

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

Held in the Farley Room, Harbury Village Hall, Harbury on Thursday 25 October 2012 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Lockley (Chairman), Hancock (from 7.35pm), Knowles, Lewis, Patrick, Ekins, Thompson, Thornley

In Attendance: Mrs A Biddle (Clerk to the Council), District Cllr Mann (part of meeting), District Cllr Hamburger, Mrs L Ridgley (Harbury News) and 6 members of the public.

**12/150 APOLOGIES:** Cllr Summers; Cllr Mancell; County Cllr Stevens

**12/151 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**  
None declared.

**12/152 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The following matters were raised:

**Windmills Nursery School – Grant Application**

Representatives from the nursery school were present. Their letter requesting a grant towards the cost of providing a canopy for their outdoor area had been circulated to members of the parish council prior to the meeting. They have obtained quotes for extending the existing canopy and to install sides on the existing canopy. This will cost around £4,000 and they are busy fund raising although they have not applied for any other grants yet. It was noted that the building is owned by WCC and the nursery pays rent. However, the group has invested a considerable amount of money in the nursery over the last few years and has no plans to move elsewhere.

This matter was listed under item 12, Finance & General Purposes, much later in the agenda. The chairman asked the parish council to consider the matter now.

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed by Cllr Knowles, seconded by Cllr Thompson) to pay a grant of £1,000.

**Localism Study**

Tejay de Kretser, an officer at WCC, explained that she is currently supporting the Localities Team and is looking at the Localism Act and how relationships between local councils and WCC can be improved. She is approaching a handful of parish councils and asking them to work with her on this project. There would be a time commitment but this would be largely down to the parish council and how much time it could give. She will be working on this until next March and will be considering things such as which services can be delivered locally and the resources needed to do this. The council agreed to be involved. Ms Kretser will contact the PC to outline the parameters of the project.

**12/153 MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the parish council meetings which took place on 27 September 2012 and 17 October 2012 as a true and complete record of those meetings.

**12/154 HARBURY LIBRARY****1. Draft Lease**

Following the recent extraordinary parish council meeting, the clerk has instructed the council's solicitor to proceed with the completion of the lease. It was agreed that the clerk and Cllr Mancell would draft a licence for the library group and the parish council with help from District Cllr Hamburger.

**2. Update Report**

The group is thinking about replacing the cupboards etc. in the kitchen, including a new thermostat for the water heater. They are also considering buying some new chairs and possibly a new coffee machine. The café is funding the running costs of the library comfortably. There are about 60 callers a day (library and café) and they are now open 6 days a week, including Saturday mornings. They are going to drop the café session on Thursday afternoons and open it on Saturday mornings instead. Some councillors were concerned that this would clash with events at the church. However, the library group has liaised with the church about this and the situation will be monitored.

**12/155 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES****1. Harbury School Governors**

A short report had been received from Ann Winchester which had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. It was noted that the school football team had recently been very successful.

**2. Public Safety**

It was noted that the police surgery has relocated from the Co-op to the library.

**3. Southam College**

Councillors were referred to the college newsletter. No other report had been received.

**4. Twinning Association**

The AGM will take place at 7pm on 9.11.12 in the Tom Hauley Room.

**5. Village Hall**

The flat roof is being replaced at the moment. A "Gold Ball" will be held on 29 December 2012 to celebrate 50 years since the current building was opened.

**6. WALC/NALC**

There was nothing to report.

**7. SDC & WCC Reports**

Cllr Hamburger reported the following:

- A lot of money is being spent on consultants to prepare reports for the draft core strategy.
- Ecological information for the area is now available on digital mapping and will soon be available to the general public.
- There is no news on the preferred location of the proposed new housing which forms part of the draft core strategy.

Cllr Lockley asked whether the new houses in Bush Heath Lane would count towards the total under the draft core strategy. At the moment, the Local Plan is still current policy and clarification on the question raised by Cllr Lockley is still required.

## **12/156 DEPPERS BRIDGE**

### **1. Sewer Problem**

A survey using a camera has been carried out which has revealed that the pipe is in very poor condition and is not robust enough for thorough cleaning. Severn Trent will make a decision next month on whether to adopt the sewer or not.

### **2. Correspondence**

None

### **3. Members Items**

None

## **12/157 PLANNING**

### **1. Planning Applications**

The following were noted:

#### **1. Parish Council Responses**

The following applications required a response before the next scheduled parish council meeting and have therefore been dealt with using delegated powers, in consultation with the parish council's planning group.

##### **i. 12/02087/FUL**

Proposed erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension

**5, Vicarage Lane**

No representation

##### **ii. 12/02051/FUL**

Demolition of double garage and toolshed to rear of property and erection of replacement single garage. Laying of block paving to provide hardstanding.

**13-15 Mill Street**

No representation

##### **iii. 12/02115/FUL**

Proposed construction of first floor extension to side above existing ground floor garage and utility room.

**9, Wagstaffe Close**

No representation

### **2. SDC Decisions**

##### **i. 12/00840/FUL**

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 the demolition and clearance of a range of Dutch barns

**Harbury Fields Farm, Middle Road**

Permission with conditions

ii. 12/00843/LBC

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 the demolition and clearance of a range of dutch barns

**Harbury Fields Farm, Middle Road**

Consent granted with conditions

iii. 12/01531/FUL

Proposed erection of timber garage

**Orchard House, Hall Lane**

Permission with conditions

iv. 12/01788/FUL

Alterations and extensions to village hall to create new changing rooms and a performance/stage area

**Village Hall, South Parade**

Permission with conditions

v. 12/00275/FUL

Change of use of land for the stationing of a mobile security accommodation unit (temporary mobile home) at existing equestrian training and horse sanctuary

**Davis Equestrian Centre, Bull Ring Farm Road**

Refusal

**2. Other Planning Matters**

The planning application for the Old New Inn car park has been received today. The planning group will meet to look at the plans. If the application is contentious, a special parish council meeting will have to be called to deal with it, as a response is required before the next ordinary PC meeting.

**3. Correspondence**

Nothing to report

**4. Members Items**

Nothing to report

*District Cllr Mann arrived at the start of the next item.*

**12/158 PROPERTIES**

**1. BMX Project**

The quotes for the refurbishment of the BMX track had been circulated. It was **RESOLVED** to accept option 2 from DT Leisure. The work is to be scheduled for next spring. The money set aside in this year's budget will be carried forward but it will be necessary to add a further amount in next year's budget to cover the costs of the work.

**2. Skate Park Project**

Cllr Thornley reported that the boys involved were planning to run a coffee morning to raise funds.

The repairs to the existing equipment have been ordered.

### **3. Play Areas**

The repairs to the multi-play unit have been carried out today.

### **4. Playing Fields**

#### **a) New Goal Posts**

The existing goals are in very poor condition and it was therefore decided to remove them on safety grounds. It was agreed to purchase new goals as soon as possible. The clerk had obtained some quotes for new posts which had been circulated. She had liaised with Ian Jones from the Harbury Junior FC, who had confirmed that the specification of the goals from Mark Harrod Ltd, at a cost of £910, met the criteria and seemed to be good value.

There was a problem with ordering the new goals straight away as the football club has just applied to the County Councillor Fund for a grant for new goals. The rules stipulate that an award cannot be made for expenditure already incurred but as the result of the application will not be received until December, it presents the football club with a serious problem as they will have to find somewhere else to play in the meantime now that the old goals are to be removed. It was agreed that Cllr Lockley would advise the football club that the parish council had decided to remove the existing goals. The clerk was asked to contact County Cllr Stevens to find out whether the grant application had any chance of success and explain the urgency of the situation. If the application is likely to be unsuccessful, the PC would go ahead and purchase the new goals, even if it meant using funds from reserves, as there is no provision in the current year's budget for this item.

#### **b) Fields in Trust – Land Registry Document**

The chairman and the clerk had both looked at this document and had agreed that help is needed from someone who is legally qualified. Cllr Hancock volunteered to contact a local resident who is a solicitor to see if he could help with this. The forms need to be submitted to the Land Registry by mid- November.

#### **c) Oak Sapling & Plaque**

Colin Sheasby has advised planting the sapling at the end of the row of trees in the village hall car park, nearest the field. The parish council agreed with this suggestion. The plaque has arrived and is in the parish office. It was agreed to give further thought to installing this, when the tree has been planted.

### **5. Car Park**

#### **a) Signage for Emergency Contacts**

The clerk had obtained some prices for making a sign. It was agreed to order the larger one subject to being able to fix a bracket to it so that it could be mounted on the existing post.

#### **b) Request from Harbury FC for Keys**

A request had been received for the football club to be given a set of keys for use in an emergency. The council did not agree to this on the grounds

that there were already enough key holders and their contact details were readily available.

The white lining of the car park will be carried out tomorrow.

**6. Cemetery**

Nothing to report

**7. Allotments**

a) Access Road

Some repairs have been carried out but there are still a couple of deep holes. It was agreed that Cllrs Ekins and Summers would approach the resident in question about filling these too. It was agreed that the clerk should write to all allotment holders asking them not to take motor vehicles to the allotments unless absolutely necessary, in an effort to prevent further damage to the track.

b) Garden Flooding, 10 Pineham Avenue

Cllr Summers had visited the resident and it was understood that this problem has now been resolved.

**8. Correspondence**

A complaint has been received about dogs fouling the playing field. Cllr Lockley will discuss further with the complainant.

**9. Members Items**

Nothing to report.

**12/159 ENVIRONMENT**

**1. Street Lighting**

The Environment Group had made a site visit and provided photographs showing their proposed location for an additional light at the Bush Heath Lane development. The clerk was asked to contact Linfoot Homes accordingly.

Linfoot had provided a plan of the propose locations for street lights in phase 2 of the development. It was agreed to request some slight amendment to this, as per the diagram. The clerk will contact Linfoot Homes accordingly.

The remaining concrete columns need to be replaced. It was suggested that 3 are replaced this year, and 3 next year. The clerk was asked to obtain a quote from E.ON.

**2. Village Improvements**

a) Directional Signage – Library & Café

Details of the criteria for brown signs had been obtained from WCC. It was clear that the criteria were not met. It was agreed not to pursue this any further.

b) Litter Bin, South Parade

A resident had requested a new litter bin near the bus stop and alleyway to Percival Drive. It was decided not to take this forward as the parish council has to pay SDC to empty the bins and this is too expensive.

c) Pavement Damage, Mill Street

WCC has now taken charge of this and will be writing to the farmer asking them to take more care.

## d) Penelope Close Flooding

The advice from WCC is that there is no solution. Putting in extra gullies would create a bigger problem in South Parade.

## e) Margaret Close Flooding

The clerk reported that the culvert had been inspected and no reason could be found for the flooding other than the unusual amount of rain this summer. It was agreed that the clerk should write to the resident concerned advising them to contact the landowner of the field where the drain is situated if the problem arises again. There is no further action which the parish council can take.

**3. Traffic Calming**

Although the council had previously agreed to install vehicle activated signs in Bush Heath Lane, it was subsequently discovered that there are no suitable lamp posts on which to mount them. It was therefore agreed to place them in Butt Lane instead, on the approach from Thwaites to Percival Drive. It was also agreed to use the parish hire scheme where a light can be hired for a 6 month period as opposed to the SpeedAware campaign which only lasts for two weeks.

**4. Energy Group**

The AGM will take place on 11 December 2012. All councillors will receive an invitation.

**5. The Spinney**

Cllr Lewis had read the guidance on registering greens and reported that the spinney did not meet the criteria. This item is therefore to be removed from future agendas.

**6. Tree Survey – Identified Work**

It was agreed to proceed with the work identified for Y1. There is enough money in the combined budgets for general tree work, and tree work in the cemetery to cover the cost.

**7. Correspondence**

## a) Warwickshire Wildlife Trust – New Pilot Project for Villages

The parish council did not feel able to take this forward. It was agreed that the details should be passed to the Horticultural Society and the Footpaths Group.

**8. Members Items**

- A letter has been received about vehicles driving the wrong way round Hall Lane and Church Terrace. Registration numbers are needed.
- At the recent Biffa liaison meeting, it was noted that food scraps placed in the green bin should not be wrapped. A notice about this will be in the Harbury & Ladbroke News. Also, the site is now accredited for the sale of compost which can be purchased by local groups.
- There is a metal rod protruding from the ground at the corner of the cemetery which has lost its concrete sock. The clerk was asked to report this to BT.





**12/163 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- The wreath for Remembrance Day has been ordered. A donation of £75 was agreed. This will be paid under Sec 137.

**12/164 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA**

None

**12/165 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next ordinary meeting will take place on **Thursday, 22 November 2012 at 7.30pm at a venue to be decided.**

**The meeting closed at 9.40pm.**

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