

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

Minutes of the Meeting of Hardwick Parish Council held on Tuesday 10 July 2018 at 7pm in the John Bridles Hall

Present:

Chairman Richard Blacklock
Vice Chairman Garth Bickerton
Councillor Amanda Tofield
Councillor Trevor Bowman-Shaw

County Councillor Netta Glover
District Councillor Ashley Bond
Plus 1 resident

1. **To note apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Councillor Carol Wright.
2. **Declaration of interest** in items on the agenda: to declare any interests and agree any dispensation requests – None received.
3. **To receive a presentation from Marcus Militello, Hedgerow Havens Project Officer at Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust** – All present enjoyed a comprehensive and informative presentation that was delivered by Marcus Militello. A resident asked what was happening about the control of red kites as the reintroduction had been maybe too successful! Marcus explained that whilst this wasn't his area of expertise, he was aware of projects such as 'diversionary feeding' which were being explored. He suggested that these things do peak and levels were expected to flatten out. The Chairman asked if additional margins were expected to be introduced. Marcus said that it would be more about tweaking processes that were already in place. Councillor Amanda Tofield said that a wildlife flower bed would be a good idea. The Chairman said this would all be kept in mind and considered going forward.
4. **Open Forum:** None.
5. **To agree the minutes** of the last meeting held on Tuesday 8 May 2018 – The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.
6. **To update on matters arising** – All matters arising form part of the agenda.
7. **To receive updates** from Bucks County Council and AVDC Councillors – A verbal update was given by County Councillor Netta Glover. A report is attached to these minutes. District Councillor Ashley Bond wanted to clarify that whilst it had been reported in the press that Neil and Janet Blake had resigned, it was only from their Cabinet and Leader positions, they were still carrying out their District Councillor role.
8. **To consider correspondence and other communication received since the last meeting.**
 - a) To discuss and adopt the Parish Plan for Hardwick village – Councillor Tofield picked up on a couple of small bits that needed amending such as groups no longer using the hall. She also suggested an amendment to the numbers of households in the village and the resulting percentage. Councillor Tofield agreed to email through these comments to Councillor Bickerton. **ACTION: AT**
Chairman Blacklock asked for the map of the Conservation area to also be included. He agreed to email across to Councillor Bickerton. **ACTION: RB**
With regard to printing the Parish Plan the Chairman agreed to seek assistance from a resident in the village in the first instance. **ACTION: RB**
 - b) To receive an update on the Silent Soldier campaign – The Chairman asked if the Whitchurch British Legion were doing anything in this regard. Councillor Tofield said they agreed to try and help smaller parishes financially if possible. The Chairman asked the group if they wanted to support this in principle. Councillor Bickerton asked about the

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location but he was fully supportive and thought they should do something. Councillors all agreed to spend the £100 towards obtaining a basic soldier for the village. The Clerk was asked to arrange. **ACTION: AMD**

- c) To note the list of footpaths in the village – Councillor Tofield reported that a new gate was needed down by Folly Farm. The Clerk would look into any opportunities for funding for kissing gates. The Clerk was also asked to put this item back onto the September agenda for further discussion. **ACTION: AMD**

9. **Planning:** To discuss planning applications and make recommendation, and to include those planning applications received after this agenda is published, if urgent: None received.

10. Highways, Footpaths and Greens

- a) To report and update on issues and repairs – The Chairman asked for this item to be renamed to include ‘Greens.’ The Chairman referred to Councillor Wright’s email where she referred to the state of the footpath on the A413. The Clerk was asked to contact TFB. We have a resident in a wheelchair that cannot use the path and this needs to be highlighted to TFB and asked to be taken into account. **ACTION: AMD**

The Chairman reported that he has spoken to the grass cutting contractor about dropping a cut to the village greens in this searingly hot spell and instead, to do some tidy up works in the village i.e. cutting back near to the Church, also by the big village green and bungalow, and also by Coronation Bungalows and Rose Cottage. Weed spraying was also needed.

Councillor Tofield asked if paths around the village could also be sided out. With the unanimous support of Councillors the Chairman agreed to instruct the Contractor

ACTION: RB

The Chairman reported that Thames Water have been sticking to their promise to water the new turf on the village green. Other damage in the village Thames Water are saying is the fault of the residents as they did not move their vehicles and the damage was caused due to vehicles mounting verges to move around them. They are refusing to accept any liability whatsoever in this regard. They are due back in the village soon to do further water main works. The Chairman suggested getting quotes to reinstate all damaged verges in the village. We would wait till September to get quotes. The Clerk would put it on the next agenda for consideration. **ACTION: AMD**

The Chairman referred to the hedge at Mr and Mrs Levers property and said that it was encroaching at least two feet into the highway. It was considered to be an obstruction to vehicles traversing through the village (in particular the school bus) and it also presented a danger. The Chairman had previously spoken to the owners about it but no action had been taken. TFB have provided us with a template letter about cutting back hedges. The Clerk was asked to send the letter.

ACTION: AMD

- b) To note the TFB update on traffic calming measures on the A413 – The Chairman highlighted the very welcome detail received from TFB. They had suggested improvements to the signage and they were also looking to introduce a reduced speed limit of 50mph. All of this would be subject to consultation with all interested parties such as Thames Valley Police etc – Councillors were really pleased but asked when these actions would be taken. The Clerk would keep dialogue open with TFB and try to find out. **ACTION: AMD**

- c) To discuss the offer from TFB in relation to taking on more devolved services – Councillors discussed this but voted unanimously not to proceed with this offer. The Clerk was asked to let TFB know. **ACTION: AMD**

11. Street lighting

- a) To report and update on issues and repairs - None

12. Finance

- a) To draw cheques – The Council resolved to drawer the following cheques:

A cheque for GM Outdoor Services was written at their request, between meetings.

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GM Outdoor Services	chq 626	£760.00
Ann-Marie Davies	chq 627	£500.45 (2 month's salary)
GM Outdoor Services	chq 628	£220.00

- b) To confirm purchase of two benches in the village – Councillor Amanda Tofield reported that we had received a kind donation in the sum of £299 towards a bench from Sarah Shaw. The Clerk would now order two Marmax benches, with the siting to be agreed.

ACTION: AMD

- c) To appoint contractor to cut trees – footpath by Parish's Piece and North View - The Chairman had received a quote from Pat Kernan to get trees pollarded and cleared away. Costs quoted were £750 plus vat. And to trim hedge by Parrish Piece £400 plus vat. Councillors all agreed that this seemed a really quote and would prefer a second quote. The Chairman was asked to contact Steve Hayward.

ACTION: RB

The Clerk was asked to apply for planning permission to cut the tree down the footpath by Coronation Bungalows.

ACTION: AMD

The Chairman also referred to the email received from Councillor Carol Wright which advised the group she had submitted a planning application to have her willow tree attended to as it was dying. These works would hopefully save the tree.

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

- a) Winslow Local Area Forum – no attendance.
TFB conference – The Clerk advised the group that she had attended the lively TFB conference. Once the outcomes had been published she would forward across to Councillors.

14. Website updates – The Chairman told the group of the time delays and difficulties in transferring the Parish Council website across to a new Systems Administrator. He was in talks with Ant Mitchell in the village who would be looking to help transfer the site. Further updates would follow.

- 15. To agree the date of the next meeting** – **Please note change to usual meeting date.**

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 5 September at 7pm** in the John Bridles Hall.

Signed

Date