

Hardwick Parish Council

Minutes

1965

Parish Council meeting held in the school
Wednesday 24 February 1965 at 7.30pm.

Chairman Mr Sadler
Present Mr MacFarlane Grieve, Mrs Fieldhouse
Messrs Baker, Marshall & Newson.
Mr. Cooke

Apology
Absence

Minutes The minutes of the last meeting were read
& passed as a correct record on the
proposition of Mr Marshall seconded by Newson.
Pond Mr Sadler reported on developments
concerning the pond. At a further meeting
of the Ditches & Drains Committee, to which
this matter had been referred back
Mrs Langfield again spoke for the Parish
Council, proposing the pond should be
filled in but was unable to find
a seconder & therefore the Ditches &
Drains Committee would have nothing
further to do with the matter.
Mr MacFarlane Grieve said he was
unable to get to the meeting in
question owing to another engagement
on a hospital committee but suggested

The Parish Council try again in the summer when the nuisance would become obvious.

Cheque.

A cheque was signed for £15.00 for Century Insurance Co.

Washing Veg

A letter was read concerning farmers washing root vegetables in ponds etc contaminated by sewage & asking if there were any carrying on this practice in Hardwick. A reply had been sent to the Public Health Dept saying that no farmers did this in Hardwick area as far as the Parish Council knew.

Churchill Memorial Fund

Mr. Sadler then read a letter from the Chairman of C.R.D.C. about the village target for the Churchill Memorial Fund. A nationwide effort was being made for one month from 28 February to collect money for travelling scholarships, and Hardwick had been asked to contribute £35 as its share to the County total. Several ways of raising money were discussed &

Mrs Fuedhouse said, in view of the shortage of time she had already booked a Market stall for the sale of produce & white elephants which it was hoped villagers would contribute.

The Parish Council did not feel that the whole burden of finding this money should rest entirely upon their shoulders & it was agreed to meet Mrs. Charles Chairman of the W.I. & Mr. Coles of the Village Hall Committee on Monday 1st June to enlist the aid of their organisations.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8. pm.

[Signature]
G. S. Allen

Open Parish Meeting held in the school Wednesday, 24th February at 8 pm. The business under discussion being the proposed closure of the Village School.

Chairman Mr. Sadler presided at the open meeting to discuss the proposed closure of the village school, at which 27 village people were present, and 6 members of the Parish Council. In his opening remarks Mr. Sadler said the intention was that the small schools of Toft - Hardwick were to be closed & the children transported to a new infants school at Combinton. He welcomed Mr. Kemp the Diocesan representative. Mr. Coles said he could foresee nothing but trouble if 5 year olds were to be allowed to roam up & down an unattended bus. Mr. Newson thought the cost of providing transport would be hardly less than keeping the school running. Mr. Barber thought in

view of the national economy the Minister should
 think twice about discarding perfectly good
 schools - spending thousands of pounds on
 new ones. Mr. Marshall considered 8.30 -
 4.30 too long for a five year old to be
 away from home and Mrs. Gaellin considered
 five year olds to be still babies & raised
 the question of sickness at school when
 a young child would naturally want
 its mother. If they were several miles
 distant the child would be upset until
 school finished. Mr. Turner asked
 if infants, who normally come out of
 school earlier than older children,
 would have to wait about for a bus
 collecting both ages of children. Church
 schools were part of the village & made
 the children feel part of it too. They
 felt secure & happy in a place
 they knew. Community spirit was a
 thing to preserve. He felt juvenile
 delinquency began in bigger schools.
 Mr. Kemp then spoke saying he sympathized
 with the desire to keep children in the
 village but we must face the facts

that 5-11 year olds in one room with one teacher was not first rate education & we should be beating our heads against the wall if we hoped to retain the village school. There would be the question of finding the money to bring it up to the standard required by the Min. of Education. It was very gratifying that the teachers house had been modernised but many more thousands would be needed to bring the school up to standard. Mrs Charles said the structure was sound & she could not see that it would take so much.

Mr Kemp said there would have to be false ceilings made to make the roof lower, the windows widened & lowered & so forth. One teacher however competent cannot do justice to all ages in one room. Mrs. Pearce asked if the school could be retained for 5-7 year olds. Mr Kemp replied that in Essex this does happen but Cambridge

bounty council were not for this method. Mr. Turner said he thought it better for such young children, leaving their mothers for the first time to come to school, to do so in a village they knew & with children they knew, then at 7 could be transferred to a central school.

Mr. J. Farlane Price said that there was no question that this is what the Authorities would like to do but Essex was a wealthy county & able to do this. Cambridge County Council approved of the plan of Min. of Education of centralizing. There were advantages of competent teachers, modern premises and larger classes. There was a difficulty in obtaining teachers, they were rationed in the county & part-timers kept things going. He said Toft were very happy with the arrangements. Cowell deals with 5 villages & is working the scheme splendidly as indeed it is ^{being worked} in the whole county.

Mr. Turner asked the school managers present if any difficulty had been met

in obtaining teachers for the village school & Mr Sadler said that on one or two occasions, there had been difficulty in securing suitable teachers. Mrs Friedhouse added that they had always been very fortunate in staff being fully competent & co-operative. Mr Turner then suggested we should aim at keeping the school open for 5-7 year olds. He thought they should have some Religious training before going to larger schools where he understood Religious Instruction was given at the discretion of the Headmaster.

Mr. McFarlane Jrieve said there was an agreed syllabus in the County for R.I & Mr Kemp further enlightened us by saying the 44 act allows the local incumbent to go into the schools & give C of E teaching if Parents desire. He said most teachers prefer to teach in large schools where they have company, only courageous teachers come into the wilderness and

leath alone. Even Essex demands schools of a reasonable size, so children may be taken short distances to school. He then went on to talk about the Plowden Commission which would bring about a complete change in Education. The grouping being 5-7, 9-13, elevers plus being abolished and adopting the Public School system of making the final jump at 13, to 16 and eventually 18 years. This is already happening in certain parts of the country & the County of Cambridge intend to adopt this method as soon as possible. He also said that Combertons population was going to increase so much in the future that the school would soon be filled with Comberton children alone. He then asked how true it was to say that population increases were not welcome in Hardwick. Mr. Sadler said this was completely untrue, the Parish Council had been fighting for years to get some development in the village.

Mr. Turner said there was not enough population to warrant doing anything for teenagers or even to carry on a decent whist drive. The planning officer had sounded the death knell of the smaller villages by saying that when the 3 villages under development were completed and the new village built at Dry Drayton the policy was to build new villages only.

Mr. Sadler then asked if the Church would provide funds to bring the building up to standard. Mrs Charles said she was sure the village would raise money to keep.

Mr. Barker said Thriplow school had been threatened with closure but new classes had been built.

Mr. Kemp did not consider the two cases to be identical and although Ely had spent a lot of money on schools it had not budgeted for a permanent school at Hardwick. It had

hoped to build a school at Comberton to take in Hardwick children. He asked if Hardwick would be willing to combine with Taddingley. And this suggestion was met with disapproval. There was the question of which school would give way to the other, the main road problem and also the fact that Taddingley was so much under the jurisdiction of the University.

Mrs Fiedhouse then proposed a letter be sent to the Minister of Education regretting the closure, asking for reconsideration on behalf of 5-7 year olds, mentioning attendance which is excellent & the fact there are no trunk roads to be crossed to reach the school. This was seconded by Mr. Turner & the motion carried.

He in turn proposed a Committee be set up to enlist qualified help, one person being a Mrs Steel of the Advisory Centre on Education 57 Russell St.

This seconded by Mr. Newson.

had to be held if representations were made to the minister to which he replied NO, he makes his own decisions on the case.

The Rev. Smith then spoke saying he had been listening carefully to all that was said & all his sentiments had been expressed, as they were at the Church Council. He felt strongly about the tendency to make plans in remote places of Government & inflicting them on ordinary people. It is true to say villages are Cinderellas & schools are being buried & now the grave is being dug for this one. Economy is not the be all & end all of Education. Children do not look at pretty curtains, they look at the teacher, and they feel confident in village schools. We all want the best for children. We cannot object to the building of a fine new school but we can object to cutting children off at 5 years old, their first impression of

school being a fiery great bus. We want to get across the tremendous value of country schools, they lead to co-operation between parents, children and teachers & makes for the lifeblood of the village. We must do what we can to make our feelings known & to make a strong appeal to keep 5-7 year olds at the village school. The church was going to build a new school at Comberton & therefore prepared to put down a great deal of money & although we had heard Mr Kemp's views he felt we would have his backing & that of the Diocese to make the school up to standard. 5-7 were most important years. He had sketched out a letter which he read, giving these views & which he intended to send as from the school managers. He asked the approval of those present. It was proposed by Mr Newson that approval be given & was seconded by Mr Marshall. Carried Unan. Mr Sadler regretted there was no system of promotion of teachers in this

area. They drift away to other
 counties. Of the original staff of
 C.V. College, only 3 were left.

He thought economies could better
 be carried out at the expense of
 Adult Education than on the young.

Mr. Turner asked that it be put
 on record the thanks of the parents
 to Miss Lisk the school teacher.

He felt she had been much hurt
 by some of the remarks made tonight
 & would like to congratulate her
 on her handling of the children,
 her efficiency & co-operation.

Mr. Newson said he was sure there
 was no intention to decry any teacher
 by previous remarks, it was a general
 way of speaking.

Mr. Turner asked Mr. McFarlane Grieve
 if it would be possible to meet
 the Chairman of the Education
 Committee & he replied he was
 sure they would be very pleased.

Mr. McFarlane Grieve then went on to
 thank everyone for their support of 8

years service on the County Council. He had not been a yes man & had tried to be fair in all his dealings. He had served on many committees & had always done his best. His hospital activities were ones he felt he had served best & it was sad his work had to come to an end with the losing of his seat on the County Council but he fully intended to stand again when he hoped to be able to carry on. Mr Sadler thanked it if the Farrant Grieve on behalf of all present.

The committee to enquire into qualified help etc. was then elected.

Mr Sadler	prop.	Mr Fieldhouse	Sec.	Mr Newson
Rector	"	"	"	Mr Marshall
Mrs Fieldhouse	Mr Sadler	"	Mr Richardson	
Mr Coles	Mrs Pearl	"	Mrs Charles	
Mr Turner	Mrs Fieldhouse	"	Mr Howard	
Mrs Charles	Mr Sadler	"	Mrs Pearl	
Mr Marshall	Mr Sadler	"	Mr Newson	
Mr Newson	Mrs Marshall	"	Mrs Fieldhouse	
Mrs Richardson	Mrs Charles	"	Mr Fieldhouse	
Mr D. Jackson	Mr Sadler	"	Mr Turner	
Mr Howard	Mrs Fieldhouse	"	Mr Newson	
Mr Harper	Mr Marshall	"		

The School closure committee then elected Mr Sadler as Chairman on the proposition of Mrs Fiedhonce seconded by Mrs Charles.

Mr Turner thought the first thing to do was to object to the Minister saying evidence would be furnished at a later date. but Mr Sadler suggested we get all information first and this was agreed on.

Mr Turner then promised to get in touch with Mrs Steel with the idea of getting her out to speak. Mr Howard said he would willingly provide transport for her. Mr Turner also asked the committee to bear in mind the publicity angle & it was agreed to wait and ask Mrs Steel about all aspects of the case.

Mr Sadler closed the meeting at 9.50. The committee agreeing to meet again at a date convenient to Mrs Steel.

Meeting of the Churchill Memorial Fund
Committee held in the school on Monday March 14th 1965.
at 7.30 pm

Chair Mr J. Sadler

Present Mr Baker, Mr Newson, Mr Marshall, Mrs Debbase.

Apologies Mr Rooke. Mr Storey who was unable to attend
because of illness.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Charles H. J.
President and Mr Coles, Chairman of the Village
Hall committee.

Mr Baker suggested that one way of raising
the money should be by means of a sweepstake
on the Grand National. Mr Coles undertook to
make enquiries re the printing of the
necessary tickets. 25% of the takings would be
given as prize money.

Mr Sadler reported that there would be a house
to house collection and that this was being
organised and operated by the British
Legion Poppy Day collectors.

Mr Charles affirmed that helpers could be
found to man the market stall at
Cambridge on Thursday April 8th. A vote
would be drawn up. Further details of these
arrangements would be discussed at the next

meeting.

The date of the next meeting - Monday March 15th, in the school at 7.30 pm.

After the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8 pm.

J. H. L.

Meeting of the School Closure Committee held in the school on Monday March 8th. at 8 pm.

Chairman Mr Saddle

Present Mr Newson, Mr Marshall, The Rev. R. W. Smith, Mr Jones, Mrs Richardson, Mr Coles, Mrs Charles, Mr Howard, Mr Huper, & Mrs Fieldhouse.

Chairman's Remarks Mr Saddle opened the meeting by saying that he had contacted Mr Fields of the Education Authority and that he had been very pleased by his agreement to come out to Hardwick and explain the point of view of the authority with regard to the closure of Hardwick School. He had accordingly called the meeting for that evening. He then welcomed Mr Fields.

Mr Fields Mr Fields first stressed that he was speaking as the servant of the Cambridge Education Authority. He then went on to point out the implications of the notice to close the school.

1. The notice is a public one. 2. Any objections go to the Ministry of State who refers these back to the local authority. 3. Then the Secretary of State decides

In 1944 it had been the intention that the children from Handwick school should be transferred to Caldecote. It had never been proposed that this school should be maintained indefinitely. The numbers were not sufficient. Roll was now 22. This was most expensive. The children missed competitors that they should have & better facilities would be available at the new school. There would be even 6 ten members of the staff & some of these would be specialists in their subjects.

In the existing school the physical limitations were very great. To convert the present room ⁴ into two rooms would present an architectural problem. The population at present was 480 and this was not concentrated round the old village. By 1981 an increase of population to 680 was expected: and the number of children would be roughly 25.

There would be better organization in the larger school. Age-groups would be narrower. 45 schools in the county were scheduled to

close. It was becoming increasingly difficult to staff the small schools.

The Judds then asked for questions. The Judds referred to the Town Centre Planning Quinquennial Map which had not yet been published - would it not have been better to await this to see what development was scheduled for Hadnuck. It was important to keep the school. Prospective residents were anxious to make their homes in villages where there was a school.

The Judds said that the new school could be built in stages and that it might be five years before Hadnuck school actually closed.

The Sadder asked what were the views of the authority on the retention of the school as an Infants school for 5-7 year olds. Several speakers voiced the concern of the parents on the effect of on small children first starting school of the three mile journey to & from Cumbrian: the long day at school so far away from home: the lack of facilities for the return of a sick child home: + the erratic attendance of small children made even worse by the inaccessibility of the new school from the village: transport with

the much older bigger children & the consequent distress to the smallest or youngest children.

To all these objections Mr Foulds gave the reply that since similar closings took place frequently, these matters resolved themselves satisfactorily in an amazing way at that time.

The Rector then stated that the closure of the school was a major blow to the life of the Community. He was most desirous that the formative years of a child's life should be spent in its own village or not three or more miles away.

Mr Foulds then said that the closure of the school was no new idea. It had arisen three times in the last eight years & that the Authority would not reconsider the action.

The Diocese could suggest alternatives & it was for the objectors to make counter proposals.

The Chairman then thanked Mr Foulds for his presentation of the case for the local Authority.

After Mr Foulds had left it was agreed that Mr Foulds should write to the Clerk of the County Council for a) the present figure for the

maintenance of each child in the school at the present time & (b) the estimated cost of each child in the new school at Cambridge & the cost for transport for each child for whom transport has to be provided.

The question of plans for further work were discussed & it was agreed that a representative of the Cambridge Daily News be asked to the next meeting.

The Rector; after remarks from all sides, that the question now was, what is the Diocese prepared to do for us - informed the meeting that he was in contact with the Diocesan Education Committee to whom he had already written & that now he was awaiting further information from them.

The Sadder also reported that he was hoping to arrange a meeting with Mr. Steel of the Advisory Centre.

The next meeting was provisionally arranged for Monday March 15th, at 8 pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

J. C. Sadder
 April 22nd -

Meeting of the Winston Churchill Memorial Fund Committee held in the school on Monday March 15th. at 7.30 pm.

Present Mr J. Sadler in the chair: Mr Baker, Mr Marshall, Mr Newsome, & Mrs Fieldhouse. Mr Coles representing the Village Hall Committee.

Apologies - Mrs Charles.

Minutes The minutes of the last meeting were read & confirmed. On the proposition of Mr Newsome seconded by Mr Baker.

Matters Arising Mr Coles reported on the cost of printing tickets legal details etc with the proposed sweepstake but as there was not sufficient time in which to have the tickets printed this plan had to be dropped.

Whist Drive In place of the proposed sweepstake it was agreed that a Whist Drive be held in the Village Hall on Friday - either April 2nd or 9th. Tickets at 2/6d. each and prizes to be given. The Church Committee would serve the refreshments. Mr Coles would obtain the biscuits; the score cards etc. Mr Newsome offered to duplicate the tickets and this was gratefully accepted. There was some confusion about the

Home & Home Collect.

organisation of this and Mr Sadler asked Mrs Deedhouse if she would enquire into this by contacting the C.R. D. C. & also the Britons the British Legation secretary at Joffe.

It was agreed to apply for 8 collecting boxes, labels, collectors certificates & posters.

Market
Shill As Mrs Charles was not present no further arrangements were made, but it was felt that at the next meeting these could be finalised. There was also discussion as to what response could be expected to the appeal. It was reported that on all sides there was a sincere wish to contribute out of respect to Sir Winston Churchill but that the object of the appeal was not generally considered appropriate for a national appeal.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Meeting of the School Committee held in the
School Thursday 22nd April at 7.30 pm.

Chairman Mr. Sadler.
Pres. Mrs Charles, Mrs, Fieldhouse, Mrs Richardson, Revd Smith
Mr. Newson, Mr. Marshall, Mr Howard, Mr Harper, Mr.
Jacklin & Mr. Turner.

Minutes Mrs Fieldhouse read the minutes of the
last meeting & these were passed as
a correct record on the proposition
of Mr. Newson seconded by Mr. Marshall.
Mr. Sadler then called upon Mr. Smith
to report upon a meeting he, Mrs Fieldhouse
& Rev. Smith had had with the Ely
Diocesan Council. Mr. Smith said the
meeting had not been at all favourable.
The representatives were not introduced
to any members of the Council & they
were made to feel most unwelcome.
The only persons known to him were
the Arch Deacon & Mr Kemp who had
attended a meeting here. The Arch
Deacon then asked Mr Smith to state
his case, which he did, on the
lines already reported. No points

were answered by the Arch Deacon
 & in fact he stated that everything
 was already finalized & there would
 be no point in objecting. He also
 gave Mr. Smith to understand that
 the Council felt the money they
 received from the redundant property
 was best spent in town.

Mr. Kemp had since telephoned
 Mr. Smith & said Mrs. Heffer was
 taking up the case with the Education
 Committee but there had been no
 further developments so far.

Mr. Sadler then read a letter
 from the Advisory Service which also
 held out little hope - simply
 stating the facts of how the
 School Committee should approach
 the Minister.

Mr. Sadler handed a copy of a
 draft of a letter to the Minister to
 each member of the committee &
 this was fully discussed.

It was agreed to insert a
 paragraph relating to the stagnation

of growth of the village as this question is all related to the closure of the school and also to insert under 6 d.

The words "No such complaints have been made about Handwick School".

A final paragraph was to be inserted asking the Minister that an Inquiry be held. A copy of this draft letter is affixed.

Mr. Sadler said it was his intention that a copy of the letter be sent also to Mr. Edwards of the Education Committee. The question of distance from the new school was brought up & Mr. Sadler said he had checked this and found it to be in excess of 2 miles so there were no fears on the transportation side.

Mr. Sadler then asked Rev. Smith to read his letter to the Minister on behalf of the School Managers.

He said firstly it was against the interests of the children, secondly it was against the interests of the parents & thirdly against the interests of the village.

He felt a primary school should be within easy walking distance of the child's home, that there should be co-operation between teacher & parents, & that the village as a whole would lose its identity & community spirit with the closure of the school. These were the main points of his letter.

Mr. Turner proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Sadler who has spent much time & energy for this cause & for his letter stating the facts plainly, & also to Mr. Smith who had stated the more human elements of the case. This was seconded by Mrs. Fuedhouse & unanimously approved.

Mr. Sadler said he hoped all would be present on Saturday to place the facts fairly & squarely before Mr. Pym, & closed the meeting at 9.10 p.m.

Meeting of the School Committee held in the school Saturday April 24th at 6pm.

Chairman Mr Sadler

Present. Mrs Friedhouse, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Charles, Rev Smith, Messrs. Turner, Howard, Jarlin, Colson & Harper.

Mr Pym. The purpose of this meeting was for the committee to put their points of view to the County of P. Mr Pym.

Mr. Sadler welcomed Mr Pym to the meeting who went straight ahead saying he had been in contact with the County Council but had gleaned nothing new.

They were sticking to their decision to close the school. He explained that this was happening in villages all over the country - some were happy about it - some, like Handwick, were not. There was a staffing problem with not enough teachers to go round & more classrooms were necessary.

Mr. Sadler then said he would like to discuss this question on wider ground than the closure of the school. He explained about the village being

in two separate halves & a very scattered community. The Parish Council had been urging for development to weld the village together but the Planning Authority were following the policy of infilling only.

Mr. Pym said he understood there was to be a 50% increase under the new plan by 1981. Mr. Sadler continued by saying we were already sharing a vicar with 2 other parishes & if we lost the school all hope of becoming a proper community would go.

Mr. Pym replied that the shortage of clergy was not peculiar to Hardwick nor is the development plan. Mr. Sadler said he felt that it was peculiar to Hardwick owing to the special circumstances of the shape & scattered nature of the village.

Mr. Pym felt the population would have to be trebled before there was any hope of retaining the school. Mr. Sadler then brought up the development at Highfines Baldecote

as an example of the Planning Authorities change of mind, Mr Pym replied that development was limited. The County Council say 50% for Hardwick & that's final. Parliament says local people must make their own decisions & the people we elect decide these matters. Mr Turner then asked if the Education Committee take into consideration the expected increase in population when deciding to retain the school & Mr Pym stuck to the fact that the population of Hardwick would need to be trebled.

Mr Turner said in his opinion some villages were being swamped with over development & becoming dormitories in Hardwick we need slow growth to enable us to keep community spirit. Mr Pym said this was also financially impossible & Mr Turner asked if the fact it would cost so much more to keep the school open when transport etc. was taken into consideration, Mr also brought up the psychological

effect on children & the feeling that juvenile delinquency stems from the bigger schools. Mr Pym asked the Vicar to speak on this point & Mr Smith said that children who left their village to go to school lacked personality, individuality & confidence when a child stayed in its home village it was entirely different.

Mr. Boles brought up the distance aspect. Three miles for an adult was a short distance but to a child of five it is a long way & in winter time buses are often $\frac{3}{4}$ hr. late & the children would be standing about the roads waiting in bad weather. Mr Smith said villages cannot all be lumped together, there are cases & we believe Hardwick to be one, where the school is a vital necessity to the community spirit of the village. Primary schools should be within walking distance of a child's home & if the population goes up 50% surely this is a reason for retaining the

school. Mr. Pym then asked for the Diocesan Committee views. Mr. Smith said we had no support from them but because authority went back us does it mean we are wrong.

Mr. Coles said a village without a school would not attract people to live there to which Mr. Pym replied that $\frac{1}{2}$ the villages in the County will be without schools - as many parents feel their children are getting a better education away from the village, as feel they are better off in their own village. Mr. Sadler said he could not definitely say if the Diocesan Committee were for or against us, as no correspondence had yet been received from them. He did know that they had a great deal of sympathy with us especially as they had intended to build a new church school at Comberton until this scheme came along. Mr. Turner said the Diocese had expressed an opinion that the money

They received was better spent in towns
 but as he knew of 2 closed
 schools being re-let as private paying
 Nursery schools he felt the Church
 were not interested in the children
 only in the money. Comberton is
 developing so quickly he felt the
 planned school would be too small.
 Mr Sadler said Hardwick had
 never had staffing problems. There
 was a good house, 2 teachers
 for 22 children as against 50
 in bigger schools.

Mr Lewis asked if it meant the teacher
 from here going into a bigger school.
 Mr Pym replied that all teachers
 were not competent to deal with
 the whole age range in one room.
 & while there is such a shortage
 it is better to concentrate on
 larger units. Mr. Smith felt a situation
 must be created where we get more
 teachers. Mrs Charles thought that this
 idea was making villages little more
 than suburbs & Mr. Pym replied that

The county population was not expected to rise more than 50%. Mr Sadler felt this was an unfair basis as the county has grown since the end of the war but this village has not. Mr Coles felt that the closure of Hardwick school would mean the loss of another teacher as he felt Miss Lisk would not go to a bigger school. Mrs Charles brought up the sickness problem & Mr Coles asked Mr Pym how many schools had been stampeded into closing without a fight. Mr Pym replied there had been plenty of fights, the whole decision rests with the Minister. Mr Sadler said the new idea was a 3 school system 5-8 8-11 etc. As Hardwick was usually last in every thing could we not await the Plowden report & be first for once. Mr Sadler then gave Mr Pym the letters already sent to the Minister from the school committee & the school managers. Mr Fieldhouse asked

if there was any chance of forcing an inquiry to which Mr Pym replied "No". He didn't think this would be possible. The minister would make up his own mind. Mr. Turner then asked Mr Pym if he, himself thought we were right in our views. Mr Pym replied "Ideally it is right, but in fact it is not possible to organise on the basis you want this school organised on". He then took down details of the modernisation of school house etc & said he would write to the Minister on our behalf, what he could do he would do gladly but he could not work miracles.

Mr. Sadler closed the meeting at 7.20. Thanking Mr Pym for giving up some of his valuable time to us.

J.A.S.

Annual Parish Meeting held in the school
Monday 26 April 1966 at 7.30 pm.

Chairman Mr. Sadler.

Present Mrs Fieldhouse, Messrs Rooke, Newsome, Marshall
& Barker & the Fr. Fr. Farlane Gaiwe C.S.C. rep.
= 10 villagers.

Minutes. The minutes of the last meeting were read
& passed as a correct record on the
proposition of Mrs Fieldhouse seconded
by Mr Rooke.

Pond. Mr. Sadler reported the position regarding
the pond. He had done some lobbying
on our behalf & obtained support from
the members of Dry Drayton & Long Stanton
but after twice being referred back,
the motion to fill the pond had been
defeated as Mrs Lawfield, the member
for Long Stanton had been unable
to get a seconder at the vital
meeting. Mr. Bond continued to
object to the filling in of the pond
but was overruled. Mr. Turner
felt that it had not been made
clear to the various committees
that the main reason for filling

in the pond was to provide a much needed play ground, to which if Hart Lane Yrwise replied that it had been made perfectly clear to all concerned. Mr. Sadler agreed, as in the letter received from Mr. Flint he mentioned grants from the recreation fund. Mr. Story said he had noted in the C.D.N. that Histon pond had been cleaned out for the second time in 3 years yet C.R.D.C. consistently refuse to spend any money on Hardwick pond - when we wanted it cleaned, they said it couldn't be done, & now they are refusing to fill it when we want it filled, was it to remain a problem for ever. Mr. Richardson asked if the safety aspect had been stressed. Mr. Sadler replied "Yes & we have the support of the Education Committee in this matter. Mr. Turner asked that the matter continue to be pushed stressing the reasons of the need for a play ground and the

nuisance to Public Health. Mr. Sadler said that had the piping costing £425 been done by C.K.D. the Parish Council would have been responsible for the rest. Mr. Turner said we must not give in but to continue to ask for this to be done. The Rev proposed this, and was seconded by Mr. Barker. There being only 1 dissenter the motion was carried. Mr. Rooke then asked if it was possible for the Parish to do anything about it themselves but Mr. Sadler said it must be properly piped. Mr. Turner brought up Bir Brook & said one of the arguments against filling the pond was that it acted as a pressure valve for the brook & if it was filled flooding would ensue. Mr. Sadler said this could not be considered a valid argument owing to the width & depth of Bir brook & the fact that there was never more than a couple of feet of water in it. It was decided to keep pressing in hopes that C.K.D.

would finally give way.

Development Mr. McFarlane Grieve said he knew nothing of any development proposed in the village except for the bungalows already passed. Mr. Sadler reported that levelling stakes & pegs had appeared opposite the council houses & the position as he understood it was that outline planning permission had been given several years ago when C.R.D.C. were interested in building some more council houses. When this scheme fell through Town & Country planning wished to squash this permission but were unable to as the amount of compensation was too high, so outline planning permission still exists on that piece of land. Mr. Turner said we should not be opposed to development, Hardwick should be allowed to become big enough to get a sewer & keep its school open. It was the plum of the playing field which had made him oppose the

big development proposed by Mrs Chivers
He was now having second thoughts.

Mr. Richardson asked if this was the only
objection to the development & Mr. Sadler
answered, no, there were several
more, including location, & size etc.
Mr. Barker said he felt we would be
weakening our case for filling in
the pond if we now ^{approached} ~~accepted~~ a
Chivers for a playing field.
~~Playing field from Chivers.~~ Mr. Marshall
said the pond was more central
& children would not go down to
the end of the village to play. We
should press for the pond to be filled
& forget about the other offer.

Mr. Turner brought up the increase
in rating, both for sewerage
& roads. He asked if The Ben Hill
Village had anything to do with this.
Mr. McFarlane Grieve stated
emphatically that there was no
change in the financial arrangements
from those stated at the Public
enquiry into the new village. CRAC.
we paying their share towards the

sewering of Dry Drayton & Cakington which was being incorporated into that of Bar Hill, but the developers were paying for the whole of the sewering & road works of the new village as previously arranged.

A.45. At the last meeting concern had been expressed about reports that the A.45 ditch was to be filled in. The surveyor had been out to see this ditch & the main reason for the blockage was the Village Hall bridge, which was broken. Mr Cooke reported that repairs were going on.

Street Lighting
 Mr McFarlane Grive said the validity of the Parish Council's claim for extra street lighting was recognised & he had no doubt that something would be done in due course. Mr Porter had said no village could have extra lights until every village in the area had some.
 School. Mr Sadler reported on the fact that the Education Committee had

& seconded by Mr. Marshall
 that the County Council be
 approached regarding the very
 bad corner where Cambridge
 Road joins Main Street & it
 was agreed to ask that the
 severity of the curve be lessened.
 Mr. Turner asked that the Garage
 owners at the corner of ~~Cambridge~~
 Rd & St. Peter's Rd be asked not
 to park large vehicles so that
 they obstruct the view along the
 main road - he was pleased
 to see they had cut down the hedge
 this was a great help. Mr. Sadler
 replied that representations had
 been made already.
 There being no further business he
 closed the meeting at 8.55 pm.

Signed subject to alterations

G. L. S. M.

Annual General Meeting of the Parish
Council held in the school Monday
31st May 1965.

Chairman

Mr Sadler

Present

Mr Barker Mr Marshall, Mr Newson - Mr Poole
Mr James, the C.C. representative and 3

Minutes

villagers. Apology from Mrs Fieldhouse
who was at Buckingham Palace representing the W.I. of
Harwich. The minutes of the last meeting were

read & passed as a correct record
on. The proposition of Mr Barker seconded
Mr Marshall.

Churchill
fund

Only one matter arose from the minutes
that being the Churchill Fund. It
was announced that a receipt for
£11.12.6. had been received. Mr Sadler

said that this was below the target
set for the village by C.C. but
we were certainly not alone in this.

Election
Officers

The next business was the election of
Officers for the ensuing year. Mr
Poole asked Mr Sadler if he was
willing to stand again to which
he replied he had no wish to
occupy the chair for ever but

as he was involved in several affairs now under way such as the School closure etc. he would be willing to carry on for one more year. He was then formally proposed as Chairman by Mr Newson & seconded by Mr Marshall. Mr Newson also said he would like to thank Mr Sadler for the time & hard work he put in for the good of the village. Mr Fieldhouse was proposed as vice-chairman & seconded by Mr Barker.

There was one vacancy on the Council caused by the resignation of H. Willis. Two names were brought forward - that of Mr ~~Howlatt~~^{loles} proposed by Mr Marshall seconded by Mr Newson & Mr ~~Howlatt~~^{Howlatt} proposed by Mr Barker seconded by Mr Rooker. On the vote it was decided that Mr Howlatt be asked to become a member of the Council.

Mr James At this point the chairman welcomed Mr James our County Council representative. I said this was our chance to unburden ourselves of our

Vacancy
for
Council
member

Complaints against the County Council.
 Mr. James replied that he was anxious
 to keep in close touch with all his
 parishes & hoped to come to at least
 one meeting a year, preferably the
 Annual Parish Meeting.
 If he had then set out lined most of the
 complaints which have been well
 reported in the past - namely the
 attitude of Town & County Planning
 - school closure - street lighting
 and drainage. On these points
 Mr. James said he would press
 wholeheartedly for development
 especially of land on Lewis
 estate. On the matter of the school
 Mr. James said he agreed with
 the County Council - that one
 teacher was insufficient for
 widely differing ages & that a
 small 5-7 class would be
 uneconomical.

Bar Hill was again mentioned as
 being a primary cause of delay
 in sewerage and other services

for our village to which Mr James replied that renovating an old village was difficult while building a completely new one was quite simple.

Mr James said he would take note of all our views & press in the right quarters but he would like to make it clear that in the case of the school it was our views & not his views, about which he was making representations.

About development he said he would get a full report & get in touch with the chairman in about 6 weeks.

Mr Barker brought up the question of Cayles corner & asked Mr James to enquire into legalities of cutting down the hedge to improve vision. All members of the council agreed that this is a most dangerous corner with the camber of the road going the wrong way & a very nasty drain grating along the side. Mr Marshall asked if there could be a pull in

Cayles
Corner

for tradesmen. The complaint against the pond was also aired but this is the province of C.R.D.C. and not County Council.

Village Hall

A letter was read from Mr. Cole asking that a Parish Council representative attend a meeting to decide the future of the village hall. It was proposed by Mr. Marshall & seconded by Mr. Rooke that Mr. Newson be the official delegate & both Mr. Rooke & Mr. Sadler announced their intention of attending if circumstances permitted.

A meeting had been held recently at which Mr. Sadler, Mr. Rooke had been present & Mr. Rooke said that this was the first open meeting to be held for 3 years or more.

The outlook seemed very gloomy indeed as the Hall was losing money each year. Mr. Sadler said that when the Hall was first taken over there was a balance of some £300. The first thing the new Committee did was to get rid of the trustees

Shoned the Village Hall close the Land
reverts to the Land Commissioners,
he felt that some thought shoned be
put into the matter of rescuing the hall
from that fate.

At this point Mr. Turner was
allowed to speak. Seven or 8 years
ago he had taken over the chair
in an effort to get things to rights
but he retired defeated when the
committee refused to have trustees
He thought perhaps the W.I. might take
a more active part in running the
hall but he felt that first of
all things shoned be put back on
a proper footing with properly
elected trustees & properly audited
accounts. If Sadler asked if
Turner if he knew the exact
responsibilities of the trustees &
he replied that they shoned be
prominent trust worthy people who
act as a safeguard holding a
watching brief for the Charity
Commissioners.

Mr. Cooke asked if it would be legal for the Parish Council to be Trustees to which Mr. James replied in the affirmative. Mr. Sadler thought it would be much better for the Parish Council to be trustee as it would ensure there was always someone responsible. - individual people, died or moved away, but there was always a Parish Council. Several ways of improving the financial status were suggested one of which being, paying the caretaker for each lot & not by the year. but all agreed that the first essential was the re-appointment of Trustees.

Plan Applications
 Mr. James asked Mr. Sadler how the Planning Applications were working & Mr. Sadler said it was quite ridiculous as mostly the things were already done before the Parish Council received the applications. Mr. James agreed that much of it seemed to be just formality but felt that in most

cases it gave the P. Council the opportunity to voice its opinion.

The clerk reported the return of the Mortgage deed for the bus shelters as this debt had now been repaid.

The accounts for the year were presented & signed as correct.

A cheque was signed for £15.7 for the Parish Council Association.

C.R.D.C. are providing the judge for the Garden Competition which will take place this year week beginning 12th July & a notice to this effect had been placed on the village board.

Before the meeting closed Mr Turner said he would like to bring to the notice of the P. Council a meeting to be held in the Guildhall 10th June at 7.30 when the Headmaster of Wardsmoor school would be speaking on Comprehensive Education.

There being no further business Mr Sadle closed the meeting at 9.20 first asking that his thanks to the clerk for her 20 years work be placed on record.

Mortgage Deed

Accounts

Cheque PCA

Garden Competition

Meeting of the Parish Council held in the school
Monday 26th July at 7.30 pm.

Chairman

Mr Sadler

Present.

Mrs Fieldhouse, Messrs. Barker, Howlatt, Marshall
Newson - Cooke & two villagers (Mr Turner, Mr Basily).

Welcome
new members.

At this point Mr Sadler extended a
welcome to the new members of the Council Mr Howlatt.

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were read
& passed as a correct record on the
proposition of Mr Marshall seconded Mr Newson

Matters
arising.

Bayles
Corner.

A letter was read from the County Surveyor
regarding Bayles Corner stating that
funds were not sufficient at the
moment for any reconstruction to be
carried out on this corner. Minor
improvements may be made in next
year's estimate. At this point Mr
Marshall reported that there had been
yet another accident at this bend when
Mr Morgan of Telford had turned upside
down & was completely trapped in
his car. He felt the Parish Council

should continue to press for this
 corner to be improved & he proposed
 that Jeff + Compton Councils be
 approached for their support. This
 was seconded by Mrs. Fieldhouse.
 Also seconded by Mrs. Fieldhouse
 was Mr. Barkers proposition asking that
 Mr. Cayte be asked to trim back his
 hedge to 2' 6" or thereabouts to
 improve the vision of drivers.

Village
 Hall

Mr. Newson reported on the meeting
 which had been held at the Village
 Hall. The position of Trustees had
 become out dated with the formation
 of a properly elected Committee -
 This had also been established by
 Mr. Sadler from Mr. Martindale.
 Several ways of increasing funds
 had been discussed including
 the selling of all or part of the
 land attached to the Hall & Mr.
 Leedes agreed to approach the
 Charity Commissioners to see if this
 could be done. Mr. Rooke asked
 if the Hall could be subsidised

from the rates & Mr. Sadler said he had given this matter a lot of thought & felt the time had now come for the whole of the village to help instead of the burden resting with a fair few. He had taken the matter up with Mr. Flint of CEK and Mr. Martindale & found that it was quite in order to do this without calling a parish meeting. If in the long run it was proved the village did not want the hall, then of course it must close, but we must give it a try. If the school closed & was sold there would be no public meeting place except the Hall. Mr. Newson asked if the Parish Council levied a rate, they could have a greater say in the way it was spent. Mr. Sadler agreed certain conditions must be imposed & the council then discussed what these should be. It was agreed that Mr. Newson as the Parish Council delegate should attend the next meeting at the Village Hall and put forward

the Parish Councils offer of a certain sum and the conditions here with listed.

- ① At least 2 members on the committee from the Parish Council.
- ② The offer should be under annual review by the Parish Council & withdrawn when they see fit.
- ③ Before the A.G. of the Village Hall committee in December a detailed Balance sheet should be made available to the Parish Council.
- ④ There should be properly appointed auditors satisfactory to the Parish Council.

Planning

Several planning applications were received and discussed including 2 from Chivers - 1 being opposite the new bungalows & the other opposite the Council Houses. If Sadler asked Mr Howlatt if he knew whether these were to be line development or depth & Mr Howlatt said he understood they were to be development in depth.

Planning
Wards
9/10/92

Also discussed was a letter from Mr A. Cumberbitch of Basingstoke acting for Mr R. Ward who was asking for the Council's views on an access road to Wards paddocks incorporating the existing concrete road & passing between the school & pond & continuing round to the site in question.

It was proposed by Mr's Fieldhouse & seconded by Mr Newson that the Parish Council oppose this plan on the grounds of danger to school children and also it would interfere with the aims of the council to make this a play area.

It was agreed to write also to Town & Country Planning opposing this & informing them that a letter had been sent to Cumberbitch in the same vein. A letter was read from C.K.D. which was a copy of one sent to Cumberbitch, stating that they could not give permission for this road as the land was not vested in C.K.D.

Pages 104 and 105 missing from original Minute Book

roads were to be named eventually -
if not would the residents erect a name
of their own choosing - East Lane
being one name mentioned.

Appeal
Mr Turner

Mr Sadler then told the Council
he had been approached by Mr Turner
regarding a possible local appeal hearing
against his planning application &
asking for support. After discussion
the Parish Council stated its views
were unchanged & Mr Sadler was
instructed to appear at the hearing
or if pressure of work was too
great to send a letter giving
full support to Mr Turner.
There being no further business
the meeting was closed at 9.10pm.

J. H. [Signature]

School
Managers

Mr Sadler agreed to stand as school manager for Handwick for the coming year.

Caldecote

Our manager at Caldecote, Mr Willie, had resigned & the Pector had be elected in his place. Mrs Fieldhouse was also a manager^{to}, but not for the village, being C.C. representative.

Cheques

Cheques were signed for Petty Cash £5 a Mr Marshall, repairs to notice boards £5.10

Council
Houses

Mr Marshall asked that C.C. be approached regarding the modernisation of the 2 remaining Council Houses. It is now almost 2 years since this was promised & so far nothing has been done.

Road
Names

Mr Cooke stated that several people on Limes Estate would like the remaining roads named. Names had been submitted to C.C. But for all the roads but only Limes Road, Kings Road, Cambridge Rd, & Hall Drive were being signposted. The clerk was asked to write to C.C. to enquire if the remaining

Meeting of the Parish Council held in
the school Monday 15th November 1965
at 7.30. p.m.

- Chairman Mr. Sadler.
- Present Mrs. Fieldhouse, Messrs. Newson, Rook, Marshall & How.
- Apologies. Apology for absence was received from
Mr. M. Hartane Grieve. Also absent was Mr. Bank.
- Minutes The minutes of the last meeting were
read & passed as a correct record on
the proposition of Mrs. Fieldhouse seconded by
- Matters Mr. Rook.
- arising No reply had been received from the
County Council regarding Cayles Corner
but the Parish Clerks of Comberton &
Cayles & both supported the claim
for some action to be taken.
- Village Mr. Newson reported on the Village
Hall. Hall. Mr. Coles had approached
the Charity Commissioners through Mr
Martindale concerning the possible
sale of a piece of the land.
It was discovered that this could
not be done without the approval
of a public meeting and also the

consent of the Minister in whose power rests the final decision. Mr. Newson asked that the Parish Council elect a second member to the Village Hall Committee & he proposed Mr. Marshall for this vacancy. This was seconded by Mr. Locke & carried unanimously. Mr. Newson said that Mrs. Fieldhouse had agreed to audit the accounts for this year. A good start had been made on the Christmas Whist Drive & Raffle & there had been a good response for donations & goods for raffling. The weekly whist drive also seemed on the upgrade. Funds at the last meeting were down to £4.15-. There were some outstanding accounts. He asked that the Parish Council decide on the sum of money to grant to the Hall Committee to enable them to get going. After some discussion Mr. Sadler thought £30 would be sufficient to keep through to the end of this financial

2nd
member

Audit

year. Mrs Fieldhouse said that giving too little would be almost as bad as giving too much & it was proposed by Mr. Rooke that £30 should be paid this year, with the possibility of an increase later if necessary. This was seconded by Mrs Fieldhouse. A cheque was duly signed for £30 & handed to Mr. Newson. To cover this amount at the bank a precept for the same figure was served on C.R.C. The question of the A.G.M. was raised & Mr. Newson stated that this was to be in March. Mr. Sadler said that although the original deed required the A.G.M. to be held in December, he would not oppose the decision to hold it in March providing the financial year ended at the same period and he asked Mr. Newson to put these views to the Village Hall Committee.

cheque
£30.

Precept.

A.G.M.

zilgal

A letter had been received from

The County Planning Office in reply to the one from the Parish Council, stating that they would take heed of the Council's views on the subject of the approach road.

Council
Houses

With regard to the modernisation of the two remaining Council Houses, a letter was received from C.R.D.C. in which they stated they could not give any definite date for commencement of the work.

Road
Naming

A letter had also been received saying that the road naming would be completed with the two names suggested by the Parish Council, Millers Way & Pump Lane.

Turner
Planning

Mr. Sadler said he had attended Mr. Turner's planning appeal held in the Village hall. He said he was careful not to make his support personal but to put the views of the Parish Council generally, regarding planning. Mr. Turner had complained of the conduct of the County Council

representative & Mr. Sadler said that both he & Mrs Fieldhouse who was also present, were disgusted at the lies & evasions of this representative, but they thought the Inspector in charge of the hearing to be very fair.

Some repairs were necessary to the bus shelter. The windbreak wall had several courses of bricks down & the glass broken in the windows. Mr. Cooke suggested it might be a good idea to tie this in to the main building & roof it also. He & Mr. Newson agreed to get estimates for this job.

It was reported that the A45 ditch had not been cleared for over a year. & Mr. Newson also stated there was trouble with the drainage at the Bridle path, a large amount of water flowing down the path from Toft Road. The clerk was asked to write

Bus Shelter

A.45 Ditch Drainage Toft Rd.

to C.R.D.C. about this and ask if a further drain could be put in diverting the water to the Councils ditch on the S.E. of the road.

Street
lighting

Street lighting was again under discussion & it was proposed by Mr. Newson seconded by Mr. Rook that a letter be sent to C.R.D.C. stating that lighting in the village was totally inadequate and asking that the entrance to the village from Tost direction be better lit also Cayles Corner. It was also decided to ask if the wattage on the existing lamps could be increased.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50. p.m.

J. L. Rook

A meeting of the School Committee was held in the school Monday 6th December 1965 at 7.30 p.m.

Chairman Mr. Sadler

Present Mrs. Fieldhouse, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Charles, Rev. Smith and Messrs. Marshall, Newson, Turner, Howard, Bolis and Jellin.

Minutes The minutes of the last meeting were read & passed as a correct record on the proposition of Mrs. Fieldhouse seconded by Mr. Newson & carried unanimously.

Letter
from
Dept. Ed-
& Science

A letter was read from the Dept of Education & Science stating that the Minister had reviewed our case but had decided the School must close. Mr. Turner immediately attacked this decision on several grounds including the transport arrangements for the children. He asked Mr. Sadler if the Government Inspectors report on the School had been received to which Mr. Sadler replied "The report has not been made. Rev. Smith

said he had written for the report to be sent by return but so far it had not come. Mrs Fieldhouse said this report takes some while to come through, & in her opinion nothing could be done until it arrived. She understood the report to be favourable, the education up to standard & happy polite children but the building was Sub-Standard. Mr Turner said the Diocesan Committee should help to bring it up to standard & asked where the money had gone to from the sale of the Vicarage. Mr Smith explained that this was put into a fund to supply a new vicarage when needed. With regard to money obtained from the sale of schools this was put into another fund to be spent wherever the need was greatest and it was the opinion of the Diocesan Committee that this was in towns. Mr Newson suggested calling in the support of the national press to

which Mr Sadler replied that he felt the press was of great use in cases of injustice but the circumstances of this case were perfectly legal.

We feel a sense of injustice but in fact no injustice has been done.

Mr Coles asked if there were any loopholes at all & Mr Sadler replied 'None'.

Mr Coles then enumerated the reasons for the closure as being Economic, Substandard building and shortage of teachers.

Mr Sadler said before the press is approached we must have a case ready to put to them — and a far better one than we already have. He had talked with Mr Smith about this and they agreed the best chance of a loophole seems to be in the H.M.I. report, & we must see it does not get diverted but comes in its original state to the Chairman of School Managers. Mr Smith thought the letter very vague

why was the building Sub-Standard.
 Mr. Turner said 2 classrooms were
 necessary, but 26 new homes were
 scheduled for Hardwick in the near
 future making an increase in the
 number of children available to attend.
 Mr. Cole asked how the school compared
 with Eversden. Rev. Smith replied, slightly
 better, at Eversden they still have the
 old dry closets. He proposed Mr.
 Turner seconded that we should
 wait for the Inspector's report to see
 if there is anything we can catch on
 to & to then enlist the support of
 the National Society to take up the
 case with the Diocesan Committee
 according to their principles.
 Mrs. Friedhouse suggested we join
 the Society which cost £1 per
 year.

Mrs. Friedhouse suggested a new
 school might be built about $\frac{1}{2}$
 way between TDJ & Hardwick to
 serve both villages.

Referring to the teacher shortage

Mr. Sadler said that $\frac{1}{3}$ of children going to the Village College were sub-standard. There were only 12 full time teachers & 6 part time. The head master was finding it impossible to run the school as it should be and was appealing to L.E.A. for more full timers.

Mr. Collis asked where the $\frac{1}{3}$ sub-standard children come from & Mr. Sadler said he did not know but would try & get this information. He then asked if all present would be content to leave matters as they are until the Inspectors report was received. There was general assent to this and the meeting closed at 9 p.m.