

**Hardwick Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 25 July 2017**  
**in the School at 7.00 pm**

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

In attendance: 21 members of the public including District Cllr G Chamberlain, Chris Fuller (Cricket Club), and Martin Cassey; County Cllr L Joseph and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

**Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors**

The Chairman explained that St Neots Road was not on the agenda tonight but the Parish Council would listen and take residents' comments on board.

Residents expressed their strong objections to the option for a bus route between St Neots Road and the A428, stating that this proposal was causing great distress to the residents of St Neots Road, was a threat to their quality of life, was unsafe and would be an environmental disaster for the established hedgerow and mature trees. The Parish Council was urged not to continue supporting this route and was asked why the Council had favoured it.

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had reached a decision in December based on all the information available at the time on the routes selected by the County Council team. It was believed that if the route ran beyond the A428 Hardwick could be bypassed, with the only stop possibly over the blue bridge, whereas if it was to the south of the A428 there could be more bus stops nearer the village, which would be of greater benefit to the village as a whole. The position was expected to become clearer in September when more information should be available and it was still the Parish Council's intention to revisit the matter when more was known.

County Cllr Joseph arrived at 7.10 pm.

District Cllr Chamberlain reported on:

- The Community Chest fund had awarded grants of £1000.00 to the Pre-School for the decking and to Hardwick Play Parks for play equipment. Agreement had been reached for the school bus to be used for a camping trip.
- Regarding the bus route, with the prospect of over 8500 new homes and potentially 17,500 cars travelling between St Neots and Cambridge, a fast reliable transport service was needed to avoid gridlock. Andy Campbell of Stagecoach had indicated that the current bus system would continue but with frequency possibly reduced from 20 to 30 minutes.
- Options under consideration for an advanced, very fast (up to 100 mph) transport system using an underground system through Cambridge city; potentially starting in 2019-2020.
- The Greater Cambridge Deal options and that a further report is expected from the officers in September. Cllr Chamberlain felt that the best route was alongside the A428 and he outlined his reasons for this. Cllr Chamberlain urged the Parish Council to reconsider its present position.

A resident asked for the bus route to be an agenda item for the next meeting. The Parish Council explained that information from the Greater Cambridge Partnership and executive board as to how they wished to proceed was not likely to be available until September. There would be a public consultation and the Parish Council would be in a better position to comment when information was forthcoming. Cllr Chamberlain observed that the decision on the Park and Ride site would be made in September and this would influence the route.

County Cllr Joseph reported :-

- the officers and the Mayor were now talking about future proofing which would involve segregation of the transport. In response to a question Cllr Joseph suggested that the Mayor would want the scheme to move forward quickly and favoured light rail.
- Work with the the National Cambridgeshire Board and Royal British Legion
- The East-West rail meeting will take place in September.
- Fostering and CCC's role as corporate parents to nearly 700 children. Foster families are needed in Cambridgeshire.
- NHS check ups
- Renewable energy
- Cllr Joseph is waiting to hear whether she will be a governor at Hardwick School.
- The road maintenance budget.

A resident asked whether a decision on the location of the Park and Ride site determined that there would be a busway. Cllr Chamberlain replied that the route could involve rail or a rapid transit system. Cllr Joseph explained that the Greater Cambridge Partnership was still focusing on the Madingley area, not the Hardwick tranche.

A resident raised the poor state of repair of the footpaths. Cllr Joseph asked that she be informed of the location of any problems officers would come out. Residents were asked to let her know of any outstanding issues or concerns.

**1. To approve apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Humphries and Skingle (both out of parish).

**2. To consider any applications to fill the casual vacancy**

None.

**3. Declaration of interests**

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

Cllr Rose declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7.1.2 as he knew the applicant, and indicated that he would not speak or vote.

Cllr Gill declared an interest in item 8.1 as a member of the trustees of the Community Hall and that he had sought a dispensation.

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

None.

**4. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 27 June 2017**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> June be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record, after the following amendments: under item 3.1, line 1, to read "non-pecuniary interest" and under item 7.1.6, reference should read "S/2212/17/FL." (Prop PJ, 2nd DW, unanimous)

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

**5.1 (5.3) Proposed community minibus report to consider how this is to be progressed**

RESOLVED that Mr Cassey should speak to his report and recommendations during this item.

RESOLVED having considered Martin Cassey's previously circulated report and recommendations that the day to day management should be undertaken by a separate

not for profit organisation, to ask the Clerk to investigate the tax implications of a charity or a not for profit community interest company. <sup>(Prop SR, 2nd AG, unanimous)</sup>

RESOLVED to note that it would be necessary for the Parish Council to have an outline policy or approval on the routes and services in order for the S106 agreement to be taken forward.

RESOLVED to receive and approve the report as a whole.

RESOLVED <sup>(Prop SR, 2nd AG, unanimous)</sup> to agree the all the recommendations in the report except for 4, 5, 6 and 7, which were consequently not applicable:

1. Continue to support and pursue the establishment of a Community Transport Initiative (CTI) for Hardwick.
2. Support negotiations with the developers to secure the proposed Section 106 funding of £45,000 from Hill (Grace Crescent) and £20,000 from Circle Housing Group (St Neots Road).
3. Support the request for negotiations with the developers to incorporate flexibility regarding the allocation of S106 funding between Capital and Revenue costs for the CTI.
8. Support the establishment of a management body such as a registered charity or a 'not for profit' Community Interest Company to deliver the Community Transport service.
9. Appoint Cllr Humphries to assist in forming and subsequently act as trustee or Director alongside others in the alternative management body.
10. Task the management body with delivering a range of Community Transport services including operating one or more vehicles to transport members of Community organisations under section 19, and/or community bus services that are 'local bus services' and can carry the general public under section 22 permits.
11. Use the S106 funding to procure a vehicle for use by the CTI and to make the vehicle, together with the S106 operational support funding, available to the management body to facilitate delivery of the services.
12. Authorise and support further work to determine the nature of the management body, the appropriate size and specification of vehicle, vehicle funding arrangements and discussions with relevant organisations with a view to securing the necessary permits, licences, insurances, and other arrangements for the proper operation of the Community Transport service.

RESOLVED that the above information be conveyed to David Thompson of SCDC. <sup>(Prop SR, 2nd AG, unanimous)</sup>

#### 5.2 (5.7) Report to Parish Council on outstanding invoices from football clubs

RESOLVED to seek a further report from the Clerk for the September meeting, when this will be an agenda item. <sup>(Prop SR, 2nd PJ, unanimous)</sup>

#### 5.3 (7.1) Planning applications – to consider a procedure for late applications received

RESOLVED to adopt the following policy:

#### “PLANNING APPLICATIONS PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS

The importance of making decisions in public is noted; however, if an application arrives requiring a decision between the meeting and a time extension has been refused by the Planning Authority, members will be invited to make individual comments to the Clerk, to whom in such circumstances the Parish Council lawfully

delegates authority to submit the Parish Council's response to the application (S101, LGA 1972). If this policy is applied the Clerk will notify the Council of the decision at its next meeting. The Chairman may decide to convene an extra-ordinary meeting or two members may ask him to do so if they think the application should be discussed at a full Council meeting.” (Prop AG, 2nd SR, unanimous)

- 5.4 (9.2) To consider quotations for the removal of concrete posts if received  
RESOLVED to accept the quotation from RPM for £100.00 plus VAT. (Prop SR, 2nd PJG, unanimous)

- 5.5 (9.2) Moss clearance Grenadier Walk  
RESOLVED to delegate to the Clerk to obtain quotations and put the work in hand. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

- 5.6 (10) Hardwick Church – Query whether Hardwick Parish Council is an eligible Parish Council with regard to the Localism Act S8 and whether it can give money to the Church  
A response from NALC is awaited.

## **6. Correspondence/communications received**

- 6.1 Hardwick Cricket Club request for leniency over pitch fee  
RESOLVED, given the reduction in the number of matches being played, to reduce the fee due for the 2016 season as a one-off occurrence from £250.00 to £75.00, to be paid by the end of January 2018. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

- 6.2 Consultation on the governance of Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service and Cambridgeshire Constabulary  
RESOLVED that members should respond as individuals.  
County Cllr Joseph was invited to speak. She indicated that the County Council favoured Option 2, whereby the Police and Crime Commissioner sits on the board of the Fire Authority as a representative but does not take control.

## **7. Planning Applications and Decision notices and tree works applications**

- 7.1 Planning applications received since the last meeting

- 7.1.1 S/2289/17/FL – 22 Sudeley Grove – Side extension to garage  
RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the application. (Prop PJ, 2nd AG, unanimous)

- 7.1.2 S/2321/17/FL – 18 Hall Drive – Single storey front and rear extension  
Cllr Rose, having previously declared an interest, sat back and did not take part in the discussion.  
RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no recommendation. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, carried with 1 abstention)

- 7.1.3 S/2342/17/FL – Workshop rear of 303 St Neots Road – To convert the existing commercial unit to a two bed bungalow  
RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no recommendation but to comment that there does not appear to be any access or parking on the plans. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

- 7.1.4 S/2212/17/FL – 11 Pershore Road – Proposed two storey extension to the side of the property with a single storey extension to the rear  
RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no recommendation. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

## **7.2 SCDC Decision Notices**

Details of planning permissions granted by SCDC or refusal notices since the last meeting can be viewed on the SCDC Planning Portal at <http://plan.scams.gov.uk/>.

- 7.2.1 S/1648/17/FL – 50 Hall Drive – Single storey side extension, two storey rear extension and conversion of garage – Permission granted.

Noted.

- 7.2.2 S/1704/17/FL – 23 Laxton Avenue – Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension to dwelling - Permission granted.

Noted.

7.3 Tree Works

None.

RESOLVED to check the position with regards to regarding the branch which had fallen across the path in woodland between Sudeley Grove and Ashmead Drive. The branch had been removed but the damaged tree remained.

**8. Members reports and items for information only**

8.1 New Housing Developments and Planning Obligations

Cllr Rose reported that he had attended a meeting with Martin Cassey, the Chairman, District Councillor and County Councillor prior to a meeting with Heidi Allen MP on Friday, to progress the case for additional healthcare provision in the village. Cllr Chamberlain sought an indication as to whether the Parish Council would be prepared to fund costs estimated to be between £25,000 and £60,000 per annum. The Parish Council explained that it would first need to know the requirement and the number of residents who would want this. It was acknowledged that there had been a great deal of support for health facilities shown by the Village Plan responses, suggesting that the village was in favour of the proposal. The Parish Council reiterated that if additional funding was required, this would have to be quantified and looked at and put to the Parish Council, but in the absence of firm information it was not possible to give any commitment.

8.1.1 David Thompson, SCDC – effect of Supreme Court judgement and Planning Committee meeting

RESOLVED having considered the email from David Thompson explaining the need for another SCDC Planning Committee meeting following the recent Supreme Court judgement that the Parish Council supports both the Grace Crescent and St Neots Road applications on the same basis as previously. (Prop AG, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

RESOLVED that Cllr Gill will attend the Planning Committee meeting and will notify SCDC accordingly.

8.0.1 Report on A428 Local Liaison Forum meeting held on 17 July

Cllr Joslin's previously circulated report was taken as read.

**9. Finance, procedure and risk assessment**

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

RESOLVED to note the following:

(9.1) Quotes for urgent work tree branch between Ashmead Drive and Sudeley Grove – the Clerk used her delegated powers to contract Oakes tree surgery to dispose of the fallen branch.

(9.2) The Clerk accepted a quote for the repairs to the play equipment £1690.00 and asked them to clean off the bird droppings at St Mary's play area at no cost to the Council.

9.2 To receive play areas and skate park inspection reports

RESOLVED to receive the report on the skate park.

9.3 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 Herts and Cambs Ground Maintenance (Grass cutting) £282.00. (Prop SR, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

Herts and Cambs Ground Maintenance (Grass cutting)	£846.00
Hardwick School (Room hire)	£119.00
Dyno Rod (Pavilion drains)	£336.00
Salary	£90.36
Salary	£110.00
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1305.53
NEST (Pension) (DD)	£166.75

Credits, including investment interest and Pavilion rent, were noted.

**10. Members' items for the next agenda and for the Clerk's information and Closure of meeting**

“Review of busway route and Park and Ride location” is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.29 pm.

Signed .....Chairman .....date.

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