

Harbury Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 23 May 2013 at 7.30pm The Farley Room, Harbury Village Hall

Present

Cllr Lockley (Chairman)	Cllr Thornley	Cllr Thompson
Cllr Summers	Cllr Lewis	Cllr Ekins
Cllr Knowles	Cllr Mancell	

In Attendance

Mrs Alison Biddle, Clerk to the Council
District Cllr Mann
Mrs Linda Ridgley, Harbury News
Members of the public: 8

13/072 Apologies: Cllr Patrick; Cllr Hancock; County Cllr Stevens; District Cllr Hamburger

13/073 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Thompson advised that if any questions were raised during the public forum relating to the plans for the former Dog Inn, he would declare a personal interest as his daughter is proposing to run a new business from the premises.

13/074 Public Participation

Bonfire Night and Use of Playing Field

Members of GASS were present to discuss the damage to the playing field which had been caused by the preparations for last year's bonfire.

Rubbish from the bonfire has been put in the ditch. GASS were not aware that this was a problem as the ditch seems to be dry. It was explained that the neighbouring property has had some drainage problems over the last year and the parish council is currently investigating whether there is a problem with the drainage on the field. The fact that the ditch has been filled might be a contributory factor.

The biggest problem has been the ruts caused by vehicles driving up the side of the field to the bonfire site. This has caused the junior football club some difficulty over the winter as the ruts are very close to the edge of the pitch.

It was agreed that when the pitches are marked out next time, they would be moved closer to the tennis courts. The clerk will liaise with GASS when the grounds maintenance contractor is ready to mark the pitches next time so that the correct position can be agreed. GASS were asked to ensure that they keep their vehicles as close to the hedge as possible. It was pointed out that the rough area of nettles etc. is gradually encroaching on the field and needs to be cut back.

There is also the problem of loose screws and other bits of metal left on the field after the bonfire which is a risk to both people and their dogs. GASS said that they did their best to clear this up. It was suggested that perhaps this needs to be done more than once after the event to ensure that as much debris as possible is picked up.

It was acknowledged that the bonfire is a valuable village event.

The contractor has quoted £175 to rotovate and seed the damaged area. However, it was generally agreed that the surface is better than it was now that it has been rolled a few times. As it will soon be time for the carnival to use the field, it is not the right time to re-seed at the moment. It was therefore decided to leave things alone for now and review the situation after this year's bonfire had taken place.

Planning Application – 43 South Parade

The application has been amended. The parish council only received notice today and will need to look at the amended plans to decide whether any further comments are appropriate. Any previous comments will still stand.

13/075 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the parish council meeting which took place on Thursday, 25 April 2013 as a true and complete record of that meeting.

13/076 Library

1. Lease Update

It is still not possible to finalise the lease for legal reasons on the trustees' side.

2. Update Report

The library group has received this year's 'Spirit of Harbury' award. They are planning a book stall for the carnival. They will be publicising the 'Buy a Book' scheme.

13/077 Reports from Other Organisations

1. **Harbury School Governors** – none received.

2. **Public Safety** – none received.

3. **Southam College** – none received.

4. Twinning Association

The weekend with visitors from Samoia was very successful.

5. Village Hall

Tenders for the improvement works are now being received.

6. **WALC/NALC** – nothing to report.

7. SDC & WCC

The following reports were received from county and district councillors:

SDC

- The electoral wards are being reviewed and there is a possibility that Harbury may be linked with different villages in future.
- Cabinet has agreed to recommend a housing requirement of 9,500 within the core strategy.
- SDC is required to give more pre-planning advice these days and has taken on more officers to deal with this. It is likely that more people will also approach the PC for advice in future.
- Councillors' Corner takes place on 22 June from 10.30 to 11.30am outside the PO.

13/078 Deppers Bridge

1. Proposed Solar Farm

Residents held a meeting last night which was attended by District Cllr Mann. Follett's had been invited but didn't attend. Residents have asked if the PC could organise a meeting with Follett's before a planning application is submitted.

2. **Correspondence** – none received.

3. **Members Items** - none

13/079 Planning

1. 13/01011/LDE
Occupation of dwelling in breach of occupancy condition for more than 10 Years
High Top
Harbury Heath
Beggars Lane
It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation.
2. 13/01064/TREE
Group of conifers to be reduced by up to 30% to allow light and general maintenance
Shakespeare Inn
11 Mill Street
It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation.
3. 13/00986/FUL
Proposed erection of two storey rear extension
12 Hillside
It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation.
4. 13/01004/FUL
Proposed construction of a tennis court
Leycester House Farm
Chesterton Road
It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation.
5. 12/02753/FUL (APPEAL)
Demolition of a single storey car lot office/garage building and erection of an apartment building consisting of 4 no. residential apartments together with amenity space and parking provision
8, Dovehouse Lane
To consider the council's response to the appeal
It was **RESOLVED** (proposed by Cllr Lockley, seconded by Cllr Summers) to make no further representation in respect of this appeal. The PC objected to the planning application and the comments it made at that time still stand.
6. **Other Decisions Noted** – see Appendix A.
7. **Neighbourhood Development Plan**
The merits of preparing an NDP were briefly discussed. Cllrs Summers, Thornley and Patrick were delegated to consider the matter in more detail and report back at the next PC meeting.
8. **Correspondence** – none received.
9. **Members Items**
 - Cllr Lockley has been invited to attend the next Bishop's Itchington PC meeting to provide an overview of Harbury's concerns about the impact of housing development on shared services. A strategic plan is required.

13/080 Properties

1. **BMX Track** – the clerk is still waiting to hear when the contractor can begin work
2. **Skate Park** – the clerk is still waiting to receive confirmation of the grant offer.
3. **Play Areas** – some remedial work has been carried out.
4. **Playing Fields**
 - i. Remedial work – already discussed under 13/074.
 - ii. Football tournament – agreed that HJFC can use the field on 7 July 2013.

iii. Hedge trimmings, Deppers Bridge – the clerk was instructed to write to the resident and ask him to remove the debris from the field.

5. Car Park

Cllr Thompson was thanked for mending the bollard lock.

6. Cemetery - nothing to report.

7. Queens Close

The green on the corner of Queen's Close does not have a registered owner. The council discussed the possibility of assuming responsibility for this area in the light of the urgent tree works which were recently carried out and for which the parish council subsequently made a contribution towards the tree surgeon's costs. It was decided not to take it on at the moment but to carry out more research on who owns this land.

8. Correspondence – none received.

9. Members Items

- Cllr Thompson reported that he and Cllr Hancock would be conducting a survey of village benches.
- Cllr Thompson will clean and tidy the Deppers Bridge telephone box which has become neglected. It will be included in the playing field inspection rota in future. Cllr Lockley will swap the books.
- The fencing around the netball courts needs replacing. The club is looking into whether any grants are available.
- The school needs a new bench.
- A new picnic bench for the play area would be welcome but could it be a metal one?
- Further repairs are needed to the multi-play unit.

13/081 Environment

1. Street Lighting

The clerk was authorised to place the order for an additional light in Bush Heath Lane close to the new development.

2. Village Improvements – nothing to report

3. Traffic Calming – nothing to report

4. Energy Group – nothing to report

5. Correspondence – none received

6. Members Items

Who is responsible for looking after the flower tubs at the village entrances? The clerk will see if she can find a list.

13/082 Finance & General Purposes

1. Insurance Review

It was **RESOLVED** to insure with Came & Company which was the lowest quote received and to sign up to the 3 year long term agreement which provides a further discount to the premium.

2. Internal Audit Year Ending 31 March 2013

The internal auditor's report has been received. Everything was found to be in order.

3. Financial Statements Year Ending 31 March 2013

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

4. Annual Return Year Ending 31 March 2013

The annual governance statement was completed, with all answers in the affirmative. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the annual return which was signed by the chairman and clerk.

5. Correspondence – none received

6. Members Items - Cllr Lockley will provide a quarterly report for Harbury News and the website.

13/083 Accounts for Payment

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Summers, seconded Cllr Thornley) to approve the accounts payable as per Appendix B.

13/084 Reports & Questions – none received

13/085 Date of Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of Harbury Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 27 June 2013 at 7.30pm in Harbury Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.02pm.

Signed.....Chairman Date.....

APPENDIX A

Planning Applications – Decisions to be noted 23 May 2013

Parish Council Responses (made since last parish council meeting using delegated powers)

None

SDC Decisions

1. 13/00500/FUL
Proposed erection of single storey rear extension, porch to rear, replacement porch to front and insertion of second floor window in west facing gable end.
17, South Parade
Permission with conditions
2. 13/00507/LDE
Use of the Old Farmhouse as a dwelling.
Bull Ring Farm
Bull Ring Farm Road
Refusal of certificate of lawful existing use or development
3. 12/02524/LBC
Replacement windows
Phoenix House
High Street
Consent granted with conditions
4. 13/00421/OUT
Outline application in respect of construction of 2 no. detached dwellings, associated detached garages and creation of shared vehicular access.
Land adjacent to Shenley, Deppers Bridge
Refused
5. 13/00407/FUL
New dwelling to rear garden
Westfeld Cottage
Westfields Farm
Fosse Way
Application withdrawn
6. 13/00503/FUL
Retrospective permission sought for oak framed porch and single storey extension to side/rear of property, together with detached oak framed garage to side of property.
43, South Parade
Application invalid
7. 13/00509/TREE
Various tree works
Shakespeare Inn
Mill Street
Consent with conditions

