

Harpole Parish Council Newsletter

Issue 12 – December 2015



Happy Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year
to all
Harpole residents
from everyone on
Harpole Parish Council



Present:

Mrs M. Jones (Chair), Mr B Briscoe, Mr D Starmer, Mr D Ballard, Mr C Wilkinson, Mr N Faulkner, Mr B Gibbins, Mr S Drinkwater, Mr B Justice, Miss S Eason, Mrs R Gibbins & Clerk G. Ravine.

Apologies:

Mr J Calderwood (meeting clash), Cllr K. Cooper, Cllr. J. Kirkbride & Cllr. A. Addison

Public / 6

A Larkhall Lane householder expressed concern over what development might happen in the fields on the opposite side of the Lane to the houses. A Council member relayed a message from an absent member of the public – giving his appreciation for all that the Council has done for the village over the past year and for the hard work they continue to do. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Planning:

86 Larkhall Lane-Demolish bungalow, construct dwelling with altered vehicular access – approved.

Conversion of an existing agricultural building to dog boarding kennels-PC had no objections, however made the following comments: Concern over increased traffic on a narrow road, which is already heavily used by Farm Traffic, walkers & children.

Walking the dogs should be done in the owners fields and not in the lane-there is an ongoing issue within the village & lane with excess dog mess not being cleared up, we would not want to exacerbate this problem. Further correspondence has since been received from the applicant who reassures the council on their concerns.

1 Shepherds Walk-Two Storey Side Extension – No objections.

Scoping Opinion in respect of proposed strategic employment to Land off J16 on the M1-A reply will be made to this application by the closing date after it has been agreed by all councillors. Personal representation can also be made on this & can be sent to SNC by 7th January.

Contact us on:-

Twitter @harpole_village

Visit our Website <http://www.harpole.org.uk/>

Planning cont:

Confines – there will be a formal consultation in January by SNC on the areas within the village currently designated as a green space & the existing confines.

It is planned that there will be a HAT open day in early February, to update villagers on the progress made so far. A newsletter will be out soon from HAT giving updates on progress so far.

Discussions took place around Affordable Housing & infill. This will be further discussed at the January PC meeting.

The council & the HAT team are concerned over the proposed diversion from the previously agreed JCS by the developers.

Following a vote by the council, a Solicitor has been instructed to look into the legal side of this & to work on our behalf.

New Homes Bonus:

An application has been made for the NHB from the Old School Hall for a 6ft fence to be erected at the rear of the building along with a new access gate up the left-hand side onto the right of way on the field side.

Highways:

Some work has been done on the leak at the corner of Upper High Street & Hill Lane, however it is felt that this has had no impact & the leak is still there. A manhole at the top of Garners Way is bubbling up & overflowing down the road. This has been reported & it is expected that someone will come out the day following this meeting to assess the situation.

Glassthorpe Lane – a letter of complaint has been received about the state of this road, with the large holes in it. It will be reported again to Street Doctor.

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Highways cont:

Sandy Lane – a request was made by the PC to NCC to reduce the speed limit in Sandy Lane due to the speed & weight of the traffic currently using this area, especially with extra traffic to & from Harlestone Manor.

However it seems that NCC think differently to the village (see reply below):

A formal review of the speed limit on Sandy Lane has now taken place. The review involved a panel of relevant officers chaired by the Road Safety Manager, and included Helen Howard as our local Community Liaison Officer, Engineers and Traffic Management Officers for Northamptonshire Police, who have delegated authority from the Chief Constable in speed limit consultations. This is therefore a consensus response from both organisations.

In terms of the review of this speed limit and the requests you have made for a section of 30mph and 40mph, we have taken into consideration a number of factors, including the general road layout and geography of the area, and the collision history over the previous 3 years. I have checked our collision records and I can confirm that in the past three years there has only been one 'reported' slight collision on Sandy Lane and this occurred in the section of 30mph.

In terms of setting appropriate speed limits we take the pragmatic view that if they do not command driver understanding or respect, not only will they be frequently contravened but they undermine the whole road safety regime.

In other words the road environment should provide a clear illustration as to why a particular speed limit has been imposed and encourage self-compliance.

Therefore, by consensus agreement it was determined that there is no compelling evidence to support a reduction to 30mph or 40mph at any location along Sandy Lane. Given the open, rural nature of this road it would not be obvious to a careful and competent motorist why a lower limit is in place and, furthermore, would not reflect the function of the road and the road environment.

Catch 22:

Volunteers are required to act as an appropriate adult during custody proceedings, for those who are under age. See notice boards for further details.

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Lights:

The light on the corner of The Motts & School Lane has been reported & will be replaced in due course as it is broken.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday January 11th 2016, at 7.30pm.

Need to tell us something, interested in planning issues, want to have your say??

Then come along to the next meeting – there is a public participation section at the beginning of each meeting.

Up to date issues are discussed throughout, come along and see!

There is still a vacancy on the council for anyone who is interested in being a part of it or representing the village.

Contact the Clerk on details at the end of this letter for further information or speak to one of the councillors.

Copies of the full minutes can be located on the Parish Council Notice Board outside the Old School Hall.

Note: The website is currently under construction, any further information can be found by contacting the Clerk to the Council.

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