

HARDWICK PARISH COUNCIL
CLERK TO THE COUNCIL MRS ANN-MARIE DAVIES

Minutes of the meeting of Hardwick Parish Council on Tuesday 1 November 2016 at 7pm in the John Bridles Hall.

Present: Chairman Richard Blacklock
Vice Chairman Garth Bickerton
Councillor Carol Wright
Councillor Trevor Bowman-Shaw
Councillor Amanda Tofield

County Councillor Netta Glover + 3 residents

Simon Garwood – Bucks County Council

1. **To receive apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from District Councillor Ashley Bond.
2. **To receive official reports from County and District Council Members** – County Councillor Netta Glover gave a verbal report to those present. See attachment to these minutes for further detail.
3. **Declaration of interest** in items on the agenda: to declare any interests and agree any dispensation requests – None received.
4. **To receive a presentation from Bucks County Council on their plans to streamline local government across the County** – The group received a comprehensive and informative presentation from Simon Garwood, Bucks County Council (BCC). He gave the reasons why BCC were looking to set up a new Council which incorporated County and all the District Councils within the Aylesbury Vale. Setting up a unitary council would save local residents £18.2 million pounds a year. 19 Local Community Boards would be set up across the Vale which would give Parish and Town Councils the opportunity to take on more services if they wished to do so. It would also devolve budgets to these Boards and the aim would be for the money to be more directed to local need. A decision on the business case BCC had submitted to the Communities for Local Government would be made in January and if approved, the new council could be operational from April 2019.
5. **Open Forum:** A resident in attendance asked the Council for an update on the proposal to install a play area in the village. The Chairman responded on behalf of the Council and said that whilst the questionnaire indicated that the majority of respondents were in favour of the proposal, there was still a long way to go. A quote had been received which was in the region of £10,000. Next steps would be to check whether planning permission was required, to see if the proposal was financially viable, and to then look for opportunities to assist with the funding of the project.
6. **To agree the minutes** of the last meeting held on Tuesday 13 September 2016 – the minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed.
7. **To update on matters arising** – The Clerk advised the group that she had written, as asked, to Mrs Tofield to thank her for delivering the questionnaires to residents in the village.
8. **To review quote to provide play equipment in the village and decide next steps** – Before any further plans were discussed, the Chairman, (following the support for the play area as evidenced by the questionnaire) put a proposal to the group asking if the Council wanted to support the installation of a play area. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Tofield and the Council voted their agreement with a majority. The Chairman told the group that he and the Clerk had recently met a highly recommended Play Contractor out on site in order to ascertain approximate costs for this project. A quote in the region of £10,000 had been received. Councillors acknowledged that whilst the metal framed equipment would be longer lasting and require minimum maintenance, they felt wooden or wooden 'look' equipment would be more in

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keeping with the look of the village and be more acceptable to local residents. The Clerk was asked to seek a further quote from Safe and Sound.

ACTION: AMD

She was also asked to contact AVDC to ascertain whether planning permission was required.

ACTION: AMD

Vice Chairman Bickerton proposed that no more than £6000 was set aside by the Parish Council for this project. Councillors agreed, and hoped to split the amount across two financial years. In order to help support this proposal, the Clerk would complete and submit a bid to the Community Chest for 50% project grant funding.

ACTION: AMD

9. To consider correspondence and other communication received since the last meeting.

a) To note the updated position on obtaining Superfast Broadband to the village – The Clerk reported that she was still awaiting a response from BT Open reach. The Aylesbury Vale Broadband scheme was also discussed but this was considered unsuitable for Hardwick as there was a minimum sign up requirement.

10. **Planning:** To discuss planning applications and make recommendation, and to include those planning applications received after this agenda is published, if urgent: The Clerk referred the group to an email previously circulated which was from the NBPCC (North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium) and related to Great Horwood. They had made a resolution to challenge AVDC following an upheld planning appeal which AVDC had supported. The resolution was to challenge AVDC's decision to ignore their made Neighbourhood Plan and give permission to the proposed development. The Planning Inspectorate agreed with Great Horwood. Councillors all agreed to support this resolution. The Clerk was asked to advise the NBPPC of this decision.

ACTION: AMD

11. **To receive an update on the Parish Plan** – Councillor Bickerton reported that the original plan related to information and wishes of the residents from 2012. At that time it was agreed to update the plan every two years but this had not been done. He agreed to update the Plan and suggested that a further survey of the village was undertaken to recognise the value of the community. The Clerk offered to look out the previous survey and email through to Councillor Bickerton.

ACTION: AMD

12. Highways, Footpaths and Footways

a) To report and update on issues and repairs – The Chairman reported that the bus stop roof would need refelting at some point. The Clerk was asked to place this as an agenda item for the Spring time.

ACTION: AMD

The Chairman thanked Councillor Tofield for organising the Bulb planting event and also the 18 people who came out to plant. It was reported as a highly enjoyable event. Thanks also should go to Mrs Fiona Blacklock who had hosted the breakfast following the planting.

Councillor Wright also reported that the litter previously reported had been cleared and she thanked the Clerk for contacting AVDC.

13. Street lighting

a) To report and update on issues and repairs – No faulty lights were reported.

b) To consider request from TFB to provide a quote to update streetlights to LED – Councillors voted not to take this offer up at this time.

14. Finance

a) To agree the accounts for the month ending September 2016 – the accounts were agreed as a correct record.

b) To draw cheques

Garden Master chq 550 £575.00 (raised between September & November meeting)

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Ann-Marie Davies	chq 576	£471.35
Garden Master	chq 577	£440.00
Amanda Tofield	chq 578	£166.00 (bulb purchase)
Ann-Marie Davies Services at AVDC)	chq 579	£108.00 (raised outside of meeting to pay for Planning

- c) To consider precept request from AVDC and set amount – Councillors discussed and agreed to collect the same amount of precept as 2015/16 - £11275. The Clerk would advise AVDC.

ACTION: AMD

15. To report on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council

- a) Winslow Local Area Forum – There had not been a meeting since the last Parish Council meeting. The next meeting was on 8 December 2016. The Clerk planned to attend.

16. To agree the date of the next meeting – The next meeting was agreed as Tuesday 10 January 2017.

Signed:

Date