

Harbury Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 27 March 2014 at 7.30pm Harbury Village Hall

Present

Cllr Lockley (Chairman)	Cllr Hancock	Cllr Mancell	Cllr Lewis
Cllr Ekins	Cllr Thompson	Cllr Patrick	Cllr Summers
Cllr Knowles			

Absent

Cllr Thornley

In Attendance

Mrs Alison Biddle, Clerk to the Council
District Cllr Mann
County Cllr Stevens

Mrs Linda Ridgley, Harbury News
Members of the public: 46

14/032 Apologies: Cllr Thornley

14/033 Declarations of Interest: None

14/034 Dispensations: None

14/035 Public Participation

Gypsy & Traveller Consultations

There was confusion and frustration at the lack of information regarding the current consultations by SDC and WDC. It was stated that many people were not aware of the SDC consultation which ends tomorrow until they attended the drop in consultation event this week organised by WDC in respect of its own consultation. People felt that SDC had not advertised in the most local newspapers for Harbury. The parish council was also criticised for not publicising the consultations and their deadlines. There was a call for the SDC deadline to be extended to give people time to respond. There had also been technical problems with accessing the response forms on SDC's website. District Cllr Mann was asked to investigate this further.

It was noted that an officer from SDC had also been in attendance at the WDC drop in session but he had not been well prepared and there was little information available about SDC's consultation. Overall, there was a feeling that the consultation exercise had failed.

The residents' group had leafleted the village and had also attended the drop in session where they had organised an exit poll. This showed that 238 people were against the proposals. It was estimated that 250 people had attended overall. It was stated that this represented a clear mandate to object to the proposed sites close to Harbury.

The residents' group had looked into the data used by WDC to support its evidence base and had identified a number of factual errors. The group believes that there are empty pitches all over Warwickshire and therefore there is no need to find new ones. There was a call for the parish council to contact other affected parish councils with a view to forming an alliance to show the strength of feeling against these proposals and ask for something to be sorted out.

In response to residents' concerns, the chairman advised that the parish council had been told by SDC that if WDC ultimately selects a site close to Harbury, SDC will not consider any further sites in the area. He also pointed out that WDC had been under the impression that the residents' group was acting on behalf of the parish council and this had also led to some confusion. The residents' group denied that this was the case, and that WDC understood who they represented. However, other councillors felt that there needed to be a clear demarcation at events such as the drop in session this week. They had been approached by people who had mistakenly thought that the residents' group was actually the parish council. It was asserted by the residents' group that if the parish council had put out information, this would not have happened.

14/036 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on Thursday, 27 February 2014 as a true and complete record of that meeting.

14/037 Library

1 Lease Update

The solicitor had indicated that a draft lease would be received in time for this evening's meeting but this has not happened. It is hoped that it will be received in time for next month's meeting instead. It should also include the sub-lease for forwarding to the library group.

2 Update Report

The AGM took place last month. There is a new vice-chairman. It has been decided not to go ahead with the roof insulation as it would be too expensive. HEI is going to find out if the grant it obtained can be used at the rugby club instead.

14/038 Reports from Other Organisations

- 1 Harbury School Governors** – A report had been received and circulated to all members by email.
- 2 Public Safety** – Several cars had been vandalised which is under investigation by the police.
- 3 Southam College** - The college has been visited by Ofsted. There has also been a teachers' strike.
- 4 Twinning Association** - There will be a quiz on 6 April in the village club. The cyclists are training hard for their trip to Samois.
- 5 Village Hall** - Nothing to report
- 6 Harbury Energy Initiative** – A report had been circulated to all members by email
- 7 WALC/NALC** – Nothing to report.
- 8 SDC & WCC**

The following reports were received from county and district councillors:

SDC

- The Gypsy and Traveller Consultation ends tomorrow. District Cllr Mann will find out more about the procedure that has been followed and report back. She will also report that it has not been possible for people to open the online response forms.

- The new homes bonus grant awards are subject to call in. It is proposed to make several awards to Harbury organisations including £5,000 to the parish council for the new zip wire. £8000 is proposed for the village hall and £1800 for the library.
- The local election arrangements have been finalised. The new ward boundaries would come into effect from next year.

WCC

- The Care Bill is currently going through Parliament

14/039 Deppers Bridge

- 1 **Update** – There was nothing to report
- 2 **Correspondence** – None received.
- 3 **Members' Items** - None.

14/040 Planning

1 14/00482/FUL

Erection of one dwelling

Walnut Tree Cottage, Hall Lane

It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation but to comment that that parish council agrees with the applicant's proposal to move the house 1.5m further north towards the rear boundary so that it is further away from the road. This will still allow enough space at the rear for access for maintenance and will not affect the garden space to the side.

2 14/0567/FUL

Enlarging the existing vehicle turning area. Installation of new security entrance gate. Laying of new tarmac surface to west of building and positioning of 1 no. shipping container on this area. Container to store copper.

Telephone Exchange, Mill Street

A neighbour expressed concern that the shipping container would be so close to his boundary. It would be in 24hr use and full of copper which could attract thieves. It could affect the hedge and is in the conservation area. It was agreed that the planning group would look at the application again and the clerk will then respond using delegated powers.

3 13/03177/OUT

Outline planning application for a mixed use development comprising erection of up to 200 dwellings (use class C3), extra care unit (use class C2 – 40 beds), employment uses (use class B1/B2 – 6050sqm floor space), doctors surgery (use class D1) and creation of new country park with associated access and infrastructure.

Harbury Cement Works, Station Road

Update from Working Party: The application is scheduled to go to the area planning committee at the end of April. Both parish councils will attend and speak in support of the application. Discussions will be taking place with the surgery.

It was reported that Village with a Vision has offered advice in respect of the care home proposal.

4 13/02689/FUL (Amendment)

Erection of up to 45,000 ground mounted solar panels, framework system, 3 substations, landscaping, security fence and associated works for a temporary period of 25 years.

Land at Deppers Bridge

A letter has been received from the developer formally offering a community benefits package of £9,000 per annum to be spent on various community improvements/facilities in Deppers Bridge over the life time of the solar farm, i.e. 25 years.

It was agreed to write and acknowledge receipt of the letter and advise that the PC would send a full response in due course.

5 **Other Decisions** – noted as per Appendix A.

6 **Sites for Gypsies & Travellers – Preferred Options Consultation by WDC**

It was agreed to draft a response for circulation before the next PC meeting. Specific reference would be made to the proposed sites at Leamington FC and adjacent to the Fosse Way roundabout. Issues to take into account would include traffic, the safety of the crossroads with Harbury Lane and access to local services. The final response will be agreed at the April PC meeting.

7 **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

The group is now considering which questions to include in the next survey for approval by the parish council at the April PC meeting. Cllr Summers is going to sit in on one of the focus groups being run by Bishop's Itchington NDP group. She would also like to organise a stall at the carnival.

8 **Correspondence** - none

9 **Members' Items** – none

14/041 Properties

1 **Play Areas**

i Aerial Runway – The grant application to SDC sounds hopeful. If confirmed, it will be possible to replace the runway this year.

2 **Playing Fields**

There are some moles on the field. The clerk has arranged for the pest control contractor to visit.

3 **Car Park** - nothing new to report

4 **Cemetery** - A rather critical letter had been printed in the Harbury News. The chairman has responded.

5 **Allotments** – nothing to report

6 **Village Hall Railings** – The painting work is being organised via the Community Payback Team. A single payment of £150 has been offered towards expenses.

7 **Correspondence** – none received.

8 Members' Items

Cllrs had attended the opening of the refurbished courts this evening. Cllr Lockley had cut the ribbon.

14/042 Environment

1 **Street Lighting**

It was **RESOLVED** (proposed Cllr Patrick, seconded Cllr Lewis) to place the order for 10 new 42W Topaz lanterns to replace the existing pole mounted mercury lanterns which are soon to be phased out. The cost will be £296.21 per lantern plus vat. It was noted that in some cases it may be necessary to cut the brackets and re-wire which would increase the cost to £330.33 per lantern.

2 **Village Improvements**

The planting of a tree at Five Ways was discussed. Colin Sheasby is proposing to plant 3 saplings to be sure one survives. The clerk is waiting for confirmation from WCC that they are in agreement. Planting will take place in the autumn.

3 **Traffic Calming** - The VAS sign in Mill Street is working properly at the moment.

4 **Correspondence**

A request has been received for improvements to be made to the Fosse Way/Harbury Lane crossroads. There have been 2 more accidents in the last few days. The speed cameras were supposed to make the junction safer but 60mph is still too fast to approach this junction. The volume of traffic has increased enormously over the years. Traffic lights are needed. The clerk will draft a letter to WCC and copy it to County Cllr Stevens

5 **Members' Items**

The "no entry" signs at the junction of Hall Lane and Crown Street are illegible. The clerk will ask WCC to repaint them. It was also noted that the refuse truck frequently drives the wrong way along Church Terrace. The clerk was asked to report this to the company concerned.

14/043 Finance & General Purposes

1 **Monthly Financial Report**

This had been circulated to all members. There were no questions.

2 **WW1 Centenary**

The council was asked to think about ways in which the village could commemorate this anniversary. Grants are available. Cllr Hancock has already researched all of the people whose names are on the war memorial and placed a written report in the village archive. Nigel Chapman has suggested running a series of school assemblies based on the stories of these individuals. Could the council publish a special commemorative edition? The commemoration will take place over the next 4 years so there is time to do this.

This matter will be placed on the agenda again next month for further consideration.

3 **Correspondence** - none

4 **Members' Items** – none

14/044 Future Meetings

1 Parish Council Meeting 22 May 2014 – it was noted that this coincides with polling day. However, this does not affect the parish council and therefore it was agreed to go ahead with the meeting but change the venue as the village hall will be in use as a polling station.

2 Annual Parish Meeting 8 May 2014 – it was agreed to ask Nigel Chapman if he would give a talk on some aspect of the village.

14/045 SDC Consultation on Councillor Complaints Procedure

It was agreed to make no representation.

14/046 Accounts for Payment

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

14/047 Reports & Questions - none

14/048 Date of Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of Harbury Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 24 April 2014 at 7.30pm in the Farley Room, Harbury Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.16pm

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

APPENDIX A

Planning Applications – Decisions to be noted 27 March 2014

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

- 1 14/00341/LBC
Proposed demolition of Victorian shed
Phoenix House, High Street
No representation – Comment: It is disappointing to lose a Victorian outbuilding but we understand that it was in disrepair.
- 2 14/00562/TREE
G1: Lime: remove two smaller lime trees at base of more mature stems, remove larger stems from group, crown reduction of 40% on remaining four trees.
Land adjacent 1 Crown Close, Crown Street
No representation

SDC Decisions

- 1 14/00107/FUL
Proposed single and two storey side extensions, single storey front extension, single storey rear extension including balcony at first floor level and construction of a porch and a new detached garage
Aberley, Hall Lane
Permission with conditions
- 2 14/00127/LDP
Proposed alterations to garden wall and construction of single storey rear extension
43 Mill Street
Certificate of lawful proposed use or development

Appeals

- 1 Appeal ref: APP/J3720/A/13/2193579/NWF
Proposed wind farm on land between Knightcote and Bishop's Itchington
Local Inquiry took place in September.
This appeal has been recovered by the Secretary of State who will now make the decision in place of the Planning Inspector. Decision expected in April 2014.

APPENDIX B

Accounts for payment 27 March 2014				
Urgent accounts paid since the last meeting and requiring formal approval of the council				
Payee	Cheque no	Net	Vat	Gross
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Sub-totals	-	-	-
Accounts for payment this week				
Payee	Cheque no	Net	Vat	Gross
Staff payments	101853 - 854	899.03	-	899.03
S Dorgan (bus shelter cleaning)	101855	90.00	-	90.00
SLCC Enterprises Ltd (cemetery CD)	101856	30.00	-	30.00
E.ON (s/lights electricity)	101857	298.41	59.68	358.09
Harbury Village Show	101858	175.00	-	175.00
Post Office Ltd (cemetery rates)	101859	372.09		372.09
Harbury Village Hall (room hire)	101860	88.00		88.00
Cash (petty cash)	101861	73.20		73.20
Adams & Munson (office rent payable 03.03.14)	s/order	305.00	-	305.00
MFM Services (Grds m'nance payable 31.03.14)	s/order	729.17	-	729.17
BT (phone & internet services payable 26.03.14)	d/debit	106.05	18.40	124.45
	Sub-totals	3,165.95	78.08	3,244.03
	TOTALS	3,165.95	78.08	3,244.03
Petty Cash Analysis				
Stamps: 5 bks @ £6.00		£		30.00
6 bks @ £7.20		£		43.20
	Total	£		73.20