

Harbury Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

24 July 2014 at 7.30pm

The Farley Room, Harbury Village Hall

Present

Cllr Lockley (Chairman)

Cllr Mancell

Cllr Summers

Cllr Thompson

Cllr Ekins

Cllr Knowles

Cllr Thornley

Cllr Allen

Absent: Cllr Hancock; Cllr Lewis

In Attendance

Mrs Alison Biddle, Clerk to the Council

Mrs Linda Ridgley, Harbury News

County Cllr Stevens

Members of the public: 8

District Cllr Kettle

14/107 Apologies: Cllr Hancock; Cllr Lewis

14/108 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Allen declared a pecuniary interest in matters relating to the Harbury Estate development in line with other members of the council, who had previously been advised by NALC and the monitoring officer that as this development could affect property values in the area, this could be construed as members having a pecuniary interest and they should therefore declare as such.

14/109 Dispensations:

It was **RESOLVED** to grant Cllr Allen a dispensation in respect of the Harbury Estate development for a period of 2 years from the date of this meeting.

14/110 Public Participation

Biffa Site

The smell from the site has been unbearable over the last few days. A complaint has been made to the local authority and to the Environment Agency. It was noted that landfill will cease later this year but composting will continue at least until 2023 and the licence will probably be renewed at that point.

Cllr Thornley had recently attended a liaison meeting. She explained the steps that Biffa are taking to try and control the smell which basically involves using water around the perimeter to absorb the bad odours. Environmental officers carry out regular inspections. If this method of controlling the smell doesn't work they will have to try something else.

Solar Farm Appeal, Deppers Bridge

Residents are still against this proposal. Cllr Christian-Carter, representing Bishop's Itchington Parish Council, was present to find out if Harbury councillors were in agreement with a proposal that the two parish councils should prepare a joint submission to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of this appeal.

14/111 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the annual parish council meeting held on Thursday, 26 June 2014 as a true and complete record of that meeting.

14/112 Library

1 Lease

Clarification from the solicitor is still required re one of the title plans. The working party is satisfied that everything else is now in order.

2 Update from Cllr Lockley

There have been some recent changes to the committee which is currently going through a transition period.

14/113 Reports from Other Organisations

1 Harbury School Governors

A report had been circulated by email. The swimming pool area is to be used to create an open space with an amphitheatre layout.

2 Public Safety – Nothing to report

3 Southam College - Nothing to report

4 Twinning Association – Nothing to report

5 Village Hall

The committee is currently waiting for some new tenders before applying for grants.

6 Harbury Energy Initiative

The group has looked into funding via the Big Energy Saving Network. The aim is to give information and direct support to the most vulnerable in the community. HEI isn't eligible to apply itself but is hoping to get involved through another organisation.

7 WALC/NALC – Nothing to report.

8 SDC & WCC

SDC

- There is a proposal to build 700 new houses on land adjacent to the polo grounds at Stoneythorpe.

WCC

- There are no plans for gasification in Warwickshire.
- The WCC councillors' grants scheme is now open.

14/114 Deppers Bridge

1 Update

Cllr Ekins has received 2 complaints from residents about the smell from the Biffa site. He has sent them a copy of the newsletter.

2 Correspondence - None

3 Members' Items - None.

14/115 Planning

1 **Appeal by Solar Power South**

Erection of 45,000 solar panels and associated works

Land at Deppers Bridge

The council agreed to prepare a joint submission with BIPC. A working party comprising Cllrs Summers, Ekins, and Allen, along with Cllr Christian- Carter (BIPC) was formed to prepare a draft submission.

2 **WDC Local Plan – Gypsies & Travellers Sites Allocations**

It was noted that WDC will make a final decision on the allocation of sites at its meeting on 13 August 2014. Following that, there will be a 2 week break before the public consultation on the soundness and legality of this policy begins. This means that there will be time to consider this matter further at the next PC meeting in September.

3 **Harbury Cement Works Development**

The clerk is trying to organise a meeting between the working party, the doctors, and Matrix which specialises in building a new surgeries, so that an approximate cost of a new surgery can be worked out.

4 **Other Decisions** – noted as per Appendix A

5 **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

There was nothing new to report. The next meeting will take place in September.

6 **Correspondence** - none

7 **Members' Items** – none

14/116 Properties

1 **Play Areas**

i Replacement of bark pits

The properties group had discussed this and prioritised the order for replacement beginning with the baby swings. Quotes are to be obtained and the cost will be included in next year's budget. Cllr Thornley is researching possible founding sources.

ii Basketball back boards

These will cost £484. It was agreed to apply to the WCC grant fund which has just been announced.

2 **Playing Fields**

i Drainage on paddock

The clerk is still trying to find a contractor to carry out a survey.

3 **Car Park**

The properties group had discussed this and felt that it was a priority to carry out repairs on health and safety grounds. The clerk had only managed to obtain one quote despite contacting several contractors. It was **RESOLVED** to place an order for the repairs at a cost of £2625 plus vat.

4 **Cemetery**

Cllrs Thompson and Mancell will carry out a review of the space available over the summer.

5 Correspondence – none received.

6 Members' Items

- What has happened to the order for the new zip wire? The clerk will follow this up.
- Could pin guards be installed on top of the baby swings? The clerk will look for prices.
- The netball court surface is to be re-done in the next couple of weeks.

14/117 Environment

1 Street Lighting

It has not been possible to replace all the pole mounted lanterns as per the original order owing to their age. Only 3 of the 12 have been replaced so far. The remaining 9 will require complete new units at a cost of £896 each. It was agreed that the clerk should obtain a further quote for this work from an alternative supplier and should also obtain a new quote for replacing with a complete new lighting column as opposed to just the lighting unit. The council will reconsider this matter at its next meeting in September.

2 Village Improvements – nothing to discuss

3 Traffic Calming - nothing to discuss

4 Field Paths

Complaints have been received about the overgrown state of the field paths. The footpaths group is trying to arrange a working party over the coming weekend. It was agreed to wait and see whether this had been effective before taking any further action.

5 Correspondence

Grounds Maintenance, Percival Drive

An email had been received about the grounds maintenance at Percival Drive. The contractors have been asked to make a repair to the wooden edging and to trim the hedge/trees. This does not form part of the current contract but some thought needs to be given to including it in future. WCC/SDC have been asked to carry out weeding of the footpaths.

Speed Limit, Bush Heath Road/Butt Lane

The email above also referred to issues with traffic and speeding along Bush Heath Road/Butt Lane. This has been discussed with WCC many times before without success. However, it was agreed that the clerk should write to WCC Highways to request that the 40mph speed limit is reduced to 30mph and that the speed limit area is extended towards Bishop's Itchington.

6 Members' Items

The hole in the wall in Church Street has been repaired. The gates at the sub -station have also been repaired.

14/118 Finance & General Purposes

1 Monthly Financial Report

The budget is on target.

2 Grant Request from Harbury Pre-School

This request for a grant towards a new play area surface had been made at very short notice. Councillors had further questions but unfortunately no one from the pre-school had been able to attend this evening's meeting. The council was therefore unable to make a decision. The applicant is to be asked to attend the September PC meeting to answer questions and provide

an up to date statement of their accounts. It was noted that the re-surfacing work is scheduled for the summer holidays and as the parish council does not fund retrospectively, this may mean that a grant would not payable in any case. However, the council may be able to consider funding another project for the pre-school instead.

3 WW1 Centenary

ii War Memorial Cleaning

The cleaning of the plaque is to be further discussed at the next PC meeting in September.

i Commemorative Booklet

There was nothing new to report.

4 Broadband

It appears that there is a problem with obtaining superfast broadband for those people who are connected directly to the exchange as opposed to a cabinet. This is a national problem. Cllr Lockley is investigating whether there are any plans to install a cabinet outside the exchange which would help.

5 Correspondence - none

6 Members' Items - none

14/119 Accounts for Payment

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

14/120 Reports & Questions - None

14/121 Exclusion of Public & Press

1 It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press under Sec 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed which relates to staff matters.

2 **Cemetery Assistant**

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint N Sheasby as the new cemetery assistant (with effect from 1 August 2014).

14/122 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Harbury Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 25 September 2014 at 7.30pm in the Farley Room, Harbury Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

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

APPENDIX A

Planning Applications – Decisions to be noted 24 July 2014

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

- 1 14/01724/TREE
T1: Lawson Cypress: remove – T2: Lawson Cypress: remove
Harbury Library, High Street
No representation
- 2 14/01682/FUL
Bay extension to the front of dwelling
17 Manor Road
No representation

SDC Decisions

- 1 13/02374/FUL
Construction of two semi-detached cottages and conversion of existing public house to A2 use (permitted change).
Land adjacent car park at Old New Inn
REFUSAL
- 2 14/01223/FUL
Addition of ground and first floor extensions to garage
South Pines, 3 Queens Close
REFUSAL
- 3 14/00627/FUL
Erection of ground and first floor extensions, re-modelling of conservatory to form orangery, and alterations to porch
16 Percival Drive
PERMISSION WITH CONDITIONS
- 4 14/00683/FUL
Demolition of vacant garage/office buildings and erection of 3 no. residential dwellings along with amenity space and car parking provision
8 Dovehouse Lane
PERMISSION WITH CONDITIONS
- 5 14/01234/TPO
T1: Willow: reduce limbs overhanging neighbour's drive, 3 branches overhanging road and sever ivy
7 Vicarage Lane
CONSENT for arboricultural work subject to conditions

Other

- 1 14/01337/LBC
Installation of replacement flue
7 Binswood End
Application withdrawn

Appeals

- 1 Appeal ref: APP/J3720/A/14/2217844
Proposed solar farm on land at Deppers Bridge
This appeal will be dealt with by way of written representations to be submitted by 15 August 2014.

- 2 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 2013.
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 August 2014

- 3 Appeal ref: APP/J3720/E/14/2215154
Stapenhall Farm, Deppers Bridge
Proposed linking of construction housing an indoor swimming pool to dwelling
This appeal will be dealt with by way of written representations. In progress

APPENDIX B

Accounts for payment 24 July 2014				
Urgent accounts paid since the last meeting and requiring formal approval of the council				
Payee	Cheque no	Net	Vat	Gross
BT (phone & broadband)	d/debit	100.71	18.53	119.24
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Sub-totals	100.71	18.53	119.24
Accounts for payment this week				
Payee	Cheque no	Net	Vat	Gross
Salaries	101900 to 10	1,148.33		1,148.33
Harbury Village Hall (room hire)	101903	72.00		72.00
Arrowscape (website)	101904	552.00	-	552.00
E.ON (s/lights electricity)	101905	320.34	64.07	384.41
Warwicks Training Partnership (t/course)	101906	40.00	-	40.00
MFM Services (play field mowing June & BMX)	101907	231.00	-	231.00
A Biddle (ink cartridges)	101908	123.00		123.00
Adams & Munson (office rent payable 01.07.14)	s/order	305.00	-	305.00
MFM Services (Grds m'nance payable 31.07.14)	s/order	772.34	-	772.34
		-	-	-
	Sub-totals	3,564.01	64.07	3,628.08
	TOTALS	3,664.72	82.60	3,747.32