

**Hardwick Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 15 March 2023 at 7.00 pm**  
**Held at The Cabin at St Mary's, Hardwick**

Present: Councillors: A Gill (Chairman), J Armisen, B Coxall, J Dabrowski, S Krishnamurthy, and P Rangadurai.

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

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

A representative of the Pre-School asked for financial support for works outside the school and for a letter of support for their grant application for a Community Chest application. No objections to the proposal were raised and the Chairman will write to SCDC the Council's support for the project.

The Clerk advised on discussions and decisions requiring agenda items.

The District Councillor's report had been circulated.

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rose (out of parish) and Moffett (out of parish) and Cllr Phillips (unwell).

Cllr Krishnamurthy apologised that she would have to leave at 8.30 pm and Cllr Rangadurai apologised that he would have to leave at 9.00 pm.

**2. Declarations of interest**

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

Cllr Rangadurai declared an interest in any item relating to the allotments as an allotment holder and any item relating to Meridian Fields as a homeowner on the Meridian Fields development.

Cllr Dabrowski declared an interest in any item relating to Meridian Fields as a homeowner on the Meridian Fields development.

Cllr Gill declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7.2 as a Director and Trustee of the Hardwick Community Centre Charity.

**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 15 February**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 15 February be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record, after an amendment under item 4.3 to delete the words "proposed Cambourne to Cambridge busway." (Prop SK, 2nd PR, carried with 1 abstention)

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

**4.1 (4.7) New Hardwick Community Centre to 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**

RESOLVED to note Cllr Rose's report that the architects were checking whether the tenders were compliant and that this should be completed next week.

RESOLVED that the Chairman should consider if an extra-ordinary meeting was necessary.

**4.2 (7.2 of 18.1.23) Proposal that payments for the construction of the new community centre can be authorised between meetings by the Clerk and two other members of the**

Council providing the payments relate either to the professional services fee proposal of 29 July 2019 or to payments in respect of the approved tender subject to approval also from the architect or quantity surveyor/cost consultant. This includes any transfers to the current account from an instant access savings account.

RESOLVED to defer this item until the tenders have been accepted. (Prop JD, 2nd AG, unanimous)

- 4.3 (4.1) Recreation Ground maintenance 2023 to 2025 – to consider quotations and appoint a contractor

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Wayne Hardy for the sum of £14,780 for three years maximum if all the works are required. (Prop AG, 2nd JA, carried with 1 abstention)

- 4.4 (4.4) To consider members' and working group responsibilities and memberships including to consider appointment of Deputy Webmaster and play inspection arrangements

RESOLVED, to note that Cllr Krishnamurthy had stood down from all working groups and member roles except the 'The Village Plan', 'The Community Transport Initiative' and 'Healthcare in Hardwick' Working Group, wishing only to be involved with Community Transport and also the Public Works Loan Board application process and business case Working Group, to make the following appointments:

Play Inspections:-

Egremont Road and Skate Park – Cllr Armisen

Grenadier Walk and Worcester Avenue – Cllr Gill

Church play area – Cllr Coxall

RESOLVED to make arrangements for the inspection of the Meridian Fields play area when the land has been transferred to the Parish Council.

Deputy Webmaster – Cllr Dabrowski

Speed Watch – Cllr Gill.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied to take item 7.6 next.

- 7.6 Proposal that permission be given to Cllr Rangadurai to get in touch with Dan Brown (representative for Hill) to deal with concerns from residents

RESOLVED in recognition of the offer from Dan Brown of Hill that he was happy to speak with the Parish Council about any outstanding matters at Meridian Fields that Cllr Rangadurai should invite Dan Brown to a meeting.

RESOLVED that the Chairman should sort out the date and venue for the meeting with Hill and that members should raise any concerns they were aware of at the forthcoming liaison meeting.

RESOLVED to ask Hill to provide a tree report before the transfer of land is completed.

Cllr Krishnamurthy and the Clerk left the meeting at approximately 8.10pm and returned at 8.20pm.

- 7.4 Stagecoach meeting update

RESOLVED the Chairman should write to the Mayor expressing concern at the bus service and seeking his support, and asking what his plan is.

RESOLVED having considered Cllrs Krishnamurthy and Armisen's reports including whether an Uber-style community transport scheme should be explored further to include in the letter to also ask the Mayor if he had any funding which could be used towards a community transport scheme.

RESOLVED, given that there had been 175 responses so far to a survey and more were being sought, the Parish Council will cover the cost of printing leaflets advertising the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> April and including a residents' survey on the bus service.

RESOLVED that Cllr Coxall should assist the Working Group.

RESOLVED that more information is required regarding the Uber-style transport scheme, for example, will residents use it if the Mayor has funding scheme before further consideration by the Parish Council,

RESOLVED to note that a resident, Daniel Baker, was assisting the Bus Working Group.

Cllr Krishnamurthy left the meeting at 8.51 pm.

7.3 Proposal that the Council considers in the interest of information sharing and collaborative working the Zoho Workdrive at £2/user/month for the Starter Version or Team at £4/user/month annually

RESOLVED to purchase 9 Zoho Workdrive licences for Councillors only at a cost of £4.00 per user per month for the annual scheme to enable Councillors on working groups to collaborate on Council's projects.

RESOLVED that access to working group boxes be restricted to members of the working group only.

RESOLVED that the Chairman together with Cllr Moffett should set up the contract up with Zoho. (Prop AG, 2nd JA, unanimous)

4.5 (7.7) To consider request from resident that he may have the damaged notice board from outside the shop so that he may repair it for the School

RESOLVED to confirm that the resident may have the damaged notice board to be repaired for the School.

4.6 (4.5 of Jan 2023) Defibrillator installation and appointment of electrician

RESOLVED to thank DSS Electrical for his kind offer to install the defibrillator free of charge and that his services be used once the funding is in place and the defibrillator ordered.

Cllr Rangadurai left the meeting at 9.03 pm and returned at 9.15 pm.

**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

RESOLVED to note that the Clerk used delegated powers for the following:

- Contracted Carstairs Roofing Ltd to repair guttering at the rear of the Pavilion.
- Contracted Civilistix to arrange an underground services check at Millers Way at a cost of £29 plus VAT which had found a manhole which was not on the drawings which had to be dealt with Anglian Waters agreement.

The more positive response from Zurich regarding the drainage insurance cover was noted.

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

RESOLVED to note Cllr Gill's report that two large tree boughs at the rear of the Skate Park had been moved by the Chairman.

RESOLVED to note that a shackle was missing from the safety chain on the swings next to the spider at Egremont Road but no actions as required at present..

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, plus CCC (PHFI) £4548.09. (Prop JA, 2nd JD, carried with 1 abstention)

Salaries	£911.01
LGS Services (Admin support Feb 2023)	£1416.08
Carstairs Roofing (Pavilion gutter repair)	£140.00
Civilistix (Millers Way)	£540.00
PEM (Community Centre VAT advice)	£1920.00
The Cabin (Room hire)	£36.00
Opus Energy (Street light electricity)	£128.06

Credits, including the S106 payment for Capstone Fields (Community facilities 3/3), pitch hire fees, and bank interest, were noted.

RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to enable two payments of £960 including VAT and £7,000 plus VAT to DFM for the urgent drainage works.. (Prop JD, 2nd AG, carried with 1 abstention)

RESOLVED as the Clerk had not received one of the invoices and was going on annual leave the Chairman would upload these to the bank for payment.

RESOLVED to review the Parish Council's policy regarding payments at the next meeting.

RESOLVED having considered the advice from the RFO that appointment of additional bank signatories should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

#### 5.4 To set the date of the Annual Parish Meeting

RESOLVED that the Annual Parish Meeting should take place on Tuesday 25 April in the School Hall, or on Thursday 27 April if the Hall is not available on that date.

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

#### 6.1 Planning applications and appeals

##### 6.1.1 23/00656/HFUL – 26 Hall Drive – Part demolition and part proposed roof raise to create front and rear first floor extension

RESOLVED to support the application. (Prop AG, 2nd JD, unanimous)

##### 6.1.2 23/00440/HFUL – 23 Grace Crescent – Loft conversion with front and rear facing dormers; internal wall removal

RESOLVED to make no recommendation. (Prop AG, 2nd JA, unanimous)

##### 6.1.3 23/00772/PDNOT – St Neots Road, Hardwick – Variation to Independent Water Networks Ltd, to allow it to supply Water Only services to a site called St Neots Road, Hardwick

Noted.

#### 6.2 SCDC decision and appeal notices and correspondence

##### 6.2.1 23/00021/HFUL – 35 Ellison Lane – Demolition of the conservatory to allow for a part single storey and part two storey rear extension; new pitched roof to side garage – Permission granted by SCDC.

##### 6.2.2 22/05620/HFUL – 15 Cambridge Road – Demolition of existing extensions and erection of single storey rear extension, porch, replacement windows and exterior material changes – Permission granted by SCDC.

##### 6.2.3 21/03438/CONDC – Newton House, 147 St Neots Road – Submission of details required by condition 19 (Materials) of planning permission 21/03438/FUL – Withdrawn.

- 6.2.4 22/05466/HFUL – 154 Limes Road – Single storey front extension – Permission granted by SCDC.
- 6.2.5 22/05377/HFUL – 128 Limes Road – Demolition of existing garage and conservatory; two storey side extension; single storey rear extension – Permission granted by SCDC.
- 6.2.6 21/03438/CONDD – Land at 147 St Neots Road – Submission of details required by condition 9 (Surface water drainage), 10 (Foul water drainage) and 11 (SUDS Maintenance) of planning permission 21/03438/FUL – Split decision

6.3 Tree works applications  
None.

## **7. Members' reports and items for information only**

7.1 New Housing Developments and Planning Obligations  
Taken earlier under item 4.1.

7.2 Community Centre update

7.2.1 Proposal that the Parish Council considers making the following statement "In the event of a new community centre being built in Hardwick it is the intention of Hardwick Parish Council to negotiate a lease of the community centre with Hardwick Community Centre (a charitable company set up as a possible operating company for the community centre) or with some other appropriate organisation."  
RESOLVED to defer this item to an extra-ordinary meeting when the tenders, business plan, loan etc be considered.

7.3 Proposal that the Council considers in the interest of information sharing and collaborative working the Zoho Workdrive at £2/user/month for the Starter Version or Team at £4/user/month annually  
Taken earlier.

7.4 Stagecoach meeting update  
Taken earlier.

7.5 Community Transport Initiative

7.5.1 Proposal that we keep the engagement open and negotiate better terms  
RESOLVED that Dan Brown is to be invited by members attending the liaison meeting tomorrow.

7.5.2 Proposal that we get in touch with the Mayor's office for better funding besides the S106 agreements  
Taken earlier.

7.6 Proposal that permission be given to Cllr Rangadurai to get in touch with Dan Brown (representative for Hill) to deal with concerns from residents  
Taken earlier.

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

8.1 Anonymous Resident – Request that the Parish Council bans dogs off leads from all Parish Council land and erects signage to this effect  
RESOLVED the Parish Council is not insensitive in not addressing the concerns raised but the Parish Council regrets that a ban is unenforceable. The Council is concerned that it would be restricting all responsible dog owners but will remind dog owners on the website and on Facebook.

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

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.47 pm.

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