

HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 27 July 2017 at 7.30pm
The Tom Hauley Room, All Saints Church, Harbury**

Present:

Cllr T Lockley (Chairman)
Cllr S Allen
Cllr S Ekins
Cllr C Gibb
Cllr A Mancell

Cllr A Rutherford
Cllr P Summers
Cllr K Thompson
Cllr J Thornley

Absent:

Cllr C Christou

In Attendance:

Mrs A Biddle, Clerk to the Council
District Cllr J Harris
County Cllr R Stevens
Mrs C Gwillam, Minute Secretary

Public:

Mrs L Ridgley, Harbury News
Members of the Public: 7

17/123 Apologies: Cllr C Christou

17/124 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Lockley recorded his interest in Appendix A (17/01731/FUL) 29 Manor Orchard as this is his property, and both Cllr Lockley and Cllr Thompson recorded their interest in the Sports Clubs' Licence Review as they are both members of the Harbury Tennis Club.

17/125 Dispensations: None

17/126 Public Participation

Utilities Works

There were concerns about road safety during the current utilities work and also the damage to Old New Inn green where the welfare hut has been installed.

17/127 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to:

- 1 Approve the minutes of the extraordinary parish council meeting held on Thursday 22 June 2017 as a true and complete record of that meeting; duly signed.
- 2 Approve the minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting held on Thursday 22 June 2017; duly signed.

17/128 Other Organisations

1 Harbury Library

None

2 Harbury School Governors

The PTA has had another successful year of fundraising. Funding is being provided by WCC to enhance the fencing around the school which was causing some concern to the governors as their main priority is the safety of the children.

3 Public Safety

None (apart from more vigilance needed concerning rogue traders).

4 Southam College

The refurbishment of the sports changing rooms was now complete. The school had recently undertaken the 'largest human poppy'; this was ratified by the Guinness Book of Records and reported in the local press.

5 Twinning Association

Celebrations took place on the 14 July for Bastille Day.

6 Village Hall

It was reported that the main hall would have to close during August for the next phase of the refurbishment to include the heating system, rewiring, new lighting and redecoration.

Two recent events at the hall had been extremely successful – a wedding and a ruby wedding celebration.

7 Harbury Energy Initiative

None

8 WALC/NALC

None

9 SDC & WCC

SDC: Nothing to report.

WCC:

- Cllr Stevens reported that the new council met last week and that there was some uncertainty about funding/cuts; it was hoped that the budget meeting in November would clarify the position.
- 0-5 years provision: children's centres had now outlived their original purpose and were facing severe cutbacks; the deadline for the consultation process was the middle of September.
- It was proposed to close the fire station in the middle of Southam and build a new training school near Tesco's on the outskirts of Southam.
- Schools sufficiency over the county for the next 10 years showed that primary education would be adequate, but that there would be a severe shortage of secondary education.
- HS2 contractor has been appointed but work not expected to start until middle of 2018.
- The deadline for the community grants is October.

17/129 Deppers Bridge

1 Update from Ward Councillor

Cllr Stevens followed up the recent request to consider better signage on the approach to the restricted weight rail bridge, but WCC Highways' view was that this was adequate.

2 Correspondence

None

3 Members Items

Cllr Summers had received a request from a member of the public to park on the playing fields on 12 August as she lived near and was having a party for about 120 people. Permission was given with the proviso that any damage to the field is made good.

17/130 Planning

1 17/01630/FUL –

Erection of 5 no. independent retirement dwellings, communal bin store and footpath link
Henrys, Bush Heath Lane

It was **RESOLVED** to object on the grounds of no local need, the housing quota under the Core Strategy had been achieved and the high density of layout which did not fit in with the village environment and loss of hedgerow. Proposed by Cllr Gibb, seconded by Cllr Thompson.

2 17/00390/OUT (amendment)

Outline application for 5 affordable 2/3 bedroom houses and 7 independent retirement bungalows

Land at Bull Ring Farm Road

It was **RESOLVED** to object on the grounds that this was outside the settlement boundary, was contrary to local need and over quota, with only a narrow access road. Proposed by Cllr Allen, seconded by Cllr Summers; all agreed.

3 17/02016/TREE

T1: Eucalyptus – Fell

The Cottage, High Street

It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation

4 17/01926/LBC

Relocation of existing WC & pantry, replacement of existing roof lantern, formation of new roof lantern and new bi-folding doors with single opening door formed within existing opening

Wissett Lodge, 10 Church Street

It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation.

5 17/01697/FUL

Construction of 1 one and a half storey dwelling with new access

Land west of Butt Lane

It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation as this was a self-build and therefore an exception to the Core Strategy housing quota. Proposed by Cllr Mancell, seconded by Cllr Summers; all agreed.

6 16/03142/REM (amended)

Application for reserved matters (scale, layout, appearance and landscaping) for 195 residential dwellings, following grant of outline planning permission (ref 13/03177/OUT) and alterations to affordable housing provision (Nature reserve subject to a separate reserved matters application)

Harbury Cement Works, Bishop's Itchington

It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation

7 17/01977/FUL

Change of use from retail (A1) to create a new dwelling and rear first floor extension with associated building works.

1 Mill Street (Harbury Supermarket)

It was **RESOLVED** to make no representation on the grounds that this will improve the economic sustainability of an important village asset (it was important to retain the Post Office when many villages were losing them). Proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Lockley; all agreed.

8 Neighbourhood Development Plan

The clerk reported that the consultation letter regarding the non-designated heritage assets had been delivered. It was hoped to sign off the final draft of the NDP at the September council meeting. It will be early 2018 before the referendum takes place.

9 Harbury Cement Works - Update on new surgery

Discussions with the Clinical Commissioning Group are still on-going.

10 Gypsies & Travellers Sites Consultations

Nothing new to report at present.

11 Delegated responses – Appendix A

Noted

12 Members' items

No application from Spitfire Homes as yet.

17/131 Properties

Updates were reported on the following:

1 Play Areas

- i Repairs: These were still on-going and should be completed within the next few weeks.
- ii New equipment: Climbing wall - confirmation of location and order: The design had been drawn up, noting students' comments; a meeting with the installers took place and it was agreed that the ideal location would be between the basketball and tennis courts. The clerk reported that she had written and placed the order today. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Gibb for meeting the school children.

2 Playing fields

- i New path: the sign has been installed and the last bench additional bench is still waiting to be installed. Cllr Ekins had been researching surfacing types to upgrade the path and would send a link to councillors and the clerk. He would obtain a quote for the existing path, and a separate one for extending down to the car park. As the whole project could cost in the region of £24,000 it would be necessary to apply for a grant. Cllr Stevens referred to the Cemex Benevolent Fund which might offer match-funding and said that he would look into this further.
- ii Outdoor exercise equipment: The properties group would convene a meeting before the parish council meeting in September to produce a 'wish list' of equipment for adult exercise equipment (initially, a 4-piece starter would cost in the region of £4,800)
- iii Junior football goals: These have been recently damaged and seemed beyond repair; it was pointed out that urgent attention was needed to remove it if it was dangerous. The junior football club

had identified the culprits and suggested that they be held accountable, obtaining redress by means of community work such as litter picking. The clerk was asked to contact the contractor who originally installed it, to check it over and report back as a matter of urgency. The clerk will also obtain a quote from the supplier for a replacement cross bar.

3 Car park

i Overhaul of entrance system: The was in abeyance until after the harvest when JMT Engineering in Ladbroke would then come and examine it.

4 Cemetery

i New burial ground: Cllr Lockley had met with the PC's surveyor and the landowner's agent on site and had marked out a 2 acre plot. A mapped plan will be prepared and put to the PC at the September meeting for approval. It was **RESOLVED** to put this matter on the agenda for the September meeting when the council would discuss commissioning a specialist company to undertake a proper assessment and consultation.

ii Friends' group: The next working party was scheduled for 7 September; this would be advertised in the Harbury News.

5 Allotments

An inspection had been undertaken and tenants contacted about tending their plots. On her return from leave, the clerk would be sending out the rent reminders and this would be emphasized again. A question was asked about the available ½ plot; the clerk pointed out that this was still vacant, along with another one since the last meeting and another one becoming vacant in October; however, there are 3 on the waiting list, so it was anticipated that they would not be dormant for long.

6 Correspondence

There was none.

7 Members' Items

Noticeboards – These are waiting to be installed.

17/132 Environment

Updates were reported on the following:

1 Street lighting

All the Windsor lanterns have now been replaced with LEDs and the 60 remaining mercury lanterns are scheduled for next year (approx. £300 each = £18,000, spread over 2 years). The clerk will check the schedule to confirm the exact number.

2 Traffic & transport - Southam transport scheme for medical appointments

Discussion took place on Southam's transport scheme for medical appointments and whether this service was of benefit to village residents. Had any thought been given to the Ubus and E-cars system? Cllr Christou would be asked to report back to the next meeting on this. In the meantime, it was **RESOLVED** that the clerk would write to Southam Town Council to ascertain how the £4,000 running costs is made up.

3 Review of street cleaning/litter

A review of the bins had been undertaken on their capability/overuse/underuse. Please let Cllr Gibb know of any bins that are under-used or overflowing as it may be possible to move some to different locations. The service at present for the emptying of the bins appears to be reliable.

4 Correspondence - none

5 Members' Items

- The Environment Working Group will survey village roads after the gas works are completed, to check for defects.
- Developers should be reminded to reinstate the edges of The Pound.
- Cllr Thompson has already discussed the condition of ONI green with the site manager for the gas works and has been assured it will be made good.

17/133 Finance & General Purposes

1 Monthly Financial Report

It was reported that, although we were only a third through the year, finances were on track. There were no questions.

2 Review of licence arrangements with sports clubs

The clerk explained the reasons for the review in that the current licence arrangement should be reviewed every 5 years, but this had not happened since 2000. There were also concerns raised by the PC's internal auditor. The auditor had suggested that a new lease be drawn up and that the sports clubs' contributions are treated as rent - this arrangement would then be VAT exempt and the PC could legitimately recover all the VAT on expenditure, subject to a maximum limit of £7,500 pa. It was proposed to discuss this fully at the September meeting when it was hoped that:

- (a) the clerk would have clarified the VAT position with the auditor
- (b) there would be agreement to the proposals from all parties and their members
- (c) the clerk would have asked the clubs for a list of assets drawn up for the proposed transfer to the PC and these provided
- (d) there would be a list of clear instructions of what is to be achieved for the solicitor
- (e) the clerk to have obtained quotes from solicitors

3 Councillors' email addresses

The current arrangements were not satisfactory, but SDC have said they are not responsible for the email addresses. The clerk reported that she was exploring other avenues, but that this was not an easy task and reminded members that this had been left unresolved two years ago. Cllr Mancell said that he would speak to Tony Jay at Arrowscape (the PC's website provider) to ascertain his opinion.

4 Councillor training

The clerk had distributed training opportunities for next year; Cllr Lockley made particular reference to 'Voice of the Councillor' which had been an interesting and worthwhile read.

5 Correspondence

There was none

6 Members' items

There was none

17/134 Parish Boundary Review

Although progressing, there was nothing new to report.

17/135 Assets of Community Value

Cllr Christou was to update on the registration of assets but, in his absence, this was deferred until the September meeting.

17/136 Code of Conduct Consultation
It was **RESOLVED** to make no response.

17/137 Accounts for Payment
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for payment as per Appendix B (Cllrs Lockley and Summers to sign).

17/138 Reports & Questions

- i Cllr Thornley and Cllr Summers attended the HS2 seminar on community funding; no match-funding was needed.
- ii Cllr Lockley met with Cllr Baldwin of Ufton PC to discuss the creation of a path between Harbury and Ufton using HS2 community funding. The cost may prove prohibitive, and a feasibility study has already been done. WCC, as the landowner, would need to make the grant application.

17/139 Confidential Matters
Discussion took place on how important it was to save the Post Office; this was a much-needed asset in the village, particularly with the recent closure of the one in Bishops Itchington, and all efforts should be made to help it thrive.

17/140 Date of Next Meeting:
The next ordinary meeting of the parish council will take place on Thursday 28 September 2017 at 7.30pm in Harbury Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

Signed	Chairman	Date
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APPENDIX A

Planning Applications – Delegated Responses 27 July 2017

- 1 17/01731/FUL
Proposed single storey rear extension and demolition of existing extension. Minor amendments to existing house to include new windows to side and front elevations
29 Manor Orchard
No representation
- 2 17/01829/TREE
H1 – Hornbeam - Fell
The Old Bakery, Chapel Street
No representation
- 3 17/01573/FUL
Conversion of existing utility to bedroom to include a single storey extension to the front elevation of the house. Note extension to accommodate new porch which replaces the existing timber arch.
6 Knightlow Way
No representation
- 4 17/01876/AGNOT
Steel-frame extension to the existing modern agricultural barn
Greenhill Farm, Bishop's Itchington
No representation
- 5 17/02042/AGNOT
New general purpose agricultural building for storage of machinery, produce, fertilizer etc.
Harbury Fields Farm, Middle Road
No representation
- 6 17/01783/FUL & W/17/1010
Installation of energy storage system (ESS) and associated electrical equipment.
Land on east side of Fosse Way, Radford Semele
No representation

