

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

**Minutes of the meeting of Hardwick Parish Council on Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 7pm in the John Bridles Hall**

**Present:** Chairman Richard Blacklock  
Vice Chairman Garth Bickerton  
Councillor Carol Wright  
Councillor Amanda Tofield  
Councillor Tim Hannon

One resident in attendance

- 23/18** To receive apologies for absence – Apologies were received from all three Bucks Councillors due to the clash with the Wing & Ivinghoe Community Board this evening.
- 23/19** **To receive official reports from County and District Council Members** – No Members present so no reports were received.
- 23/20** **Declaration of interest** in items on the agenda: None received.
- 23/21** **Open Forum:** The resident in attendance reported that lots of rubbish such as window and doorframes was accumulating by Millpeace. The Chairman agreed to visit the resident to discuss removal. **ACTION: RB**  
The second issue he wanted to highlight was the wobbling Mill stream bridge down by The Folly. The Clerk was asked to report this to Highways, and also the abundance of brambles at this area. **ACTION: AMD**  
A further report was given which referred to the footpath alongside the Bowman Shaw corner. Material was coming down from the bank and it could become dangerous. The Chairman agreed to visit the resident to discuss. **ACTION: RB**
- 23/22** **To agree the minutes** of the last meeting held on Tuesday 3 January 2023 – the minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- 23/23** **To note the Clerks Report (previously circulated).**
- 23/24** **To consider correspondence and other communication received since the last meeting** – All agenda items.
- 23/25** **Planning:** To discuss planning applications and make recommendation, and to include those planning applications received after this agenda if urgent.
- a) For noting only – PLANNING APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL OF A HOUSEHOLDER APPLICATION at 20 Bushmead Road, Hardwick, Bucks, HP22 4LG** – Prior approval for construction of additional storey to create first floor living accommodation; height 8.53 metres.
- b) For noting only – 20 Bushmead Road, Hardwick, Bucks, HP22 4LG – 22/04102** – Demolition of existing one storey dwelling and garage and erection of replacement two storey dwelling. Erection of replacement garage with attached bin store to front of property. Installation of 15no solar panels. *This planning application was considered between meetings* and the following **OBJECTION** was posted - Hardwick parish council wish to oppose this application for the following reasons:-
1. The Parish Council has concerns about the height of the proposed new building when compared to the neighbouring houses as it would dominate these dwellings. 2. The Parish Council believes that the proposed garage should not be positioned at the front of the

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property close to the road as this is out of keeping with all other properties on this side of Bushmead Road and will change the character of the street. 3. We would also ask the Planning Officer to check the potential overlooking from the rear elevation as there is a large amount of fenestration and this should be checked to ascertain if it is within the planning guidelines.

The planning application at The Poplars was briefly discussed. The Chairman felt that once the Ecology and Highways issued had been addressed, the application would most likely be approved.

## 23/26 Highways, Footpaths and Footways

- a) To report and update on issues and repairs – Cllr Tofield told the group a pothole outside Teachers House was in need of repair. Granite setts in the village had also been dislodged. The Chairman agreed to photograph and report via Fixmystreet. **ACTION: RB**
- b) To discuss furniture and kerbing works in the village – The Chairman reported to the group the planned kerbing works were hopefully due to be carried out to the small green in the Easter Holidays.
- c) To name the Top 5 issues we want our Local Area Technician to be aware for our village. Buckinghamshire Councillors had advised Cllrs to come up with their Top 5 'wants' for the village. This would then be used to speak with at their monthly meetings with our Local Area Technician. Cllrs listed the following six which the Clerk was asked to pass forward:-
- Clear and trim back hedge from Long Meadow up to Whitchurch
  - Trim up path to same area soil now embanked
  - Clear kerbs to the northern side of the southern entrance and expose the drain/gulley
  - Potholes generally around the village
  - Relay setts around the village
  - Uneven road surfaces in the village, particularly two areas

**ACTION: AMD**

The Chairman asked whether Cllrs thought a litter pick should be organised soon. Cllrs agreed. Cllr Tofield would investigate and report back to the group. **ACTION: AT**

Cllr Wright reported an overflowing highway drain, on Whitchurch side of the A413 – The Clerk was asked to report this to the Whitchurch Clerk. **ACTION: AMD**

Stiles needing repair in the village was discussed. Cllr Wright would try to identify one in particular so that ownership could be established and report back to the group. **ACTION: CW**

Cllr Wright had written to the Parish Council to advise them that BT had advised her that overgrown trees were interfering with BT line close to her property. Cllr Wright left the room whilst Cllrs discussed this item. Cllrs agreed unanimously to pay the cost for these trees to be trimmed as they were owned by the Parish Council. Cllr Wright would forward the invoice for payment once works had been carried out. *Following the meeting it was agreed the Parish Council would organise the works and arrange for payment.*

**ACTION: RB/AMD**

## 23/27 Street lighting

- a) To report and update on issues and repairs – Orders had been placed for three new LED lights. The Clerk would advise when they would be installed as soon as she was advised by the contractor.

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The Chairman referred to the limited lighting at West View and asked whether new lighting should be installed opposite, to the other side of the large green instead. Following extensive dialogue Cllrs agreed this option should not be taken forward at this point.

The Chairman told the group he had planted the trees he had collected from High Wycombe as part of the Queens Platinum celebration, but he doubted very much whether they would take due to the hot dry summer and poor state on collection.

## 23/28 Finance

- a) To agree accounts for December 2022 & January 2023 – the accounts were accepted as a correct record.
- b) To consider and if agreed, sign off the Devolution Agreement offer of £808.30 from Buckinghamshire County Council to deliver our own highways service in the village. Cllrs agreed to accept the devolution agreement as offered by Buckinghamshire Council. The contract was signed and the Clerk was asked to return it in accordance with their instructions.

**ACTION: AMD**

- c) To authorise cheques – None issued.
- d) To note BACS payments made since last meeting:

3/1	Ann-Marie Davies	£563.85
20/1	Graham Lee	£120.00
8/2	PCC of Hardwick	£97.50
23/2	Electricity Network	£186.00
23/2	Bucks Council	£161.11

- e) To consider the quote to upgrade one streetlight in the village to LED type – Cllrs agreed the quote to install a further light in the village. The Clerk would advise the contractor.

**ACTION: AMD**

- f) To consider a contribution to the HVA towards the Kings Coronation celebrations – Cllr Tofield addressed the group and advised that she wanted to retract the item to ask for a contribution from the Parish Council due to a successful grant from the Lottery.

## 23/29 To report on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council

- a) Winslow & District LCB – meeting held on 14 March 2023.
- b) Parish Liaison Group – the Clerk had attended this meeting and had forwarded the minutes to all Cllrs.

Cllr Tofield reminded the group of the sad loss of the Secretary to the NBPPC and asked if any Cllr wanted to stand as the new Secretary.

Unfortunately no Cllrs wanted to take on this volunteer role at this time.

**23/30 To receive the health & safety risk assessment for the play area** – Cllr Hannon had carried out the health and safety assessment and had found no issues to report.

**23/31 Website updates** – Cllr Tofield advised the group she was in the process of updating the Hardwick Village Association website and could be in contact to ask for information.

**23/32 To agree the date of the next meeting** – the date of the next scheduled meeting was Tuesday 2 May 2023 which would be the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

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Signed:

Date