

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 26 April 2022 at 7.00 pm
Held at The Cabin at St Mary's, Hardwick

Present: Councillors: P Joslin (Chairman), A Everitt, I Giddings and S Rose

In attendance: 2 members of the public and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Open public session including reports from the County and District Councillors

None.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Gill (illness) and Joolia (out of parish), and also from District Cllr Grenville Chamberlain.

2. Declarations of interest

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

None.

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

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 22 March

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 22 March be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record, after an amendment under open session, paragraph 2, line 2, to insert "of £3500" before "Jubilee events;" and in item 7.5, bullet point 3, to add "Cllr Atkins had published a conclusion on Active Travel that had not been provided to the Parish Council." (Prop AE, 2nd IG)

Mrs Anne Jones asked for clarification as to whether the budget for the Jubilee events included the plaque and notice board.

4. Matters arising or deferred from the last or previous meetings for discussion/decision

4.1 (Open) Support for Ukraine including options for funding, co-ordination of support networks, meeting space

The Clerk advised the Parish Council regarding its lack of powers for welfare and options under S137 and S145 entertainment.

RESOLVED to note that Mrs Jones reported that nine families had offered to host and that some Ukrainian families had arrived. The Cabin at St Mary's was willing to allow families to use the facilities on a Wednesday.

RESOLVED to note that residents had already started co-ordinating arrangements and Mrs Jones was asked to inform Chris Ford that the Council's Chairman should attend these meeting..

Cllr Giddings indicated his intention to write to Hardwick Happenings with some suggestions.

4.2 (4.2) Proposal that the Parish Council considers changes to the Standing Orders which includes proposal to clarify arrangements for communications with Councillors when the Clerk is unavailable

On a proposition by the Chairman this item was deferred to the end of the meeting.

4.3 (4.4) To consider quotations for jet washing the play equipment

RESOLVED having considered two quotations, to dismiss the quotation from RPM as being too high, that Cllr Rose will look at the St Mary's Play area to see if the Wet

and Forget method could be used and if so to ask James Wakeling to clean the areas using this method..

4.4 (5.2) To consider quotations for cradle swing seat if received

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from RPM for £295.00 plus VAT for a new cradle swing seat

4.5 (4.8) St Mary's Access Road lighting – Proposal that the Parish Council appoints a supplier for the Village Green lighting project

RESOLVED to accept the Balfour Beatty revised quotation B for the sum of £7345.29 plus VAT for the installation of the lighting, which is within the Council's budget of £8500.00. (Prop AE, 2nd SR, unanimous)

The Clerk signed the contract on behalf of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that Cllr Everitt should continue to be the contact for this project and progress it.

4.6 (5.7 of 26.10.21) – To consider correspondence from Civilistix regarding the tenders for Millers Way improvements

RESOLVED that the Chairman should arrange a meeting with Civilistix to discuss a way forward. (Prop PJ, 2nd SR, unanimous)

RESOLVED that Cllr Everitt should pass over information on the history of Millers Way noting that FP6 is shown as maintainable on the Streets section of the CCC website, and past information which would challenge James Stringer's conclusion.

Other

(4.5 of 22.2.22) HSSC request for rent suspension

Correspondence from the HSSC Chairman that they were now in a position to resume rent payment from June 2022, and thanking the Parish Council for its support, was noted.

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

7.3 Matching the remaining funds in relation to notice board grant application from community chest

RESOLVED having considered the successful grant award from SDC subject to the Parish Council agreeing to meet the shortfall in costs that the Parish Council agrees to meet the estimated shortfall of approximately £443.00. (Prop SR, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

7.9 Proposal that the Parish Council considers a grant application from The Cabin at St Mary's/St Mary's Church for funds to extend the patio area to the west of The Cabin

NALC's advice that Section 8 Local Government Act 1894 prevents the Council from contributing towards the cost of any church buildings and/or property, as set out in the NALC Legal Briefing Note L01-18 Financial Assistance to the Church, was noted.

A proposal, later withdrawn (Prop SR, 2nd IG) was made that, having considered the Legal Briefing Note and the Clerk's advice, the Parish Council is regretfully unable to provide funding towards the patio.

A proposal ^(AE) that the vote on this proposal be recorded was also withdrawn.

RESOLVED that having considered the advice, to defer this item until the new Council had been formed at its next meeting.

5. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

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

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

- Purchase two watering bags for the Spinney at a cost of £58.00 as the Climate Action Group did not have any.

- With the Chairman's agreement to authorise £97 for Limes Road notice board's delivery.
- 5.2 To receive play areas and skate park inspection reports and consider if any work is required
RESOLVED to thank James Wakeling for his kind offer to compact the soil around the manhole cover free of charge.
- 5.3 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills
RESOLVED that the payments as listed as below in the finance report should be paid.
(Prop PJ, 2nd IG, unanimous)
- | | |
|--|----------|
| Salaries and Pensions | £581.87 |
| Oakington Garden Centre (Shrubs) | £154.69 |
| Stantec (Community Centre) | £1950.00 |
| RH Landscapes (Grass cutting) | £780.00 |
| AMA (Community Centre) | £7540.00 |
| Balfour Beatty (Street light design – St Mary's) | £307.28 |
| A Joolia (Expenses – Website security) | £76.00 |
| Playsafety (RoSPA inspection) | £424.20 |
| LGS Services (Admin support) | £1421.48 |
- Credits, including pitch hire fees, were noted.
- 5.4 SCDC S106 Agreement for Land south of 279 St Neots Road – to appoint two members to sign the indemnity agreement
RESOLVED that Cllrs Rose and Joslin be appointed to sign the indemnity agreement on behalf of the Parish Council. This was witnessed by the Clerk.
RESOLVED to hold the First and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 17 May at 7pm in the Cabin.
- 5.5 To consider the RoSPA Playsafety inspection reports
RESOLVED, noting that nothing was considered a high risk, to delegate to someone at a future meeting to review the report and make recommendations. (Prop SR, 2nd AE, unanimous)
- 6. Planning Applications and Decision notices and tree works applications**
- 6.1.1 21/01502/FUL – Recreation Ground, Egremont Road, Hardwick – Creation of new Community Centre and associated facilities for Hardwick village
RESOLVED, for avoidance of doubt, that the Parish Council fully supports this planning application. (Prop SR, 2nd PJ, unanimous)
- 6.2 SCDC and appeal decision notices - to note
- 6.2.1 22/00375/HFUL – 6 Pershore Road – Two storey side extension following the demolition of the existing garage – Permission granted.
- 6.2.2 22/00058/HFUL – 27 Worcester Avenue – Rear single storey extension and garage conversion - Permission granted.
- 6.2.3 21/01832/FUL – Land south of St Neots Road – Erection of 23 dwellings including access, associated infrastructure, and landscaping – Permission granted.
- 6.2.4 21/01832/CONDA – Land south of 279 St Neots Road – Submission of details required by Condition 4 (Long term drainage maintenance) of planning permission 21/01832/FUL
- 6.2.5 21/01832/CONDB – As above, Condition 6 (Surface water)
- 6.2.6 21/01832/CONDC – As above, Condition 8 (Construction environmental management plan)
- 6.2.7 21/01832/CONDD – As above, Condition 9 (Roads and footways)

- 6.2.8 21/01832/CONDE – As above, Condition 10 (Street management and maintenance)
- 6.2.9 21/01832/CONDF – As above, Condition 11 (Traffic management plan)
- 6.2.10 21/01832/CONDG – As above, Conditions 19 (Contamination) and 20 (Verification report)
- 6.2.11 21/01832/CONDH – As above, Condition 22 (Street furniture/boundary treatment/landscape management and maintenance)
- 6.2.12 21/01832/CONDI – As above, Condition 16 (Lighting)
- 6.2.13 21/01832/CONDJ – As above, Condition 29 (Waste and recycling)
- 6.2.14 21/01832/CONDK – As above, Condition 25 (Cycle parking)
- 6.2.15 21/01832/CONDL – As above, Condition 29 (External materials)

6.3 Tree works applications
None.

7. Members' reports and items for information only

7.1 New Housing Developments and Planning Obligations

RESOLVED to receive Cllr Rose's report that the planning application for the Community Centre had been published inviting residents to comment if they so wish. Cllr Rose reported that he and the Chairman had met with Pigeon, who had expressed a wish to develop land beyond Meridian Close as there was not enough self-build provision in the Local Plan. The proposal involved building approximately 40-50 affordable homes and 15 self-build plots on 10 acres of land, with 4 acres being open space. The developers had offered to give a presentation to the Parish Council.

7.2 The Spinney update – Biodiversity recommendations – Proposal that the Council considers the need to define the unsafe trees in The Spinney, do they need urgent removal, this information plan is urgently requested prior to proceeding with any improvement work in the Spinney

RESOLVED that Cllr Joslin should ask Hill consultant James Blake which trees were identified as needing urgent removal.

7.3 Matching the remaining funds in relation to notice board grant application from community chest

Taken earlier.

7.4 Proposal that someone takes over from the Communications Working Group monitoring Facebook

RESOLVED that this would be covered at the annual meeting as Cllr Everitt will no longer be carrying out this role from 9 May.

7.5 Proposal that the Parish Council considers the purchase of "Slow down" signage for near the pond. Cllr Everitt is willing to install

RESOLVED to purchase two signs stating "Slow Wildlife Crossing" at a total cost of £58.00 plus VAT and delivery, and that Cllrs Everitt and Giddings should install them. (Prop AE, 2nd IG, unanimous)

7.6 Proposal that the Parish Council considers some benches around the village for older folk to take a rest, at green spaces such as Pump Lane or other locations

RESOLVED that Cllr Everitt should find sites for three benches costing up to £1000 in all and that he be supplied with an order number by the Clerk.

7.7 Highways and Road Safety Report

RESOLVED that the Parish Council hopes someone will take over the role of keeping the Greater Cambridge Partnership under close watch.

RESOLVED that the area by St Mary's be known in future as "The Village Green by St Mary's."

Cllr Rose left the meeting at 9.12 pm.

Cllr Giddings offered his assistance with Speed Watch on St Neots Road.

Highways had apologised to Cllr Everitt for placing the sign in the wrong location and this will be relocated.

Cllr Rose re-joined the meeting at 9.14 pm.

7.8 Proposal that the Parish Council considers a grant application from Scrubs for Cambridgeshire

RESOLVED to approve a donation of £200.00 to Scrubs which the Council considers is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants. (Prop AE, 2nd IG, unanimous)

7.9 Proposal that the Parish Council considers a grant application from The Cabin at St Mary's/St Mary's Church for funds to extend the patio area to the west of The Cabin

Taken earlier.

8. **To consider any correspondence/communications received requiring formal noting by or a decision of the Council**

8.1 Resident - request that their Christmas tree be planted in the green space adjacent to the "cut through" pathway between Limes Road and Laxton Avenue, or perhaps near or in the church yard

RESOLVED that Cllr Giddings should liaise with the Climate Action Group for more information and ask them for a recommendation as to the height and spread. (Prop AE, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

8.2 Resident - request to plant a replacement tree opposite their house in Limes Road in memory of his dog

RESOLVED that Cllr Giddings should speak with the resident about the proposal, the species and suitability of the proposed tree and make a recommendation to the Council when more information was known.

RESOLVED to note that Cllr Joslin had donated a small oak sapling to be planted in approximately one year's time.

8.3 Resident - request permission to reduce size of trees to rear of their house at Ashmead Drive

RESOLVED that the Parish Council has no objections to the resident cutting back the overhanging branches to their boundary, but does not grant permission for the reduction of the field maple. (Prop SR, 2nd IG, unanimous)

RESOLVED to send Oakes and Watson a link to the tree policy on the website.

8.4 Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group Ponds Team – Funded Pond Conservation project

Noted.

8.5 CAMSAR – request to locate a recycling bin in the village

RESOLVED to thank CAMSAR but to let them know that there is already a recycling bin in the village.

9. **Closure of meeting and items for the next agenda**

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.34 pm.

SignedChairmandate