

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

Minutes of the Meeting of Hardwick Parish Council which took place on Tuesday 5 July 2022 at 7pm in the John Bridles Hall

Present: Chairman Richard Blacklock
Councillor Carol Wright
Councillor Amanda Tofield

Bucks Councillor Ashley Bond
Bucks Councillor Peter Cooper
Two residents

22/37 To receive apologies for absence – Apologies were received from Vice Chairman Garth Bickerton and Councillor Tim Hannon.

22/38 Declaration of interest in items on the agenda: None received.

22/39 Open Forum: One of the residents expressed his thanks to the Parish Council for taking action on the items he brought to the last meeting.

22/40 To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 17 May 2022 – The minutes were received and accepted as a correct record and signed.

22/41 To receive updates from Buckinghamshire Councillors. Buckinghamshire Councillor (BC) Peter Cooper told the group he was meeting with the Local Area Technician (LAT) for the Hardwick area the following day and asked if there were any matters Councillors would like him to raise on their behalf. Councillor Wright told of the longstanding issue the Parish Council had with the footpath from Long Meadows up to Whitchurch. Some of it had been sited out however the tarmac is now reduced to 12 inches in some places and the Parish Council would really appreciate some attention. The hedging to the footpath on the left-hand side up the hill towards Whitchurch also needed cutting back. The Chairman added that whilst we were continually told it did not meet TFB's priorities, there were large areas in the village where tarmac had broken away and bare stone was now in place. In addition, there was a blocked gully at the southern entrance, on the north side, which always floods after rainfall. BC Cooper agreed to follow this up with the LAT.

BC Cooper asked if Hardwick had been blighted as Weedon had with graffiti. The Chairman confirmed we had indeed 'suffered' but been pleased with the contractor we deployed to remove it.

BC Ashley Bond told the group Buckinghamshire Council were funding the Aylesbury Vineyard for the Ukraine Relief Fund (which was also operating as a Community Centre). He further commented that the funding was centralised with all Aylesbury Wing & Waddesdon Local Community Boards all working together to maximise the effort supporting this initiative. He told the group the biggest barrier to any scheme for the Ukrainian community was the language barrier. Councillor Tofield asked if they had experienced any problems with Ukrainian children getting into the Whitchurch school when others residing in the vicinity had been waiting and potentially missed out on places. BC Bond agreed that this could be the case but the justification was that if they did not get a place local to where they lived, they would need additional support with transportation.

22/42 To note the Clerks Report/Correspondence – previously circulated. All items on the agenda.

22/43 Planning: To discuss planning applications and make recommendation, and to include those planning applications received after this agenda is published, if urgent:

- a) To provide update on The Poplars – The Chairman reported that from the listed building perspective there had not been major objections. The Conservation Team at

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Buckinghamshire Council had said 'The front brick and stone building (currently without a roof) and the front boundary wall are also considered curtilage listed structures. In principle there are no heritage objections to the replacement of the modern agricultural barns with a more appropriate tradition 'barn' scheme'.

In general terms, their comments were they would like to see a 'revised design.... with linear form with rear courtyard of cart sheds for enclosed car parking. Barn units to display simpler fenestration and wagon door openings with walls dominating the elevations. Boundaries to be brick (no timber boarding) and simple gravel yardscape to courtyard'.

The Officer was recommending withholding any permission until further information/details were provided on the disposal of the water, but the chairman suggested that this was unlikely to be a problem in the long term and an acceptable scheme would be provided by the applicants in due course.

The Highways Team were still raising concerns outside plots 1 & 2 plus parking spaces. Councillor Tofield said she would ideally like to see more parking spaces allocated to properties than what was legally required. The Clerk was asked to send another supporting letter to Highways, supporting their comments, and to include the suggestion from Councillor Tofield, increased traffic from the pub and if customers parked out the front there would be no places for visitors to park and lead to congestion in the road. She was also asked to highlight the fact that not all of the available land was being used on the developer land for parking!

ACTION: AMD

22/44 Highways, Footpaths and Footways

- a) To report and update on issues and repairs – The Chairman told the group he had spoken to the Grass cutting contractor and asked him to spray the kerbs and footpaths to remove weeds. He added that he had cleared the blocked path and would be billing the Parish Council as he had taken time off work to do so.

The area between coronation bungalows and Redwell path needed to be properly cleared. The Clerk was asked to contact Steve Hayward urgently and ask him to contact the Chairman with a view to quoting for these works.

ACTION: AMD

The Chairman agreed to speak to the grass cutting contractor to ask for works to be carried out to the front of Eastleigh.

ACTION: RB

Councillor Tofield showed the group a sample of the new footpath signs. The group agreed they looked really professionally done and thanked Councillor Tofield for taking the lead on this worthwhile project. Councillor Tofield asked if the group would agree to the purchase of one more sign – this was unanimously agreed.

ACTION: AT

- b) To consider the cutting of trees along the path from Coronation Bungalows from Redwell House – See above.

- c) To consider cutting back domestic hedges from footpaths – The Chairman reported four people had approached him about this problem. Discussion followed about how to resolve. Councillor Tofield agreed to put a note in the Village magazine and the Chairman would speak to those whose properties required works. If this was unsuccessful the Clerk would be asked to write to those residents.

ACTION: AT & RB

22/45 Street lighting

- a) To report and update on issues and repairs – None reported.
- b) To consider quote to replace two lights - at the corner of Lower Road and the A413 and by the garages – The quote was unanimously agreed. The Clerk was asked to inform the Contractor.

ACTION: AMD

22/46 Finance

- a) To agree accounts for March, April & May 2022 – The accounts were received and agreed.
- b) To authorise cheques/note BACS payments – The Clerk forwarded a sheet showing all payments made since the last meeting.

Shield Maintenance £378.54

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Sign Wizzard	£371.74
BALC	£48.92
MRA Garden Service	£1450.00
AC Skeggs	£75.00
Ann-Marie Davies	£550.85 (x 2 months' salary)

c) To consider future projects – The Clerk was asked to contact J&S Contractors about extending the kerbs outside Rectory Cottage. **ACTION: AMD**

In addition, Councillors discussed landscaping the area between Coronation Cottages and Redwell House as well as looking to remove diseased trees in situ. The Clerk would ask Steve Hayward to inspect them. **ACTION: AMD**

d) To note the annual insurance payment for 2022/23 to Pen Underwriting Ltd for £471.99.

22/47 To report on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council

- a) Winslow & District LCB – None held since last meeting.
- b) Parish Liaison Group – None held since last meeting.
NBPPC (North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium) – Councillor Tofield was a member of this group and told of the 'call' for any concerns Parish Councils had with their Buckinghamshire Councillors. The group agreed they had no complaints at this moment in time and were currently well served.

22/48 To receive the health & safety risk assessment for the play area – Although absent, Councillor Hannon had still completed his health and safety risk assessment for the play area and there was nothing of note to report. The Chairman raised concern with the remaining goal on the large green as it had fallen into disrepair. He asked the group if it should be removed on health and safety grounds. Councillor Wright expressed concern at the timing of removal as it was just going into the summer holidays for local children. The Chairman agreed to try and do a temporary repair, on the proviso that if this was not possible, he would remove. All present agreed. In the meantime, the Clerk was asked to research the cost of a new set and bring along to the next meeting for consideration. **ACTION: RB/AMD**

22/49 Website updates

- a) To discuss and confirm fees to maintain the website – Prices had been received from the website administrator. All present agreed. The Clerk would advise. **ACTION: AMD**

Councillor Wright advised the group that the card from the Queen following our congratulations to her on her platinum jubilee was now on display in the church.

22/50 To agree the date of the next meeting – The date of the next meeting is planned for Tuesday 30 August 2022, a week earlier than scheduled due to annual leave.

Signed:

Date