

Hardwick Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 8 January 2025 at 7.00 pm
Held at The Cabin at St Mary's, Hardwick

Present: Councillors: A Gill (Chairman), J Armisen, B Coxall, P Joslin and S Rose.

In attendance: Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk).

Open public session

To receive representations from residents and members of the public on items on this agenda.

None.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Phillips (illness).

2. Declarations of interest

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

Cllr Gill declared a non-pecuniary interest in any item relating to the Community Centre as a Trustee, Guarantor and Director member of the Hardwick Community Centre Charity.

Cllr Rose declared a non-pecuniary interest in any item relating to the Community Centre as a Trustee, Guarantor and Director member of the Hardwick Community Centre Charity.

Cllr Rose declared a non-pecuniary interest in any item relating to the Pavilion and Hardwick Sports and Social Club as a founder member and life member of HSSC.

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

None received.

3. To review the budget for financial year ending 31 March 2025 against receipts and payments and to consider any outstanding projects or spending and to make arrangements for these and to consider and earmark any reserves

RESOLVED to note that approximately 90% of the "Special Projects - Community Hall opening and fit out costs" budget heading related to the cost of fitting out the Community Centre.

RESOLVED, recognising that most of the interest recently received was for the Community Centre, that the earmarked reserve titled Special Projects – Community Hall opening and fit out costs be re-named "Community Centre and other S106 projects." (Prop SR, 2nd AG unanimous)

The RFO requested that the Parish Council revisit the fund re-naming and consider the implications of the use of the earmarked fund and advised the Council for openness and transparency that the interest be placed in a separate earmarked fund.

RESOLVED that the sum of £18,598.72 which was interest in the 2023-2024 accounts be transferred to the Community Centre and other S106 projects (interest). (Prop SR, 2nd AG unanimous)

RESOLVED that all interest received in FY 2025 be applied to the Community Centre and other S106 project funds.

RESOLVED, given the RFO's advice to revisit the decision to rename the fund and to leave the earmarked fund as previously named but to have a second earmarked fund for the interest received titled "Community Centre and other S106 projects (interest).

RESOLVED to move the previously deposited £30,000 from the Community Hall and fit out costs budget heading to the Community Centre and other S106 projects (interest) earmarked fund.

RESOLVED to transfer the budgeted loan repayments fund of £15,000 and a further £10,000 from the Community Hall and Fit Out Costs budget to the Community Hall and Fit Out Costs earmarked fund

RESOLVED that all under-spends below £25,000 unless specifically decided by the Parish Council should be transferred to General Reserves at the year end.

A request for funding of £3,000 from Hardwick Happenings is to be considered at the February meeting as the agenda had already been published.

4. To approve a budget for FY2026

RESOLVED, having reviewing the amount to date and the draft figures prepared by the RFO to budget in FY26 payments:

- Include £5000 for advertising.
- increase the salaries budget to £12,000.
- the audit provision should be £1,500, not £2,000.
- make provision of £19,000 for Grounds Maintenance.
- Include £2,000 for S137

RESOLVED to Include £40000 in receipts under interest and also include £40,000 under Community Centre and other S106 funds (interest)

The RFO advised that the £40,000 interest above should not also be shown under Payments as it was an internal transfer.

RESOLVED that the budget for FY2026 showing payments of £133,372.00 and receipts of £472,500 be approved. (Prop JA, 2nd PJ, unanimous)

5. To set and demand the precept required for the Parish Council to balance its budget

RESOLVED having included £647.50 for General Reserves to set and demand from the District Council a precept of £86,770, representing a 3.5% increase, being the amount required by the Parish Council to balance the budget for FY26. (Prop AG, 2nd BC, unanimous)

9. Closure of meeting and items for the next agenda

The meeting closed at 8.47 pm.

SignedChairmandate