



Notice of Ordinary Meeting of Harbury Parish Council
Thursday, 28 October 2021 at 7.30pm
The Farley Room, Harbury Village Hall

Members of the public and the press are invited to attend the parish council meeting and are welcome to address the council on any matters relating to the agenda during the public forum. Please refer to the accompanying notice regarding any Covid-19 restrictions currently in place.

Please note that the meeting may be recorded or filmed and that the council is unable to give any guarantee that members of the public will not be included. If this concerns you, please contact the clerk prior to the meeting. If you would like to record or film a meeting, we encourage you to contact the council in advance so that we can ensure the necessary arrangements are in place.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Biddle". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned on a light-colored rectangular background.

Alison Biddle PSLCC
Clerk to the Council
21 October 2021

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AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

Members should declare any interest in items on the agenda here. Members are reminded that, unless they have been granted a dispensation, if they have a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter as defined by regulations made by the Secretary of State they may not participate in any discussion of or vote on the matter.

3. Dispensations

To receive and consider granting any other dispensation requests.

4. Public Participation

- 1 Presentation by David Bristow of Harbury Energy Initiative (HEI) re climate emergency.
- 2 Introduction to Harbury Environmental Group by Jessica Dominick.
- 3 Members of the public may raise any matter relating to items on the agenda here.

5. Minutes

To approve the following the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 23 September 2021.

6. Other Organisations

To receive brief update reports from the following:

- 1 Harbury Library
- 2 Harbury School Governors
- 3 Southam College
- 4 Twinning Association
- 5 Village Hall
- 6 Harbury Energy Initiative
- 7 SDC & WCC

7. Planning

To consider the following planning matters:

- 1 [Planning ref 21/03148/TPO - Walnut Tree Cottage, Hall Lane](#)
T1: Walnut tree – reduce height of the tree by 2 metres and reduce the laterals by 1 – 1.5 metres, as well as removing any dead wood.
- 2 [Planning ref 21/03284/FUL - 59 Mill Street](#)
Proposed render to new extension and existing porch and new composite cladding to front elevation.
- 3 Delegated Responses – to note delegated responses as per appendix A.

8. Environment

- 1 Climate Emergency – to consider resolution to formally acknowledge climate emergency and actions that can be taken by the parish council.
- 2 Traffic Surveys
 - a) Deppers Bridge – to reconsider survey in light of road closures and cost v benefit
 - b) Bush Heath Road/Butt Lane – to reconsider feasibility study in light of delayed traffic survey and discuss locations for survey
- 3 WCC Highway Verge Management – Policy Consultation - to consider council's response
- 4 Village Tree Planting – to receive update and agree next steps

9. Properties

- 1 Playing Fields
 - a) Tennis Club Lease – to approve costs and agree next steps.
- 2 Deppers Bridge AED & benches – to receive update on application to HS2 fund.
- 3 Cemetery
 - a) To approve revised cemetery rules.
 - b) To consider restriction of cemetery opening hours to daytime only.
 - c) To receive update on memorial inspection.
 - d) To approve cost of earth removal & gravel surround at base of chapel.
- 4 Allotments - to approve reservation of plot for well- being group & cost of clearance, rotovating & cover.

10. Winter Lights

- 1 To receive update on arrangements for winter lights switch - on event.
- 2 To consider any further anticipated expenditure.

11. Finance & General Purposes

- 1 To receive budget report to date.
- 2 To receive bank reconciliation reports for September 2021.
- 3 To approve amendment to bank mandate (removal of S Boyd).
- 4 To appoint internal auditor for 2021/22.
- 5 To agree amount of donation to RBL Poppy Appeal for wreath.
- 6 To approve revision to financial regulations (new contract thresholds).
- 7 To adopt reserves policy statement.
- 8 To agree tendering process for grounds maintenance contract.

12. Accounts for Payment - to approve the accounts for payment as per appendix B.

13. Reports & Questions

To receive reports and questions from members in brief, including items for next agenda.

14. Exclusion of Public & Press

Confidential matters, including those identified during the course of the meeting, to be discussed here following a resolution to exclude the public under Sec 100A of the Local Government Act 1972.

- 1 To approve quote for cemetery tree work.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the parish council will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday, 25 November 2021 at Tom Hauley Room, All Saints Church, Harbury.

APPENDIX A

Planning Applications – Delegated Responses 28 October 2021

- 1 [Planning ref 21/02960/TREE - Juxta Pacem, Temple End](#)
T1 and T2 walnut x 2 no. - Fell
No representation
- 2 [Planning ref 21/03110/TREE - 22 Farm Street, Harbury](#)
T1 conifer x 2 no. - Fell
No representation
- 3 [Planning ref 21/02948/TREE - 32 Vicarage Lane](#)
T1 oak – Crown lift all round to a height of 3.5 metres above ground level
No representation
- 4 [Planning ref 21/02847/TREE - Childyke, Mill Lane](#)
T1 Robinia – Reduce height by approx. 2 – 3 metres to previous points. Remove deadwood. Balance the tree back from 'Th Old Post Office', to allow a clearance of approx. 2 metres. Prune from phone lines to allow a clearance of approx. 0.5m. Remove epicormic growth.
No representation
- 5 [Planning ref 21/02516/TREE - 27 Farm Street](#)
T1 laurel: reduce height from 4.5 metres to 3.5 metres and spread from 5 metres to 3.5 metres. T2 pear: reduce in height from 7 metres to 5 metres and spread from 7 metres to 5 metres.
No representation
- 6 [Planning ref 21/02933/LDE - Old Post Office, High Street](#)
Replacement bow window
No comments.
- 7 [Planning ref 21/02021/FUL \(amended\) - 28 Farley Avenue](#)
Replace existing bungalow with a 1.5 storey dwelling
Object on the same grounds as previously submitted in respect of the original application.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION BY HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

By acknowledging the climate emergency, the Parish Council commits to acting on the causes and impacts of climate change. Consequently, it ¹ will do the following:

Review all activities for which it is responsible to see whether further reductions in carbon emissions can be made now ²

Consider all future decisions to see whether they improve the climate situation, rather than making the emergency worse or harder to solve ³

Sometimes the Council will be forced to make a decision that is not the best for the climate because the alternatives are much too expensive. When this happens, write officially to those who have the power to adjust these costs

Comment where appropriate on the climate aspects of planning applications ⁴

Write to all village groups asking them to take actions on the climate in line with those of the Parish Council

Set up a competition for the village group making the greatest annual contribution to mitigating or adapting to climate change

For any grant or award given to a village group, expect the group to make a commitment to taking positive action on the climate

Consult residents, especially young people, on ideas for Parish Council action on the climate ⁵

Encourage residents to support local and national leaders in making the changes necessary to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050

Publish an annual report on climate action taken by the Council

¹ The Council may wish to commission HEI to carry out some of these activities on its behalf

² This includes activities like park maintenance and mowing of verges that are carried out by contractors

³ Good examples from the past are the move to LED lighting, and paying extra for a renewable tariff for electricity

⁴ The Council's formal comments to the District Council may affect planning decisions, but only where there are proper grounds for comment. However, many applicants attend Parish Council meetings to listen to the discussion, and may take away ideas that cannot be put in formal comments. For example, they may not have thought of installing low carbon heating, insulating beyond current building regulations or installing cabling so that a charging point for an electric vehicle could be connected when needed

⁵ This consultation should acknowledge the climate emergency, and could, for example, include six ideas which people could vote into priority order. The consultation could be electronic, but could also include dropping a letter to all households. It could point out that action is needed nationally and internationally and draw attention to COP26, but could also list actions being taken now by the council and suggest things that individuals can do - such as watching David Attenborough's film "Climate Change: The Facts", or making more local journeys on foot or by bicycle instead of by car, as well as things that households can do - such as reviewing their levels of insulation. It could also alert householders to the eligibility criteria for the ECO scheme.

WHY SHOULD HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGE THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY?

IS THERE A CLIMATE EMERGENCY?

Yes! Perhaps the best summary is Sir David Attenborough's "Climate Change: The Facts" which is an hour-long BBC documentary (*use search tab on BBC iPlayer*), but there are many other authorities such as the United Nations International Panel on Climate Change (*see, for example, <https://www.ipcc.ch/2021/08/09/ar6-wg1-20210809-pr/>*).

While it may have been possible in the past to dispute the extent of the problem, or how far it is caused by human activity, it is now crystal clear that the situation is very serious and must be tackled urgently.

HOW BIG IS THE PROBLEM?

The size of the problem is enormous. If the world carries on with "business as usual" there will be very severe consequences for humanity.

As optimists, we can see that this is not inevitable. Much of the technology needed is available now, and there are very encouraging signs that governments around the world may face up to the challenges and take action. However, climate change will not be avoided without all of us playing our parts and making some changes to our lifestyles.

WHY SHOULD HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGE THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY?

The UK government, Warwickshire County Council and Stratford District Council have all made declarations that there is a climate emergency. Residents of Harbury need to know that all of their democratic representatives, right down to the most local level, understand the urgency and will do everything they can.

SHOULD THE PARISH COUNCIL SET TARGETS FOR CARBON REDUCTIONS?

Probably not. Targets are essential at global and national level to make clear the scale of the reductions needed, and to measure progress towards the eventual goal. The world must move to net zero carbon emissions by 2050, and the UK has set an interim target of 78% reductions from 1990 levels by 2035. The Parish Council knows that it needs to do as much as it possibly can to reduce carbon emissions, but does not even have the resources to measure its carbon emissions. Hence setting targets would be inappropriate.

WHAT SHOULD THE PARISH COUNCIL DO?

Essentially, it should do all it can! Realistically, its jurisdiction is limited, and it is not directly responsible for many carbon emissions. However, it has influence much greater than its powers.

It should certainly consider future decisions in the light of whether they have any impact on the climate emergency, but - more importantly - it can provide local leadership to support global and national initiatives. Councillors who understand the issues can reassure residents that we are all in this together, and that even if there is some inconvenience and expense, it is essential to keep the world in good shape for our children and grandchildren.

HEI knows that Councillors themselves are in the best position to decide on practical actions for the Parish Council relating to the climate emergency. Nevertheless, Councillors might find it helpful to see some suggestions for possible actions. These are presented to stimulate discussion, in the form of a resolution that the Council might adopt.