

## HARDWICK PARISH COUNCIL

**I hereby give notice that the Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 30 August 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.

*Tony Gill*

Mr A Gill, Chairman, 24/08/23

### AGENDA

#### Open Public Session including reports from the County & District Councillors

- 1 **To receive apologies for absence**
- 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 19 July**
- 4 **Co-option to fill casual vacancy – to consider any applications received**
- 5 **Matters arising or deferred from the last or previous meetings for discussion/decision**
  - 5.1 (4.3) RoSPA report repairs – to consider any quotations received
  - 5.2 (8.1) Aircraft noise – to consider complaints from residents and request that the Parish Council objects to the changes
  - 5.3 (8.3) Caldecote, Dry Drayton and Hardwick Community Car Scheme – request for financial support
  - 5.4 (8.7) Resident – request for additional MVAS post on St Neots Road
- 6 **Finance, risk assessment and procedural matters**
  - 6.1 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk and the Clerk's use of delegated powers
  - 6.2 To receive play areas and skate park inspection reports and consider if any work is required
  - 6.3 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills
- 7 **To consider any planning applications and decision notices and tree works applications \***
  - 7.1 Planning applications and appeals
    - 7.1.1 23/02740/HFUL – 8 Russet Walk – Two storey rear extension
  - 7.2 SCDC decision and appeal notices and correspondence
  - 7.3 Tree works applications
    - 7.3.1 23/0842/TTCA – 16 Main Street
- 8 **Members reports and items for information only unless otherwise stated**
  - 8.1 New Housing Developments and Planning Obligations
  - 8.2 Community Centre update
    - 8.2.1 Approval of costs for Community Centre surveys
  - 8.3 Report request of Quarterly meeting Hills and PC, this **must** be an ongoing item surely PC and village needs to be informed/updated used to be done through Hardwick Happenings and Facebook! Stopped in April 2022! Wonder why! Who is the communication WG?<sup>(PJ)</sup>
  - 8.4 Stagecoach is there now a date for their public village meeting, there is a need to keep residents informed<sup>(PJ)</sup>
  - 8.5 Update needed concerning the meeting with Chivers representatives otherwise it's not a secret - PC acts for the Village<sup>(PJ)</sup>
  - 8.6 Bin Brook extra run-off from Capstone could there be a flooding problem with existing adjacent properties, has consideration been given, the overgrown badly maintained Bin Brook and drain under St Neots Road opposite Weatherheads - has Mark spoken to PJ about this?<sup>(PJ)</sup>
  - 8.7 Bus shelter solar lights, vegetation now seems to have cleared, Alan Everitt has cleared the vegetation and has been doing it each year since the lights went in - but he has informed the PC that he is not able to do it any-more. It's still out with Highways for the higher up overhanging branches see the report page The maintenance has been clearing the branches and brushing the dead leaves off the solar panels. will there

\* 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 <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/>

be ongoing maintenance of these lights. If needed 8.8 PJ has the necessary keys to gain access to the lights. <sup>(PJ)</sup>

8.9 Next meeting date to be announced as part of the current agenda <sup>(PJ)</sup>

8.10 Update installation time frame ref new street lights Capstone to Millers <sup>(PJ)</sup>

8.11 Maintaining/regular trimming of the grass edging area at Millers, the grass is already encroaching the new Tarmac path. <sup>(PJ)</sup>

8.12 Main Street Notice Board <sup>(BC)</sup>

8.13 Bin at St Mary's Play Area. <sup>(BC)</sup>

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

9.1 Resident – Request to run boot camp on the Recreation Ground

**10. Employment Matters**

**11. Closure of meeting**

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## CLERK REPORT TO HARDWICK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 30 AUGUST 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. To receive apologies for absence – will be reported to the meeting.
3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 19 July – attached
5. **Matters arising or deferred from the last or previous meetings for discussion/decision**
- 5.1 (4.3) RoSPA report repairs – to consider any quotations received
- 5.2 (8.1) Aircraft noise – to consider complaints from residents and request that the Parish Council objects to the changes  
Please see the July clerk report for original correspondence from residents.

Since that time, Resident 1 has received the following response from Luton Airport

“As per our complaints policy attached, we will provide information to every first-time complainant explaining our policies and the routes aircraft take. After this, we will only provide additional detail in the event a complaint relates to an aircraft not following LLA’s policies and procedures for example an aircraft off track or a noise violation.

Additionally, please be informed that your complaints will be presented to the CAA as part of the Post Implementation Review.”

The resident replied:

“As the responsible agency I think you are better able to gather information on aircraft not following LLA’s policies and procedures than I am. I look forward to receiving your report.

My complaint was/is that Luton airport pursued a flawed consultation:

1. You hid the ‘consultation’ during Covid when people were not looking and could not convene a public meeting to raise awareness.
2. You provide no justification as to why 2426 responses should be considered statistically significant.
3. You did not provide a route for me to make a direct complaint in the PIR. Instead I should trust you to represent my views. I don’t agree to that.
4. You offer no thought on how aircraft noise is a greater pollutant in rural areas than in urban ones and that therefore standards should be reconsidered.
5. You provide no data on noise pollution so that a ‘general complaint’ can be raised.
6. You do not address the issue of conflict of interest whereby Luton Council benefits financially from the flawed decision process.

You have not addressed any of these complaints.”

In addition further correspondence has been received as follows:

Resident 5 (copy correspondence to Luton Airport)

“I am very much concerned at having been excluded from the opportunity to comment on the proposal to route air traffic directly over my house. How can you assume that you have this right?

1. Please look back at the 2008/9 attempt to change the Luton flight path which was rejected by a large majority of those who responded. The reality is that by choosing to run a consultation during lock down meant that the vast majority of people were too concerned with life and death issues. They were probably watching the pandemic news rather than local media. Some people might conclude that the intention was to hide the consultation in a ‘bad news year’.

2. Perhaps you should reconsider what is a statistically significant response. Less than 0.24% is not statistically significant and will have been biased toward those with online access and time to watch

local news. I cannot find anyone in Hardwick that had heard about this ‘consultation’. I don’t watch local news or read local newspapers. By stark contrast, with the East West Railway consultation I have received documents through the door and get regular email updates. The entire area has been actively engaged within the community and with the leading developer. It seems that they understand the real meaning of a ‘Consultation’ includes actually talking to people.

3. Anthony Browne MP led the debate in parliament on this issue and was strongly supported by other MPs (see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9MVpB6Wk8e0> ). I am impressed by the work Anthony Browne has done on this question and urge you to take stock of his proposals made to the House of Parliament which is the elected body for the United Kingdom (and that includes Luton airport):

3.1 Your poor attempt to cover up a failed ‘Consultation’ is proving so unacceptable that it led to a debate in Parliament. The first proposal from this debate is that in the circumstances the **‘Consultation on the Swanwick AD6 should be re-run’**. Clearly this time the affected population should be properly informed by post as well as through local media to ensure that all are able to respond.

3.2 If you are really intent on a ‘Post Implementation Review’ then you should poll the affected population as part of the PIR. Marking your own homework is not acceptable. **The second recommendation from the Parliamentary debate was therefore that the people under the flight path be included in the PIR. My vote will be unequivocally against the new flight path. I want this decision reversed.**

3.3 **Levels of acceptable noise in rural areas should be reconsidered bearing in mind the low ambient noise level.**

3.4 **Recognise that this new flight plan is not to deal with existing air traffic, but to facilitate a near doubling of landings at Luton.** This point should be made clear to those under the flight path.

3.5 **There should be greater transparency of the collected data. In order to make a clear argument around the noise pollution resulting from this change to flight patterns the data collected should be shared with local residents.** I understand that up to now this has not happened.

3.6 Apparently Luton Council owns the land on which Luton Airport is situated and consequently will benefit financially from increased air traffic. Meanwhile the dis-benefits including noise pollution will fall on surrounding areas. **Clearly this is a conflict of interest and any financial benefits should be transferred in full to those regions affected by the change.**

This is my home and you have no right to invade it with your noise pollution.”

#### Resident 6

“We would like to express our opposition to the new flight plan for Luton.”

#### Resident 7

“I live on Limes Road, Hardwick, cb23 7xn. I have heard a flight path change in Luton airport will result in flights directly over Hardwick village. A major element of the beauty and appeal of Hardwick is its quiet, which draws more affluent folks who value peace to the area, and will continue to do so in the future, thus providing useful heterogeneity to Cambridge's culture and a base for families.

Having flights over the village will soil this, reducing quality of life and appeal of the place to a valuable demographic for ensuring the life of Cambridge as a real city, and I strongly encourage opposing such plans for flights over us. This is to preserve the viability of the area to attract such people. Those who currently live here, including myself, also deserve representation, given many of us live in the area for this exact purpose.

Please may you write back with a statement of intent on this matter, each of you, so I can rest assured my political representatives are working towards my interests as a constituent.”

### Resident 7

Subject: Urgent Appeal: Luton Airport Flightpath Changes Adversely Affecting Hardwick

Dear Parish Council Members,

I trust this email finds you well. I am writing to express my grave concerns regarding recent modifications to flightpaths for planes landing at Luton Airport, specifically the recent imposition of a new flight plan that directs aircraft over the serene village of Hardwick without any time restrictions.

It has come to my attention that NATS (National Air Traffic Services) has instituted this new flight path, mandating planes to traverse over Hardwick village around the clock. However, many residents were reportedly uninformed about the associated online consultation, which concluded in 2022, consequently depriving them of the opportunity to contribute their thoughts and concerns.

The implications of this decision are deeply troubling. Hardwick village, esteemed for its tranquillity and tight-knit community, now faces the constant menace of aircraft noise that threatens to shatter its peaceful ambiance and erode the quality of life for its residents. The prevailing noise from Luton planes, particularly during nocturnal passages over Hardwick, has already prompted apprehension among the community. With the implementation of this new flight plan, these noise levels are projected to intensify, causing significant distress to residents during essential periods of rest and respite.

I firmly believe that the welfare and priorities of the local populace must be prioritized in such deliberations. It is of paramount importance that the voices and anxieties of those who will be directly impacted by these changes are duly recognized and taken into consideration.

In view of the foregoing, I respectfully implore your immediate attention to this matter. I beseech you to take the necessary steps to address this issue. I kindly request your advocacy for a reevaluation of the decision to implement the new flight path over Hardwick and urge for a more comprehensive and transparent consultation process. This process should ensure that all residents have the opportunity to express their viewpoints and reservations regarding the potential repercussions on their lives.

Moreover, I would greatly appreciate your assistance in championing measures that can help alleviate the noise impact on Hardwick village, safeguarding the well-being and quality of life of its residents.

Given your dedication to our community, I am hopeful that your involvement in this matter will be instrumental in effecting positive change. The serenity and unity of Hardwick village hang in the balance, and your support is of utmost significance.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I eagerly await your response and any measures you might undertake to address this pressing concern.

### Resident 8

I write in response to the news in Hardwick Happenings that a review of the consultation about flight paths to Luton is in progress. Credit is due to those who have campaigned for this and publicised it. I live in Hardwick and, while I obviously have heard the planes, I do not in fact find the noise that offensive, especially as I don't hear it at night. Personally I think efforts should focus on the diminishing access to NHS resources as more and more housing is built in the area, as well as the continued availability of the bus network as part of a joined-up transport policy in the region. However, since the call to action concerned Luton, I'll return to that.

The main driver has to be transparency in how flight paths are chosen; for example:

- The process by which this is done - i.e. the criteria themselves - should be subject to public scrutiny *before* the final decision is made. The point made about factoring in the noise of aircraft relative to the ambient noise of the candidate areas sounds very sensible.
- We should also be informed of who the decision makers are and what efforts have been made to balance the board.
- We also need to know how the reported expansion of the airport will affect flight paths. Will the chosen paths simply be busier, or will new paths be created?

All this needs to be available in an easily digestible format. The temptation otherwise could be to overwhelm the public with information, simply to put off all but the most committed readers. While the full details may necessitate a detailed document, there needs to be a set of key points communicated.

Even if Hardwick is still chosen after the review, the fact that it was open would, I think, make at least a proportion of the community more accepting of the result. In any event, from the perspective of NATS and Luton Airport, it is the only way that they can truly consider the consultation to be fair and proportionate.

5.3 (8.3) Caldecote, Dry Drayton and Hardwick Community Car Scheme – request for financial support  
Representatives of the Community Car Scheme have been invited to the meeting.

5.4 (8.7) Resident – request for additional MVAS post on St Neots Road

“Please would you consider installing an additional MVAS post on St Neots Road? Preferably located somewhere just before the old Pet Paks site with the primary purpose of slowing down the traffic as they approach those pedestrians crossing the road from Millers Way to get to the bus stop on the other side of the road. On several occasions now I have seen those who are less mobile or elderly, having to make a hurried last minute scuttle across the road to avoid a car approaching at speeds of over 40mph. Of note is that on St Neots Road between No77 St Neots Road and Capstone Fields, there are currently no traffic calming measures.”

Other to note:

The person whose request to run a boot camp appeared on the July agenda has written:

“I have been informed by the group who want boot camp in Hardwick they have found someone who can do mornings and evenings. They will contact you soon.

Thank you for your help.”

A request from another party to run a boot camp has since been received (agenda item under Correspondence).

## **6. Finance and risk assessment and procedural matters**

6.1 To consider any quotes for urgent work required because of risk and Clerk’s use of delegated powers  
None at the time of writing.

6.2 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills  
Attached.

7.1 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 <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/>

7.1.1 23/02740/HFUL – 8 Russet Walk – Two storey rear extension

7.2 SCDC decision and appeal notices and correspondence for info only - to note

7.2.1 23/02110/HFUL – 23 Grace Crescent – Loft conversion with front and rear dormers. Internal wall removal – Permission granted by SCDC

7.2.2 23/01432/HFUL – 44 Main Street – Single storey flat roof extension to front and side, loft conversion, alterations to main dwelling, alterations to detached annex, pergola style gym, raised swimming pool and doors to existing carport – Permission granted by SCDC.

- 7.2.3 21/03438/CONDF – Land at 147 St Neots Road – Submission of details required by conditions 17 (hard and soft landscaping), 19 (external materials), 25 (vehicle access materials), 28 (EV charging), and 29 (archaeology) of planning permission 21/03438/FUL – Condition discharged in full.
- 7.2.4 21/03438/CONDG – Land at 147 St Neots Road – Submission of details required by conditions 8 (contaminated land) parts b) and c) of planning permission 21/03438/FUL – Condition discharged in part.

### 7.3 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 <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/>

#### 7.3.1 23/0842/TTCA – 16 Main Street

## 8. **Members reports and items for information only unless otherwise stated**

### 8.1 New Housing Developments and Planning Obligations

#### 8.2 Community Centre update

##### 8.2.2 Approval of costs for Community Centre surveys

Dear Tony and Gail

The attached relates to ground investigations which are required among other things to establish potential significant cost savings on service connections. Less detailed ground investigations were agreed by the Council last year but weren't carried out for timing reasons.

We will be given quotes for the surveys (est £4000 to £8000) for approval once obtained.

The work needed has been approved in principle by AMA and Alan West and myself. Please authorise me to communicate this expenditure through AMA.

Steve

Begin forwarded message:

The following may also substantiate AFP's quote, a separate email sent to Kon and me on the 27<sup>th</sup> July:

*Hi Kon,*

*Yes, the costs are likely to be around £2,500 + vat for organizing the surveys (not including the costs of them) , reviewing the technical aspects and preparing a report for consideration of potential VE's.*

*Total cost to undertake the agreed VE changes would be as outlined in the earlier emails.*

*Regards*

*Nigel*

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

### 9.1 Resident – Request to run boot camp on the Recreation Ground

“I'm looking to start a bootcamp up in Hardwick for the residents within the village and surroundings, I have lived in the village for my whole life and also play for the Hardwick football club. I have been in the fitness industry since I was 16, have been a qualified personal trainer for last 2 years.

I know that I'm needing to get permission by the council to be able to use the grass area at the back of social club, I didn't know how to go about this. So have emailed regarding this. Also, regarding the hard courts would this be able to do bootcamps on if so how do I go about getting permission for this too? “

The resident has been asked to provide a risk assessment and details of the insurance cover held, and has been invited to attend the meeting.



**HARDWICK PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Aug-23

**Summary of previous month****Balance brought forward** £1,466,933.79**Adjustments and amendments****Expenditure approved at last meeting/between meetings**

JOHN COBB AND SONS	5% RETENTION	-1,914.78
OPUS ENERGY	STREETLIGHT ENERGY	-175.36

**Misc credits**

NS&I	INTEREST - RECOVERED	8189.97
NS&I	INTEREST	2342.47
RESIDENT	NOTICEBOARD REPLACEMENT	1793.98

*Total Adjustments*£10,236.28

Balance revised after adjustments

£1,477,170.07**Bank Reconciliation to last statement**

Account	Funds	Statement	Outstanding
Unity Trust Current Account	£15,205.36	£30,712.39	-£15,507.03
Unity Trust Deposit Account	£377,553.53	£377,553.53	
Cambridge & Counties Bank	£84,411.18	£84,411.18	
NS&I Income Bond	£1,000,000.00	£1,000,000.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,477,170.07</b>	<b>£1,492,677.10</b>	<b>-£15,507.03</b>

**Expenditure for approval**

SALARIES		£591.88
RH LANDSCAPES	GRASSCUTTING	960.00
LGS SERVICES	ADMIN SUPPORT JULY 23	1396.64
CCC	LHI CONTRIBUTION - VILLAGE ENTRY FEATURES	1179.98

*Total expenditure*£4,128.50

Balance c/f

£1,473,041.57**Notes:**