

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

**Minutes of the Meeting of Hardwick Parish Council on Wednesday 5 September 2018 at 7pm
in the John Bridles Hall**

Present: Chairman Richard Blacklock
Vice Chairman Garth Bickerton
Councillor Carol Wright
Councillor Amanda Tofield
Plus 1 resident

1. **To note apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Councillor Trevor Bowman-Shaw, County Councillor Netta Glover and District Councillor Ashley Bond.
2. **Declaration of interest** in items on the agenda: - None received.
3. **Open Forum:** The resident in attendance questioned the quality of the new benches in the village. The Chairman explained they are made from recycled material and will not deteriorate anywhere near as quickly as a wooden one.
4. **To agree the minutes** of the last meeting held on Tuesday 10 July 2018 – The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.
5. **To update on matters arising** – The Clerk asked the Chairman if the Silent Soldier had been received. He confirmed it had and would be discussed later on the agenda. The Chairman advised that the hedge by Rectory Cottage had been cut back and this would hopefully allow the school bus to travel through the village much easier. The Clerk reported that planning consent to cull trees by Coronation Bungalows was yet to be received.
6. **To receive updates** from Bucks County Council and AVDC Councillors – as both Councillors had sent their apologies no report was received.
7. **To consider correspondence and other communication received since the last meeting.**
 - a) To discuss our response to the Luton Airport expansion – Councillor Amanda Tofield reported that she was aware some residents from the village had attended meetings organised by the Future Luton Airport Group. The Clerk was also asked to write to advise FutureLuton that this expansion will significantly increase the noise pollution and therefore damage the environment in which residents live in Hardwick. This will adversely impact on their enjoyment of living in such a beautiful village and they would be hugely disappointed if these plans go ahead. They would also like to request that they are kept involved as to future steps in this process. Councillor Garth Bickerton asked if there was any pressure group we could consider joining and Councillor Amanda Tofield asked the Clerk to find out if the North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium were active and/or responding on this issue.

ACTION: AMD

8. **Planning:** To discuss planning applications and make recommendation, and to include those planning applications received after this agenda is published, if urgent: None.
9. **Highways, Footpaths and Footways**
 - a) To report and update on issues and repairs – Councillors asked the Clerk to once again contact TFB to ask when the footway up to Whitchurch would be cut back as it was overhanging the footway and no longer allowed safe passageway for walkers.

ACTION: AMD

The Clerk was also asked to Contact GM Outdoor Services to instruct them to conduct the second spray of the verges.

ACTION: AMD

Councillors expressed their frustration over the appalling service from Thames Water over issues in the village. Despite numerous reports, there is continuing water running down the

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road to the outside of The Bell public house. The Clerk was asked to report as a matter of urgency.

ACTION: AMD

The Clerk was also asked to contact TFB once again to invite them to come out urgently so they can view the direction of travel of this running water.

ACTION: AMD

- b) To consider the network safety scheme proposals for the A413 put forward by TFB and make comments – Councillor Carol Wright asked for the email to be resent. The Clerk would action.

Councillors looked at the proposals carefully and decided they were generally very pleased to see action being taken to try and improve safety on that dangerous stretch of road. They asked the Clerk to advise TFB they recommended their proposals, but to also ask that these initiatives were installed as soon as possible.

ACTION: AMD

The issue of the unauthorised usage of access by the Old Telephone exchange was discussed. The Clerk was asked to write to Henry Allmand the Group Manager for Commercial & Built Environment Services to ask them to reinstate the grass verge and look to remove the unauthorised cross over. This issue needed input from both TFB and AVDC. The mirror is still in situ too.

ACTION: AMD

- c) To consider obtaining quotes for kissing gates in the village – Councillors highlighted two potential areas that could do with new kissing gates. Two by The Folly (Folly Farm), and a further two by Bob Gregory's Manor House Farm. The Clerk was asked to investigate funding opportunities.

ACTION: AMD

- d) To consider obtaining quotes to reinstate damaged verges in the village – As the ground was still too hard for any works, the Clerk was asked to place onto the November agenda for consideration.

ACTION: AMD

Councillor Carol Wright asked what Councillors thought about the removal of the BT telephone box in the village as it was not in use and only sought to attract rubbish.

Councillors agreed this was a waste and the Clerk was asked to seek removal.

ACTION: AMD

10. Street lighting

- a) To report and update on issues and repairs – Two lights were reported out by the large village green close to Chairman Richard Blacklock's house. The Clerk would report to the lighting contractor.

ACTION: AMD

11. Finance

- a) To draw cheques.

The Council resolved to draw the following cheques:-

RBL Poppy Appeal	chq 629	£150.00 (written between meetings)
PKF Littlejohn	chq 630	£240.00
Marmax Products	chq 631	£771.60
Ann-Marie Davies	chq 632	£520.35
GM Outdoor Services	chq 633	£640.00
Alan Miller	chq 634	£250.00
Amanda Tofield	chq 635	£32.00

- b) To note the successful conclusion of audit and display in line with Audit Regulations 2015 – The Clerk advised the group that the Annual Audit had passed through without any comments. The Clerk would display it on the noticeboard in line with our legal duty.

ACTION: AMD

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

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- a) Winslow Local Area Forum – The next meeting will be held on 27 September 2018 at St Laurence Room, Winslow, MK18 3AB.

13. Website updates – The Chairman updated the group with the news that we now have two possible administrators who can take over the website for us. He will keep us informed on progress. **ACTION: RB**

Following the receipt of the Silent soldier, Councillors discussed where it should be sited. After debate, Councillors agreed to site it on the large village green. **ACTION: RB**

14. To agree the date of the next meeting – Tuesday 13 November 2018

Signed:

Date