HARDWICK PARISH COUNCIL

I hereby give notice that the Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 19 April 2023 at 7.00 pm at in The Cabin at St Mary's

The Public and Press are cordially invited to be present. The order of business may be varied at the Chairman's discretion.

All members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of considering and resolving upon the business to be transacted at the meeting as set out below.

Gail Stoehr, Clerk, 13/04/23

AGENDA

Open Public Session including reports from the County & District Councillors

1 To receive apologies for absence and to note the resignation of Cllr Krishnamurthy

2. Declarations of interest

- 2.1 To receive declarations of interests from Cllrs on items on the agenda and details of dispensations held
- 2.2 To receive written requests for dispensation and grant any as appropriate for items on this agenda
- 3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 15 March

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

- 4.1 (Open) Hardwick Pre-school to consider grant application for re-surfacing outside area
- 4.2 (7.4) Meeting with Stagecoach to consider any matters arising from the meeting on 5th April
- 4.3 (7.5.1 and 7.5.2) Community Transport Initiative to consider any matters arising from the letter to the Mayor or the Uber-style transport option
- 4.4 (7.6) Meeting with Hill regarding residents' concerns update on Dan Brown's attendance at a meeting
- 4.5 (4.2 of 15.2.23) Pavilion lease to consider valuation received and any recommendation from the Working Group (AG, CP)
- 4.6 (4.1) New Hardwick Community Centre to receive an update report from Cllr Rose on the tenders received and consider if any further action is required regarding the business plan, term and amount of the loan application, the budget forecast for FY2025 and the public consultation
- 4.7 (5.3) To consider additional bank signatories
- 4.8 To review the Council's policy regarding payments
- 4.9 (4.4) To re-consider the Parish Council's appointment to Speedwatch

5. Finance, risk assessment and procedural matters

- 5.1 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk and the Clerk's use of delegated powers
- 5.2 To receive play areas and skate park inspection reports and consider if any work is required
- 5.3 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills
- 5.4 To consider room bookings for the venue from June onwards

6. To consider any planning applications and decision notices and tree works applications *

- 6.1 Planning applications and appeals
 - 6.1.1 23/01045/TELNOT Near 17 Ashmead Drive Installation of 1 x 9m light pole
 - 6.1.2 23/00841/CL2PD 1 Ashmead Drive Certificate of lawfulness under S192 for replacement of existing conservatory with a single storey rear extension
 - 6.1.3 21/03438/CONDE Land at 147 St Neots Road Submission of details required by conditions 9 (surface water drainage) and 11 (surface water maintenance) of planning permission 21/03438/FUL
- 6.2 SCDC decision and appeal notices and correspondence
- 6.3 Tree works applications
 - 6.3.1 23/0301/TTCA 26 Main Street

7. Members reports and items for information only unless otherwise stated

- 7.1 New Housing Developments and Planning Obligations
- 7.2 Community Centre update

^{*} NB Some planning and tree works applications may not be specifically listed on this agenda but may still be considered by the Parish Council due to the time constraints of making a recommendation to the District Council. For more information see the current planning application consultations on http://plan.scambs.gov.uk/

7.3 Proposal that consideration be given to a response to the resident who has reached out in the Parish Facebook Page and has requested an explanation for the raise in the Hardwick component of the Council Tax. The Council to agree unanimously on a post explaining the process and reason to be posted on social media? (PR)

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

- 8.1 Speed Watch Parish Council obligations regarding the MVAS equipment
- 8.2 Resident Millers Way future maintenance arrangements
- 8.3 PB Circuit Training request to use the hard courts and surrounding grass for fitness classes
- 8.4 Resident Request that the Parish Council cut down the tree stumps on the recreation ground to the rear of their property
- 8.5 CCC 20 mph scheme (deadline 30 April) to consider if an application is to be made
- 9. Closure of meeting

Mrs Gail Stoehr, Clerk to Hardwick Parish Council, 30 West Drive, Highfields Caldecote, Cambridge, CB23 7NY
Tel: 01954 210241 Email: clerk@hardwick-cambs.org.uk

^{*} NB Some planning and tree works applications may not be specifically listed on this agenda but may still be considered by the Parish Council due to the time constraints of making a recommendation to the District Council. For more information see the current planning application consultations on http://plan.scambs.gov.uk/

CLERK REPORT TO HARDWICK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 19 APRIL 2023

Type or copy website links into your browser for more information.

Where I have supporting information this may be found below or in the attached supporting papers.

- 1. <u>To receive apologies for absence</u> will be reported to the meeting.
 - Cllr Soumya Krishnamurthy has resigned from the Parish Council. Ms Krishnamurthy wishes to remain as a member of the two working groups i.e Community Transport and also the New Community Centre Loan and Business Plan. She has asked may she retain use of her Council email address and also the Zoho box. The latter is contrary to the decision at the last meeting. Pursuant of S87(2) of the LGA 1972 the Returning Officer is now waiting if an election is called. If
 - Pursuant of S87(2) of the LGA 1972 the Returning Officer is now waiting if an election is called. If not then the Parish Council will be advised it may co-opt.
- 2. <u>Declarations of interests</u> members should declare their interests state why they have an interest, the type of interest held and if they have a dispensation state this and the extent of their dispensation i.e. to either speak or speak and vote. If members have a pecuniary interest, having declared an interest they must not take part in the agenda item unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so.
- 3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 15 March attached
- 4. <u>Matters arising or deferred from the last or previous meetings for discussion/decision</u>
- 4.1 (Open) Hardwick Pre-school to consider grant application for re-surfacing outside area Attached.
- 4.6 (4.1) New Hardwick Community Centre to receive an update report from Cllr Rose on the tenders received and consider if any further action is required regarding the business plan, term and amount of the loan application, the budget forecast for FY2025 and the public consultation Cllr Rose's report has been circulated. The Council should consider if it is confidential at this stage or if it is to be published on the website.
- 4.8 To review the Council's policy regarding payments

The Council's policy is

"The Clerk to ensure that copies of all current outstanding invoices and salary payments are emailed to ALL councillors at least one day before the meeting (by 5 pm the previous day) thus giving adequate notice for reviewing should there be a query. The Bacs payment process should only take place after approval of only those invoices/salary payments that have been sent within the adequate notice period, a show of hands at the monthly PC meeting or email approval by councillors. Invoices/salary payments that have not been sent with adequate notice as above would not be considered acceptable for approval. (added March 22)"

4.9 (4.4) To re-consider the Parish Council's appointment to Speedwatch

Speedwatch has declined the Council's appointment of Cllr Gill as its representative to assist with Speedwatch.

5. Finance and risk assessment and procedural matters

- 5.1 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk and Clerk's use of delegated powers None at the time of writing.
- 5.2 <u>To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills</u> Attached.
- 5.6 To consider room bookings from June onwards

The room is currently booked up to and including the June meeting.

6.1 Planning applications and appeals

NB Some planning applications may not be specifically listed on this agenda but may still be considered by the Parish Council due to the time constraints of making a recommendation to the

District Council. For more information see the current planning application consultations and appeals on http://plan.scambs.gov.uk/swiftlg/apas/run/wchvarylogin.display

- 6.1.1 23/01045/TELNOT Near 17 Ashmead Drive Installation of 1 x 9m light pole
- 6.1.2 23/00841/CL2PD 1 Ashmead Drive Certificate of lawfulness under S192 for replacement of existing conservatory with a single storey rear extension
- 6.1.3 21/03438/CONDE Land at 147 St Neots Road Submission of details required by conditions 9 (surface water drainage) and 11 (surface water maintenance) of planning permission 21/03438/FUL
- 6.2 SCDC decision and appeal notices and correspondence for info only to note
- 6.2.1 23/00440/HFUL 23 Grace Crescent Loft conversion with front or rear facing dormers, internal wall removal Permission refused by SCDC.
- 6.2.2 23/00228/PRIOR 11 Sudeley Grove Ground floor rear extension Prior approval not required.
- 6.3 Tree works applications

Tree works applications may now be viewed on the SCDC Planning Portal. NB Some tree works applications may not be specifically listed on this agenda but may still be considered by the Parish Council due to the time constraints of making a recommendation to the District Council. For more information see the current tree works application consultations on http://plan.scambs.gov.uk/swiftlg/apas/run/wchvarylogin.display

6.3.1 23/0301/TTCA – 26 Main Street

7. Members reports and items for information only unless otherwise stated

- 7.1 New Housing Developments and Planning Obligations
- 7.2 <u>Community Centre update</u>
- 7.3 <u>Proposal that the Parish Council approves a response to a Facebook enquiry about the Hardwick component of the Council Tax</u>

Cllr Rangadurai writes "A resident has reached out in the Parish Facebook Page and has requested an explanation for the raise in the Hardwick component of the Council Tax. May I request this to be added to the agenda that the council can agree unanimously on a post explaining the process and reason to be posted on social media?"

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

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- 8.1 Resident Millers Way future maintenance arrangements
 - "As a resident, I would like to submit the attached for review and comment by the Parish Council, please. I appreciate there is still some final work to be done but the upgraded Millers Way certainly looks better and more fit for purpose than the gravel and puddle version it replaced." Attached.
- 8.2 <u>PB Circuit Training request to use the hard courts and surrounding grass for fitness classes</u>
 "PB Circuit Training has written "I have been asked by a few local residents to start up an outdoor fitness class in Hardwick as I've been told the old one no longer runs. I currently take sessions in Papworth and in Great Gransden www.pbcircuittraining.com

I will be looking to use the multi-use hardcourt area and surrounding grass. I really hope this is OK

I know how much it will benefit the local residents as it has in my other locations so would be great to get everyone up and active again in the village."

8.3 Resident – request that the Parish Council cut down tree stumps on the recreation ground to the rear of their property

"We had some trees cut back by the council in 2021 that are at the back of our property



There have been stumps left behind. This wouldn't be a problem but we have recently seen someone use the stumps to stand on and peer over into the garden. We are worried that this is a bit of a security risk. I've attached a picture of the tree stumps.

We are wondering if the stumps could be cut right down to the base to prevent anyone using them to stand on to get over the fence?"

8.4 CCC 20 mph scheme (deadline 30 April)

"The new 20mph process scheme is open, as of Monday 27th February 2023, and accepting applications. You can apply via the link below. The deadline for submitting the applications will be by Sunday 30th April 2023 at 17:00PM.

Further information on the process, funding available and application timeline is available on our website at https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/20mph-funding"

9. Closure of Meeting

HARDWICK PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Apr-23 Summary of previous month **Balance brought forward** £1,479,021.93 Adjustments and amendments Expenditure approved at last meeting/between meetings FIRST LOCAL **DRAIN SURVEY** -188.40 CCC PFHI 21/22 -4.548.09 **DFM** DRAIN CCTV SURVEY -960.00 **UNITY TRUST** SERVICE CHARGE -24.15 Misc credits **UNITY TRUST INTEREST** 484.93 NS&I **INTEREST** 2124.66 **HMRC** VAT 16772.41 **HSSC RENT** 1000.00 Total Adjustments £14,661.36 Balance revised after adjustments £1,493,683.29 **Bank Reconciliation to last statement** Account Funds Statement Outstanding Unity Trust Current Account £34,684.71 £35,644.71 -£960.00 Unity Trust Deposit Account £375,484.93 £375,484.93 Cambridge & Counties Bank £83,513.65 £83,513.65 **NS&I Income Bond** £1,000,000.00 £1,000,000.00 £1,493,683.29 £1,494,643.29 -£960.00 Total **Expenditure for approval SALARIES** £579.34 **CIVILISTIX** MILLERS WAY PROJECT MANAGMENT 1123.15 LGS SERVICES **ADMIN SUPPORT MARCH 2023** 1603.28 **CARTER JONAS PAVILION VALUATION** 1200.00 RH LANDSCAPES **GRASSCUTTING** 390.00 **CAPALC AFFILIATION FEE** 660.54

£5,556.31

£1,488,126.98

Notes:

Total expenditure

Balance c/f

March 14th 2023

To Hardwick Parish Council

Future Maintenance of Millers Way

Now the contractor is coming to the completion of work on Millers Way (also referred to by CCC as Hardwick Footpath 6), as a resident may I ask what the PC is considering on future maintenance? Is there a decision on whether a) the PC retains responsibility for this or b) the County Highways can be persuaded to adopt the road and take responsibility? At present the legal owner of the road is the Parish Council although the Land Registry deeds of the homes in that small development record the obligation for maintenance of Millers Way, including Footpath, jointly on the owners. My view is that this should be resolved and that CCC could be persuaded to adopt it. Either way, residents should be informed of the change.

In their *Report to Parish Council May 2018 on designating Public Footpath status, CCC stated there was insufficient evidence presented by the Parish Council to enable the road to be adopted by the County Council. In effect, the CCC decision was based on the wrong Act – the tipping point was to prove use prior to 1949. This is clear in the Report paragraph 12 appended below. As there is evidence of public use before 1949, the CCC should be asked to adopt Millers Way/Public Footpath 6.

Although the PC appears to have accepted the CCC decision back in 2018, I suggest it may not be too late to reconsider. Remedies I suggest are:

1. Check the records

CCC hold a statutory List of Streets "Maintained at public expense". You will see on or around page 150 that this list includes Hardwick Footpath 6 – that's the CCC designation for the Public Footpath that we know as Millers Way. <u>List of Streets February 2023 (cambridgeshire.gov.uk)</u>

I suspect this stems from when the County Council granted this Public Footpath status and I also suspect this may be an error on CCC part but it should be confirmed.

2. Ask for reconsideration of adoption based on evidence of use before 1949

The wording of the CCC **Report** Paragraph 12.1 (see below) suggests the door remains open? In providing evidence of use, nobody thought to recognise the significance of the well/pump in Pump Lane – difficult to believe when it is in sight of the end of Millers Way and has been there likely since around 1870. I can provide the history of when mains water replaced the Old well and pump – Hardwick Happening article – and clearly the Pump performed a vital public service. Further evidence might still be collected from older residents – there is a current Parish Councillor who recalls using the pump by St Marys and Pauline Joslin may also help.

3. Ask the Council to consider Highways 1980 Act Section 37 or 38

When a "private road" is constructed there are measures that can be initiated to get the County Council Highways to adopt after completion, These are known as Section 37 or 38 Agreements the link is here Adoption of roads by highway authorities. I am sure the Clerk will have details and advise whether steps have been taken to this.

What has this got to do with me?

When I asked back in 2019 why Millers Way was in such a poor state of repair, I was being told by Councillors it was an unregistered track with no known ownership. I like a challenge and found through simple Land Registry search it was easy to establish ownership (Persimmon Homes) and following discussion with the owners, they offered to upgrade the then gravel and puddle track to "road" status or provide a contribution for the PC to do so. I met Persimmon Homes Director March 2020 and introduced him to Tony Gill – Chairman at the time – for am Agreement to be concluded. I registered my concerns that the PC should try and obtain adoption by the County as the wrong Act was being used in determination, but was not on the PC at the time and was ignored.

As it transpired Persimmon Homes had *already* admitted ownership of the road in 2018 and had made the same offer to the County Council as they made to Hardwick PC. Their email to that effect is included in the Final decision put to the PC in Mr Stringers Report May 2018 – see Appendix N.

When the evidence of use was submitted by the Parish Council, nobody seemed to recall why the track was there in the first place. Whereas the County had submitted the Ordinance Survey Map (dated 1926) showing the track existed, it was never pointed out the track went in a straight line from St Neots Road to the Well and Water Pump (on what we now refer to as Pump Lane). With no running water in Hardwick, Chesterton Rural District Council records show there was no running water until 1951, there would of course have been necessary use of the track by residents collecting water. Why this was not addressed is a mystery for Parish Councillors at that time.

I append some extracts from the **Report** and facts that will be useful in discussion and of course the full CCC **Report** is available to view as is my correspondence of that time.

Please confirm the PC is to consider maintenance options for of Millers Way and advise what you may require from me as evidence to support the Village case.

Alan Everitt

2 Sadlers Close, Hardwick, CB23 7YE

*Report on an application to record a public footpath running between St Neots Road and Worcester Avenue from James Stringer, Asset Information Definitive Map Officer, Cambridge County Council dated May 2018.

Report is rather lengthy and on record with the PC

Appended

Extracts from the CCC Report as paragraphed in the Report

9. Landowner Evidence

9.1 The whole of the claimed route runs over land that was developed for housing by Beazer Homes in the 1960's. Beazer Homes were brought by Persimmon Homes in 2001. Cambridgeshire County Council notified Persimmon Homes of the Definitive Map Modification Order application in February 2017. Persimmon homes have confirmed to the County Council that they are still the landowner for the claimed route. The landowner did not provide any evidence to support the application or otherwise. Copies of correspondence from Persimmon Homes are attached at Appendix N.

12 Maintenance

- 12.1 The question of maintenance liability is not necessarily relevant to the determination of the application. Public rights of way may be maintainable at public expense, maintainable by somebody else or by nobody. If found to exist they should be added to the Definitive Map whatever their maintenance status. It is however useful to know the maintenance status for the future management of the route, should public rights be found to exist. This is based on evidence.
- 12.2 The general, simplified, position is that all public footpaths in existence prior to the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, are maintainable at public expense, whilst those dedicated later are only maintainable if adopted or if created by order.
- 12.3 It follows that the claimed route, if found to have been dedicated as a public footpath prior to 1949, would be maintainable at public expense. In the present case, the claimed footpath is deemed to have been dedicated and accepted between 1987 and 2007. If an Order to record it on the Definitive Map and Statement is made and confirmed, the route would therefore not be maintainable at the public expense

Evidence that could be presented

- The argument that mains water was not provided and therefore the Well and public pump were essential
- 2. Map of the position of the "well" . The track we call Millers Way is on the OS Map provided by CCC Report Appendix L and shown to extend beyond the current position to join with a road (pre-Limes Road)
- 3. The pump is visible from the is shown at the pump on the corner of Pump Lane.
- 4. Chesterton Rural District Council Medical Officer of Heath reports 1937 to 1953 show that mains water was not provided before 1951. Public Right of Way would have been essential to residents at that time.
- 5. Millers Way is the continuation into Hardwick of the public footpath from St Peter and St Paul Church in Dry Drayton hence the construction requirement of the Blue Bridge over the A428. This may have been part of an old way to St Mary's Church in Hardwick. This can be verified?

6. Evidence from residents Land Registry deeds

For example, the fact that the well was in use and required to be maintained is evidenced in the Land Registry Property Register CB8365 for of 26 Hall Drive which states that:-

1 (06.09.1947) The Freehold land shown edged with red on the plan of the above Title filed at the Registry and being The Roses, 26 Hall Drive, Hardwick, Cambridge (CB23 7QN).

2 The land has the benefit of a right to pass and repass at all times and for all purposes with or without horses, cattle and other animals and carts and other vehicles over and along the strip of land coloured brown on the filed plan, a right to draw and take water from the Well shown on the filed plan and a right of way thereto over the strip of land ten feet in width between the points marked A B and C on the filed plan and from the point B to the said Well over the footpath four feet wide between point B and the Well upon payment of a fair proportion of the cost of maintaining in good order and condition the said Well and the right of way thereto.