

HARBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Harberton Parish Council at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9th February 2016, Harbertonford CE Primary School.

Present: Cllrs Broom, Beamish, Camp, Davidson, Janes, J.Hockings, S.Hockings, Williams, Wynne and D.Cllr Tucker.
Apologies: Cllrs Hutchinson, McDonnell, Waite and C.Cllr Vint,
Public: 0
Clerk: Ms Radford

Agenda

1. **Apologies** were received as above
2. **Declaration of Interests** Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests. No interests were declared on items on the agenda.
3. **Reports from County and District Councillors** for information.
 - 3.1 **District Councillor (C.Cllr)** It was reported that
 - 3.1.1 South Ham's District Council's (SHDC) lobbying has resulted in the government reinstating approx. £200,000 of this year's budget, and approved council tax increases to ensure the Council can maintain frontline services.
 - 3.1.2 the District Council is writing a business plan for a new company that can generate income for the Council by tendering for local authority services elsewhere. The Council will then commission services from that company.
 - 3.2 **County Councillor (C.Cllr)**

The C.Cllr had sent a message to the Parish Council to ask what should happen to the waste materials on the Cockwells Nursery site now that the Waste Transfer application had been withdrawn. Councillors did not make a resolution but were broadly supportive of the waste being removed. The D.Cllr commented that the landowner had been in touch with SHDC Enforcement.
4. **Minutes** The minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council 12/01/16 were signed as an accurate record.
5. **Report Matters Arising from the Minutes** for information only
 - 5.1 Grit Bin at Harbertonford It was reported that a request has been made for a replacement bin. It was commented that some of the grit bins are empty. It was reported that salt has been provided to Cllr Hutchinson as snow warden for this area. It was reported that snow wardens will grit pathways and particular roads and grit is provided for public use on the highway and not for private use. It was suggested to put a notice to this effect on the grit bins.
 - 5.2 Telephone Kiosk It was reported that councillors work on proposals are ongoing, to report to the next meeting.
 - 5.4 Gasworks hedges It was commented that councillors are still receiving complaints about overhanging hedges.
 - 5.4 Moreleigh Road Gully It was reported that work had been completed.
6. **Planning**
 - 6.1 To consider recommendations on the following applications:
 - 6.1.1 2790/15/FUL Replacement of field store with garage and workshop Orchard View Eastleigh Cross to Monkey Oak, Harberton. **It was RESOLVED** to support the application. The Parish Council recommend siting one or two woodcrete swallow nests somewhere suitable in or around the property to counter any loss of swallow nesting sites.
 - 6.1.2 2717/15/VAR Application for removal of condition (agricultural occupancy restriction) of planning consent 9/23/1965/89/1. Higher Dorsley Barton Gree Lane to North of Coppert, Harberton. **It was RESOLVED** to object to the application.
 - 6.1.3 3127/16/PDM Prior Approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to dwelling. The Orchard Lane from Higher Grove to Lower Ashridge Farm, Harberton. **It was RESOLVED** to make no comment. The District Councillor proposed to take a summary of comments regarding quality of design to Development Management Committee.
 - 6.2 It was reported that the Planning Authority had given conditional approval to applications 2737/15/LBC and 2738/15/HHO for proposed alterations to former ground floor doorway to front elevation and alter modern window to full height glazed door, at Thatch Barn, Eastleigh Cross to Monkey Oak, Harberton.
 - 6.3 It was reported that no case load had been received for circulation. It was reported that SHDC's Case Officer was no longer at SHDC and only the most urgent cases are being dealt with in the interim.

7. Monthly reports for information

7.1 Finance Committee update None

7.2 Neighbourhood Plan (HNP) update It was reported that a list had been compiled detailing where there is already legislation in place on issues raised in consultation to prevent duplication in the plan. Plan chapters are being redrafted to take public consultation into account. Further scoping has been undertaken in both villages with the view to identify further sites for car parking and amenity land. It was reported that the HNP had been contacted by the owner of Meadow Close and conversations have taken place around appropriate development. It was reported that the housing working group had identified sites for approximately 270 houses, of which 150 would be sited at Windsland House. Parish Councillors asked when they would see the final plan and it was suggested that the full draft plan would likely be circulated within 6 weeks.

7.3 Community Land Trust (CLT) update It was reported that a Master Plan meeting has been set, after which the full planning process will commence.

7.4 Town and Parish (TAP) Fund 2015 and 2016 update. It was reported that the Parish Council had been successful in obtaining £3750 of TAP Funding for improvements to the green lanes. The project will be forwarded by Cllrs Davidson, Camp and S.Hockings.

7.5 Clerk's update The Clerk reported that the Parish Magazine continues to look for a new editor to enable the publication to continue.

8. Parish flood defence depot

8.1 Sandbag storage and collection point in the parish It was reported that properties in the Church Barn area of Harberton had flooded several times this winter. It was noted that Harberton Circular had advertised a small store of sandbags for emergency use at West Lodge. It was commented there has been no reports of flooding in Harbertonford this winter, suggesting that Palmers Dam is working effectively.

8.2 Application to funds for inflatable air dams The D.Cllr had suggested using his Locality Fund to purchase air dams as in use in Ashprington Parish. It was reported that Devon County Council (D.C.C) had launched a Community Flood Resilience Grant to provide rapid purchase of simple flood equipment. It was agreed to identify specific properties that would benefit from purchase of air dams and contact Ashprington Parish Council for information.

9. **Community Benefit Fund Banking Protocol** it was reported that although a complex mandate is in place for online banking and cheque payments, signatories had each been provided with debit cards which would enable limitless access to funds without secondary sign off. It was agreed that debit cards should be replaced with online authorisation cards. The Clerk would liaise with Cllrs Camp and S.Hockings and the bank to set this up.

10. **Totnes Town Boundary** It had been noted from a report in the newspaper that Totnes Town Council had discussed a possible boundary change with both Berry Pomeroy and Harberton Parishes. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council should do nothing until a formal approach was made by the Town Council.

11. Parish Defibrillators

11.1 The Clerk had undertaken research on costs of defibrillators and outdoor lockable cases, finding prices ranging from approximately £2000 to £1000.

11.2 It was reported that a Harberton resident was keen to submit an application to the Community Benefit Fund to install an Ambulance Trust defibrillator in Harberton. It was commented that Ambulance Trust defibrillators are preferred by emergency services as they know the units and can provide phone assistance. It was also reported that costs include free public liability insurance for the life of the unit. The unit would cost £1300, with an all-weather box costing £300. It was discussed whether the unit would be better sited at the Parish Hall or at the Church House Inn. It was suggested to apply to the British Heart Foundation to partially fund the unit when the fund re-opens in April. It was commented that Harbertonford councillors could apply for funds for a defibrillator in Harbertonford at the same time.

12. Road Safety on the A381

12.1 It was reported that following emails from Cllrs Waite and Broom a response from DCC's Senior Traffic Officer had been received stating that the likely increase in traffic using the Brockhills junction will be too low to justify junction improvement. It was also commented that 2 accidents on the zebra crossing over 10 years is not at a level considered significant enough to justify further investigation. The Clerk has had no further correspondence from Devon Highways (Highways) with regard to a meeting.

12.2 It was proposed to hold a public meeting to which members of Highways would be encouraged to attend in order to listen to proposals from residents. It was commented that unless there is representation from Highways then no headway can be made. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Highways again request attendance to a public meeting.

13. Correspondence

- 13.1 Growing a Rural Community It was reported that the Rural Services Network had requested the Parish Council complete an online survey. Cllr Broom agreed to action.
- 13.2 Public Consultation of draft South Devon AONB Estuaries Management Plan 2016 – 2020 Councillors were informed of the development of the plan and invited to comment.
- 13.3 SHDC Sand Bag Policy It was reported that DCC had requested information on to whom local residents should contact to request sandbags or information. It was agreed to respond that Parishioners should contact SHDC.
- 13.4 Preparations for Ice, Snow & Floods It was reported that C.Cllr Vint had circulated current information about grit and gritting, snow wardens, flooding and drains and sandbag provision, suggesting this information should be published on the Parish Council website.
- 13.5 Electoral review of Devon - Final recommendations Cllrs noted recommendations.
- 13.6 Planning Web site update to South Hams Town and Parish Councils It was reported that SHDC Development Management had written to update councillors on progress of the new website, developed to better share information on planning. It was reported that improvements are being made to the site in response to feedback. It was commented that Parish Councils will continue to receive planning application hard copies for the foreseeable future.
- 13.7 Harberton Parish Hall Community Benefit Fund thanks A letter of thanks for grant support was received.
- 13.8 South Devon Catchments Partnership E-drip newsletter and draft catchments action plan Cllrs were informed.
- 13.9 Playing Pitch Strategy & Green Infrastructure Framework South Hams & West Devon Playing Pitch Strategy It was reported that chapter 3 of the green infrastructure framework identifies existing and green infrastructure and that none of the projects in the HNP have yet been included. It was agreed to circulate to the HNP committee and to include as an agenda item at the next HNP meeting.
- 13.10 February DALC newsletter It was agreed to forward the newsletter to the HNP committee to share information on Neighbourhood Plan funding.

14. Finance

14.1 It was reported that the following income had been received:

£500.00 Harberton Allotment Society (HAS) annual rent. £10.00 Harberton Parish Council annual ground rent.

14.2 It was **RESOLVED** to make the following payments:

Chq		Invoice	Detail	Amount before VAT	VAT	Total
720	Cat Radford	n/a	Clerk Salary and NP Salary: Salary Feb: £229.32 NP Secretary Feb: £35.28	£264.60	0.00	£264.60
721	Cat Radford	Claim form	Clerk Expenses claim	£25.50	0.00	£25.50
722	South Hams Citizens Advice Bureau	n/a	Grant agreed at meeting 12/01/16	100.00	0.00	100.00
723	Colin Finch	n/a	Annual lease of Harbertonford Allotments	500.00	0.00	500.00

15. **E-Circulars** It was reported for information that the following e-circulars had been received: Services Network, Devon Home Choice, Devon County Council Community News Round-up, Public Sector Executive, Fields in Trust, Emergency Planning Newsletter.

16. Matters at the Discretion of the Chairman

Potholes It was commented that there are so many potholes in the Parish it is impossible to report them all.

Harberton village email circular mailout The Clerk and HNP Chair had been approached with proposals to include information about signing up to the Harberton village e-circular with the next HNP consultation postal distribution to make an attempt to increase the coverage. No objections were made. It was commented that an insert to encourage support the new Harbertonford Facebook page could also be included.

Drain damage at Ford Farm A local resident had observed that flooding problems in the village are being compounded by drain damage caused by vehicles parking too close to the bank opposite Ford Farm.

Maltsters Arms It was reported that councillors had met the new publican who was hoping to open shortly.

Screw Lane Following resurfacing of Screw Lane, local residents had commented that the earth bank built between the road and the stream had already been crushed by large vehicles, proposing a concrete gully could be installed.

Cricket lane drain and curb It was reported that the drain installed on cricket lane was positioned higher than the road level so nothing is going down it. It was also commented that new curb prevents access to large vehicles. Both need some remedial work.

Road surface water and debris from Luscombe Cross to Broadpark The quantity of surface water and debris was discussed, with a proposal to install a pipe under the road to create drainage into the copse.

Road surface at Little Belsford Residents of Belsford are extremely concerned about the road at Little Belsford, reporting it several times via the Highways website.

Langford Bridge works It was reported that Highways subcontractors had filled up buddle holes whilst cleaning Langford Bridge and damaged a willow tree, leaving large branches hanging to potentially fall into the river at a later date. It was commented that this is an example of lack of care and quality of works undertaken by crews operating on Highways contracts.

The Clerk agreed to refer all Highways issues back to the Neighbourhood Highways officers.

17. Confirm date of next ordinary meeting Tuesday 8th March 2016