the quotation, at a cost of £250.

**B Correspondence**

**i. Harbury Pre-School – see 12/097 above**

**C Members Items**

None



**12/106 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed by Cllr Lockley, seconded by Cllr Lewis) to pay the following accounts:

Accounts for payment 28 June 2012				
Accounts paid since the last meeting and requiring formal approval of the council				
Payee	Cheque no	Net	Vat	Gross
A Biddle (expenses)	101587	112.20	-	112.20
Harbury Netball Club (grant)	101588	565.00	-	565.00
E.ON (street light electricity)	101589	324.37	64.87	389.24
PAC Ltd (grounds maintenance)	s/order	849.66	169.93	1,019.59
				-
	Sub-totals	1,851.23	234.80	2,086.03
				-
Accounts for payment this week				
				-
Payee	Cheque no	Net	Vat	Gross
				-
Salaries	101590 to 101592	891.58		891.58
A Biddle (expenses)	101593	37.58		37.58
Cana Import Ltd (drinks for APM)	101594	28.80	5.76	34.56
S Dorgan (bus shelter cleaning)	101595	90.00		90.00
E.ON (street lighting)	101596	335.19	67.04	402.23
WCC (street light repair)	101597	69.20	13.84	83.04
Severn Trent Water Ltd (allotments)	101598	38.37		38.37
WCC (water easement over allotments-Harbury)	101599	120.00		120.00
Post Office Counters Ltd (cemetery rates)	101600	50.00		50.00
Bull Ring Garage (office electricity)	101601	27.34	5.46	32.80
Harbury & Ladbroke News (office copy)	101602	5.80		5.80
Harbury Pre-School (grant for canopy)	101603	500.00		500.00
PAC Ltd (grounds maintenance)	s/order	849.66	169.93	1,019.59
BT Group PLC (phone & broadband)	d/debit	30.42	6.08	36.50
Adams & Munson (office rent)	s/order	305.00		305.00
				-
				-
	Sub-totals	3,378.94	268.11	3,647.05
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,230.17</b>	<b>502.91</b>	<b>5,733.08</b>
<b>Notes</b>				
Cheque no 101591 spoiled.				

**12/107 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

## 12/108 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

None

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**12/109 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next ordinary meeting will take place on **Thursday, 26 July 2012 at 7.30pm in Harbury Village Hall.**

**The meeting closed at 9.45pm.**

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