

HARBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Harberton Parish Council, 7.30pm on Tuesday 8th March 2016, Harberton Parish Hall.

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) Broom, Beamish, Davidson, Hutchinson, Janes, J.Hockings, S.Hockings, McDonnell, Waite, Williams and County Councillor (C.Cllr) Vint.

Apologies: Cllr Camp, Wynne, District Councillor (D.Cllr) Tucker

Public: 0

Clerk: Ms Radford

Agenda

PART A

1. **Apologies** were received as above
2. **Declaration of Interests** Cllrs 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.
County Councillor (C.Cllr)
 - It was reported that following lobbying of Devon County Council (DCC) proposals to reduce/remove school crossing patrols across the county had been dropped.
 - Following the withdrawal of application for the waste transfer station at Cockwells Nursery it has been proposed that the wood and plasterboard be taken away and the soil is left on site provided it is not contaminated. Parish Councillors agreed that the soil should be tested. It was also commented that the operator was likely paid to receive soil on the site with no permit and that the authorities should take hard line; commenting that those who abuse the system and have multiple enforcement issues pending are able to continue to do so due to the inertia in the system that fails to take them to account. Some felt strongly that the site should be returned to its previous state, regardless of the number of loads of soil involved and the Local Authority should seek to fine the operator.
 - It was commented that pot holes are getting worse everywhere and that as funding for road maintenance has been reduced the problem will only get worse. It was advised that potholes should be reported online, areas in which clusters of potholes are identified will be resurfaced, as this is deemed more cost effective than repairing individual holes.**District Councillor (D.Cllr)** In his absence, the D.Cllr had sent correspondence to the clerk:
 - South Hams District Council (SHDC) has set a small group of Officers the task to clear the backlog of Enforcement cases over the next few months. Cllrs were asked to identify those which are most important to the Parish Council. As this list is confidential, **it was RESOLVED** to discuss this in Part B.
 - SHDC are looking into the possibility of setting up a company fully owned by the Council to run services, a business plan will be produced over the next few months to see if it's a viable way forward.
 - West Devon Borough Council (WDBC) and SHDC won the Improvement and Efficiency Social Enterprise (iESE) Council of the Year Award for innovation and working differently.
4. **Minutes** The minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council 09/02/16 were signed as an accurate record.
5. **Report Matters Arising from the Minutes** for information only
 - Grit Bin at Harbertonford It was reported that the grit bin on Bow Road was removed as salt was regularly being stolen. It was reported that when Tor Homes removed the bin, affected tenants were provided with bags of grit for home use. CCllr Vint suggested that the PC make an application to his fund.
 - Harberton Parish Highways Issues It was reported that a response to all highways issues as raised at recent meetings had been received from the Neighbourhood Highway Officer, summarised for the minutes below:
Finger Post at Blakmore level will be added to the list of signage works that need to be addressed, although is a low priority.
 - Road leading to Harberton Cricket Ground and Screw Lane* Works undertaken are in conjunction with the 2012 Storm Legacy List to repair the road surface and return to an appropriate condition. Any drainage works undertaken were minor, returning features which were originally evident. Although more could have been done this was never the intention. The gully grating opposite Tristford Farm was placed on top of the pre-existing system and there are no plans to make adjustments.
 - Drains opposite Ford Farm* have been recently inspected and appear to be clear at present.
 - Works at Langford Bridge* Comments and concerns have been noted and passed to SWH customer liaison.
 - Brockhills Junction and Pedestrian Crossing.* The Parish Council are referred to previous correspondence from Highways and nothing has changed.
 - Drainage at Langridge Cross* The site will be submitted for drainage investigation.
 - Hedges at Gasworks* are not considered as overgrown. The enclosed nature of this section of road helps reduce speeds and encourages drivers to be more precautious.

The clerk agreed to write to the Neighbourhood Highway Officer to thank him for the response and to comment that councillors believe they have observed evidence of grey water in the drains at Ford Farm.

6. Planning

- 6.1 **It was RESOLVED** to SUPPORT application 0201/16/FUL, for conversion of barn to two residential dwellings, Hernaforde Farm, Moreleigh Road to A381, Harbertonford, Devon. It was commented that although the proposed developments were small, respondents to the Harberton Parish Neighbourhood Plan (HNP) had expressed a desire for smaller properties.
- 6.2 Following discussion regarding the right to build order in which the C.Cllr reported that the Statutory Officers would check that the development was in accord with existing policies and covered by usual statutory requirements **it was RESOLVED** to support the Community Right to Build Order 0440/16/CRB: Atmos Community Right to Build - proposed development to support mixed use establishing approximately 3.5 hectares of employment land capable of supporting over 99 homes, 160 jobs and a range of community facilities. Former Totnes Creameries, Totnes, TQ9 5JP.
- 6.2 It was reported that the planning authority had given conditional approval on the following applications:
- 6.2.1 23/2434/15/VAR, Variation of conditions 2, 5, 11 and 13 of planning approval 23/2485/12/F (solar PV development and associated works) Solar Pv Development At Sx 7509 5925 Hazard Farm Harberton Totnes TQ9 7LN. No details on conditions had been published.
- 6.2.2 2790/15/FUL Replacement of field store with garage and workshop at Orchard View East Leigh Cross To Monkey Oak Harberton Devon TQ9 7SS. It was reported that the conditions include that the garage, store and workshop shall be used only for the storage of a private motor vehicle(s) and other uses ancillary to the private dwelling and for no business or commercial purposes.
- 6.3 The hard copy enforcement caseload was circulated for reference to be discussed in Part B.

7. Monthly reports for information

- 7.1 Finance Committee update It was reported that the next meeting would take place in early April.
- 7.2 Neighbourhood Plan (HNP) update It was reported that those grant monies that have not been spent must be returned to GroundWork South West by the 1st April at which point a second application can be made. **It was RESOLVED** to summon councillors to a meeting on Thursday 21st April at which the full draft plan would be discussed. Copies of the draft plan would be circulated in advance.
- 7.3 Community Land Trust (CLT) update It was reported that a Master Plan meeting had been held at SHDC and the CLT are now gathering material in response to questions asked. Allocation can now commence as the questionnaire has been agreed. The architects can now produce full drawings and the planning application will likely be submitted in late summer, early autumn.
- 7.4 Town and Parish (TAP) Fund 2015 and 2016 update
It was agreed that a programme of works to make identified green lanes in the Parish passable for walkers and cyclists should be agreed; ground-works taking place in the summer and tree-works in the autumn. Cllr Davidson agreed to draft a piece for the parish news outlets to appeal for volunteers to help with the project.
- 7.5 Clerk's update It was commented that when the Parish Council has objected to planning applications the clerk has been asked to give more explanation on why the decision has been taken. It would therefore be of benefit if reasons for objection were agreed within meetings for inclusion in the response to the planning authority.

8. **Parish flood defence depot** **It was RESOLVED** to investigate the Devon County Council Community Flood resilience grant in order to purchase 50 inflatable airdams for use in the Parish at a cost of £250. It was reported that Ashprington Parish Council had purchased these reusable bags, which are filled with water rather than sand, and can be stored flat when not in use.

9. **Telephone Kiosk** A discussion on proposals for use of the kiosk in Harbertonford was deferred until the next meeting.

10. **Harbertonford Village Hall application to Locality Funds** **It was RESOLVED** to support the village hall's bid to the D.Cllr's Locality Fund for £250.00 to have the disabled ramp redone and brought back to Health and Safety standards.

11. **Harberton Playing Field Trim Trail** It was reported that the Harberton Playing Field Association (HPFA) was considering making an application to the Community Benefit Fund to install a wooden trim trail around the edge of the playing field. As the HPFA are required to ask consent of the Parish Council prior to breaking ground or installing new equipment, the Parish Council were asked for consent ahead of the application being submitted. The Parish Council supported the idea in principle, but more information would be required in order to give full permission. It was therefore agreed that a full and detailed application to the Community Fund should be submitted. Councillors had some concerns regarding ongoing costs, i.e. ongoing wood treatment into the future for rot prevention and whether any new insurance cover or inspection provision would be required at an ongoing cost. It was also commented that supply/installation should be in line with health and safety requirements set by the insurance company.

12. Correspondence

Devon Minerals Plan The Parish Council had received a 'statement of submission' on procedures by which minerals will be extracted and sites on which they would be extracted for information. **It was RESOLVED** to forward information to the HNP steering group.

Licensing Act 2003 It was reported that Parish Councils will receive copies of licensing applications in future.

Changes to Harbertonford Post Office It was reported that the Post office would be closed between 15th – 24th March for refurbishment. Clarification was sought on whether the shop would be accessible for this period.

Town and Parish Council Allowances The Parish Council received recommendations for level of allowances can be claimed by councillors per year for expenses such as mileage and subsistence. It was commented that Parish Councillors have never historically claimed expenses.

New premises licence application A licence application for the Gastrobus at Bantham Beach had been received. Parish Councillors made no comment.

Waste transfer station at Cockwells Nursery, Bluepost to Hazard It was reported that Totnes Town Council had requested insight regarding waste materials taken on the site above, to which the clerk had responded.

Tesco - Bags of Help Community Grant Councillors were informed of new grants between £8,000 - £12,000 for community projects. The information would be sent to Cllr McDonnell with regard to a potential community orchard project as discussed as part of the HNP.

DALC March 2016 Newsletter Copies were circulated to Cllrs for information.

Totnes and Dartmouth Ring and Ride service Cllrs were notified of the decision to the closure of services due to the lack of funding. It was reported that it is hoped a new provider will take over the service.

HM Queen Elizabeth II 90th Birthday Commemorative Medal for Schools and Councils Cllrs were informed.

13. Finance

13.1 It was reported that no income had been received since the last meeting.

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

Chq		Invoice	Detail	Amount before VAT	VAT	Total
724	Cat Radford	n/a	Clerk Salary and NP Salary: Salary March: £229.32 NP Secretary March: £35.28	£264.60	0.00	£264.60
725	Cat Radford	Claim form 20160303	Clerk Expenses claim	£15.60	0.00	£15.60
726	Harberton Parish Hall	20 th Jan 2015	Parish Council Meeting room hire	72.00	0.00	72.00
727	Harbertonford CE Primary School	n/a	Parish Council meeting room hire Neighbourhood Plan meeting room hire	108.00	0.00	108.00
728	Harbertonford Village Hall	47	Finance Committee meeting room hire 06/10/15 and 05/01/16	£10.00	0.00	£10.00
730	Groundwork South West		Grant balance repayment NPG- 01361	£1044.84		£1044.84

It was RESOLVED not to pay the following invoice, as neither the Clerk, nor either playing field/playground committees knew what the invoice supplied was in reference to:

729	South Hams District Council	21499266	Work carried out in play area – repair wet pour patches, cut out the rot around post and fill (May 2015)	£310.00	62.00	£372.00
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14. 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.

15. Annual Meeting dates The following meeting dates were agreed:

15.1 Annual Parish Meeting, 7pm on 12th April 2016.

15.2 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council 7pm 10th May 2016.

16. Matters at the Discretion of the Chairman None arising.

17. Date of next meeting Tuesday 12th April 2016.