

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 25 August 2020 at 7.00 pm
Held remotely via Zoom due to the current pandemic

Present: Councillors: A Gill (Chairman), P Joslin, S Rose, A Joolia, D Wellbelove and A Everitt.

In attendance: 1 member of the public and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

None.

1. To approve apologies for absence

Cllr Gidding's seat had fallen vacant due to non-attendance and would be advertised.

2. Declaration of interests

2.1 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda and details of dispensations held

Cllrs Joslin and Joolia declared a personal interest in the display of signs for St Neots Road as residents of St Neots Road.

Cllr Wellbelove declared an interest in item 5.8 as a member of HSSC.

Cllr Rose declared an interest in item 5.8 as a life member of HSSC and in item 8.3.1 (tree works at 10 Sadler's Close) as a resident of Sadler's Close.

2.2 To receive written and grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate for items on this agenda

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the previous meetings on 28 July and 4 August

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 28 July be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record, after deleting "all information should be one way only" under item 4.11, second paragraph, and changing "SCDC" to "Barton Willmore" under item 7.1.2. (Prop DW, 2nd AG, unanimous)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 4 August be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record. (Prop DW, 2nd AG, unanimous)

4. To consider an application for co-option – Alan Everitt, 2 Sadler's Close

RESOLVED that Alan Everitt be co-opted as a member of the Parish Council. (Prop AG, 2nd AJ, unanimous)

Cllr Everitt signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk before taking his seat.

5. Matters arising and carried forward from the last or previous meetings for discussion/decisions

5.1 (Public meeting) To consider any matters arising from the discussion with Countryside Properties

A copy of the Highways England decision to support the Bourn Airfield development had been received from Countryside Properties. RESOLVED to note that Highways England had stated they "request that robust travel planning measures are conditioned as part of any consent."

RESOLVED that Cllr Everitt be appointed to continue to progress his work on traffic issues emanating from the development at Bourn Airfield. (Prop SR, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

5.2 (4.2) Millers Way transfer – to consider the draft transfer agreement and the funding

A proposal ^(AG) was made to ask Persimmon for funds to cover the new quotation from Phil Brannigan to make up the roadway in 2021, at a total cost of £15,753.00, noting that Persimmon covering the costs of the surveyor would depend on the costs.

An amendment to the proposal ^(SR) was tabled that an additional 10% be requested to cover the professional costs to ensure that the works were carried out to the specification. The amendment was accepted by the proposer.

RESOLVED to ask Persimmon for funds to cover the new quotation from Phil Brannigan to make up the roadway in 2021, at a total cost of £15,753.00 plus an additional 10% to cover the professional costs to ensure that the works were carried out to the specification. (Prop SR, 2nd AG, carried with 3 in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention)

5.2.1 To consider quotations for lighting

RESOLVED to request a free of charge survey from Prolectric for solar lighting and that Cllr Joolia should provide the contact details to the Clerk and that the Chairman should provide the specification.

5.3 (4.11) Communications Working Group – to consider membership and Terms of Reference

RESOLVED to approve the Terms of Reference as detailed in the proposal made to the last meeting, with the addition of liaison with village groups and organisations, and Facebook.

RESOLVED that the membership should consist of Cllr Joolia (Convenor) and Cllr Everitt, and that the working group should include residents from the village. (Prop AJ, 2nd AG, unanimous)

5.4 (4.12) Installation of bollards at Recreation Ground – to consider quotations if received

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from James Wakeling for fifty 3x3 inch posts at an approximate cost of £800.00, and that the Chairman should oversee the project. (Prop AG, 2nd AJ, unanimous)

5.5 (6.1) Trees at Blenheim Way – to consider advice if received

At 8.05 pm, on a proposition by the Chairman, carried unopposed, in accordance with S1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that is, legal matters, the public were temporarily excluded from the meeting and were instructed to withdraw. One member of the public left the meeting. The Clerk was invited to remain

RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting and to inform the resident that the Parish Council is still awaiting some information.

5.6 (6.2) Pump refurbishment – to consider quotations if received

RESOLVED that the Chairman should assist Ian Giddings to repair the pump if he is willing, and that the Parish Council would cover the costs of materials. (Prop AG, 2nd DW, unanimous)

5.7 (9) Speedwatch and consideration of the signage at the entrance to the village

RESOLVED to take this under item 5.12.

5.8 (9) Problems with the structure of the Pavilion – to consider correspondence received and report on site meeting

RESOLVED that the repairs to the cistern overflow are to be put in hand.

RESOLVED that a builder be asked to take a look at the problems with the roof and if necessary remove the tiles to check the felt and rafters to put work in hand now to prevent bigger problems in the future. Quotations are to be considered by the Council.

RESOLVED to replace the changing room rear doors and obtain quotations. (Prop AG, 2nd SR, unanimous)

- 5.9 (9) Zero Carbon grants – invitation to apply
RESOLVED that Cllr Joolia should speak to the Climate Group to ask whether they wish to make an application.
An online briefing for Parish Councils held on 6 July to find out more about the grants available had been attended by Nicky Kerr, Mia Cassey and Cllr Rose on behalf of Hardwick Community Centre Working Group.
- 5.10 Emergency Plan update
The Plan had been updated as previously agreed. RESOLVED that quarterly reviews were not now necessary.
- 5.11 Litter and clearance of the area to the rear of the Scout Hut update and to consider if any further action is required
It was noted that the litter had been cleared as agreed but the tree house built on land leased by the Scouts had been dismantled by the Scouts and the bin provided by Cllr Rose had been removed. A new tree house had been built on Parish Council land, causing a resident to complain.
RESOLVED that Cllr Joolia put an article on the website stating that the Parish Council will take no action provided the presence of the tree house does not become anti-social, but the Council will monitor the situation. The litter picker has already been asked to keep the area clear.
RESOLVED that the Parish Council should note the circumstances and monitor the situation. (Prop SR, 2nd DW, unanimous)
- 5.12 (4.0.2) Proposal that the Council considers signage in St Neots Road
- 5.12.1 Proposal that the Council check that Speedwatch signs have been installed correctly
- 5.12.2 Proposal that the messy signs at the entrance to the village are addressed
- 5.12.3 Proposal that the gate at the entrance of the village is repaired
On a proposition by the Chairman, these three items were taken together.
RESOLVED to note that:
The gates at the entrance to the village, which are a Parish Council asset, are missing on the south side.
The warning sign at the south side is not required.
The cycling crossing signs are required but one has been broken in the last week.
The cyclists dismount sign would not be required if being considered now, as it would be on the carriage way which would be tidier.
The 40 mph sign is important and needs to be visible.
The Community Speedwatch sign is obscured by other signage.
RESOLVED that Cllr Everitt be appointed to liaise with Highways to regularise the signage. (Prop AG, 2nd SR, unanimous)
RESOLVED that the Clerk would inform Highways of Cllr Everitt's appointment and that Cllr Everitt would provide the Clerk with the Officer's name so that she could do the introductions.
- 5.13 (6.1 June) Resident – request that the tennis courts/all weather facility is refurbished – to consider the village's response
RESOLVED, noting that approximately 17 responses had been received in favour, including requests for other sports such as basketball, football and pickleball, but that did not constitute sufficient support to cover the cost of nets and posts which would be approximately £500.00 for one court, to ask a volunteer whether she would be willing to help to start a tennis club in the village on the proviso that this can only be a temporary measure as the MUGA is likely to be utilised by the proposed Community Hall.
RESOLVED to defer this item to a future meeting pending a response.

RESOLVED at 9.00 pm, in accordance with Standing Orders, in view of the amount of business remaining, that the meeting should continue for a further half hour.

5.14 LHI 2020-2021 Cambridge Road – to consider CCC’s suggestions for a modified bid including a raised table at Limes Road and Give Way features in Main Street and on Cambridge Road and to consider the additional costs

RESOLVED having considered the two schemes put forward by Highways to apply for the Give Way feature option 2b as this would be within the budget and would not encroach on the path, whereas the other scheme would change the pattern of traffic in the village and was therefore discounted. Highways is to be asked to provide costings for the Give Way scheme. (Prop AG, 2nd AJ, unanimous)

Other

(8.3) Proposed cycle scheme for Hardwick and to consider correspondence from residents had been provided in the Clerk’s report.

County Cllr Lina Nieto’s response regarding St Neots Road and her apologies were noted.

6. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

6.1 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk and Clerk’s use of delegated powers

RESOLVED to note that the Clerk used delegated powers as follows:

- Ask the Pest Control company to return to deal with the wasps’ nest under the slide at St Mary’s play area, as this had not been eradicated.
- Contract RPM to repair the concrete edges at the bottom of the flat bank and fun box at the skate park at a cost of £350.00 plus VAT.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied.

6.3 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

RESOLVED that the payments as listed in the finance report should be paid, plus Oakes & Watson (Tree branch removal) £144.00, RPM (Skate park repairs) £420.00 and RH Landscapes (Grass cutting) £1740.00. (Prop SR, 2nd AG, carried with 5 in favour and 1 abstention)

Salaries and pensions	£395.22
SSE (Street light electricity) (DD)	£87.47
ARD Playgrounds (Play equipment repairs)	£1810.92
LGS Services (Admin support – July)	£1402.95

6.2 To receive play areas and skate park inspection reports and consider if any work is required

RESOLVED that the Chairman should speak to the resident as the fence adjacent to the Grenadier Walk play area still had not been repaired.

RESOLVED to delegate to the Clerk to put works in hand for the replacement of the rope and the broken plastic cap on the Egremont Road multiplay unit.

6.4 To consider quotations for insurance cover if received

RESOLVED that the contents figure should be reduced to £750.00 and to seek other quotations and to defer this item to the next meeting.

RESOLVED that remaining items apart from 8.1.1 be adjourned to a meeting be held on Tuesday 1 September at 7.00 pm and also to consider any applications for co-option received at that meeting.

8.1.1 20/03157/HFUL – 128 Main Street – Single storey front extension

RESOLVED that the Parish Council is neutral and has no comments. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

10. Closure of meeting and items for the next agenda

The meeting was adjourned at 9.40 pm.

SignedChairmandate

APPROVED