

**MINUTES of the meeting of HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL held on
15th October 2012
at the Old School Hall, School Lane, Harpole at 7.30 pm.**

PRESENT:

Mr D Ballard (in the chair)	Mr J Eason	Mr B Gibbins	Mr J Calderwood
Mr E Church	Mr B Justice	Mrs J Jenkinson	Mr D Starmer
Mr J Green	Miss S Eason	Mrs S. Roberts	Mrs R Gibbins.
	2 members of the Public	Cllr J.Eliot. SNC	Clerk, G Ravine

Cllr Gibbins protested that his name had been excluded from the report of the previous minutes in the Church newsletter.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Cllr A Addison. SNC. Cllr J Kirkbride NCC.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST; JC as Trustee of the Charity and Youth Club. DB, and JC regarding the Harpole Action Team. DS regarding the allotments, OSH and PFA. JC declared a personal interest regarding the Churchyard. EC regarding Scarecrow.

3. PUBLIC DISCUSSION.

Mr Williams referred to uncut verges on Larkhall Lane . Clerk to ask Mr Warden to cut back further. He also asked whether a bus shelter could be put in place at the new bus stop. John Gibbins felt that, despite recent cutting, the verges at the top of Road Hill still obscured visibility. He questioned the presence of a pile of brash in the churchyard – this was to be burnt shortly. He reported that the fields and allotments were saturated and wondered whether the ditches and drainage in general should be appraised. The chair agreed. Drains on Larkhall Lane/Carrs Way to be reported again.

Laura Welch of SNC spoke regarding the possibility of a new Housing Needs Survey. She hoped that this could complement the Neighbourhood Plan. She explained that SNC required additional financial information to assess whether applicants could actually afford what they were applying for, and reassured Councillors that all information would be confidential. Concerns were expressed that this information requirement would discourage applications. It was also felt that it should be made clear that the survey was quite separate from the Neighbourhood Plan. SR to liase with LW regarding the timing of the survey. LW asked if something could be put in the newsletter, - this would be checked. It was also decided that Councillors should deliver the letters.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the meeting of 17th Sept. 2012. With regard to the ownership of the ditch between the Bowls Club and the houses on Larkhall Lane, the following was inserted “ having checked with Land registry deeds. This is contrary to local practice.”

5. Casual Vacancy: Brian Briscoe had applied for the vacancy, and as this was the only application it was not felt necessary to convene the Co-option panel.

***Resolved.** Brian Briscoe co-opted as a Councillor.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES;

Correspondent for Chronicle and Echo. A new correspondent was needed since Mary Burt’s resignation.

PFI scheme for lighting. No response as yet. Clerk to follow up.

Anglian Water. Anglian Water say they are not responsible for maintenance of ex pumping station on Sandy Lane, but are evasive when asked whether they will be in the future. It was thought that the site had belonged to the Mid Northants Water Authority.

Red Lion – Rats to be reported.

White Lines. – Helen Howard of NCC had asked to be informed as to whether the lines had been re-instated on Larkhall Lane/Carrs Way/Manor Close. They had not.

7. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY GROUPS.

Allotments. RG reported that the hedge would shortly be cut, and access to the “horse field” had been arranged. RG to ascertain who will be vacating their plots, as it seems some will. It is not thought necessary for any new plots to be prepared. RG would need to get printing done at a cost of £25 plus vat, and obtain further posts.

***Resolved.** Printing to be carried out and posts obtained.

Churchyard. Clerk to explain to Mrs Kennedy that the Rectory Hedge needs cutting back to allow funeral biers to pass unhindered.

Spoil Heap. Mr Manning was now available to do the work, but further rain had probably made it difficult to traverse the field. It was felt he should ask Patrick Green again before resorting to alternative and possibly more expensive ways of removing the heap.

Clerk had obtained quotes for wall maintenance, and as it was felt that a great deal of time had elapsed waiting for quotes that had not come; it was perhaps prudent to go forward now.

***Resolved.** Mr Bruce to be asked to repair the wall at the North gate at a cost of £2,649.00 plus VAT.

Clerk to look into the possibility of restoring both leaded and carved lettering on the war memorial in view of the fact that the centenary of WW1 is fast approaching.

Finance. Finance Meeting to be arranged for 10th December at 7.30 at the Old School Hall.

Roads and Footpaths. Ash in the hedge between 53 and 55 Larkhall Lane will be inspected. It was reported that the footpath between Harpole and Kislingbury turns had narrowed and the verges needed re-establishing. Clerk to contact Helen Howard and ask the the full width of the path be re-established as cyclists have become a menace to pedestrians.

Lighting. All found the PFI scheme confusing. Clerk to ask them again to come to meeting and translate.

South View. No reports.

8.REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE.

S/2012/1166/FUL	Red Lion Cafe Weedon Road Harpole	Variation of condition 2 on planning permission S/2010/1425/FUL (Demolish existing rear extensions & replace with single storey rear extension) to make various alterations to approved plans (Retrospective)	The committee have no objections to this application but do have the following comments: There is a fear of this becoming a dwelling place for hirers using the fishing lakes, if permission is granted can there be a stipulation in the conditions that this caravan be only used by the applicant for hand washing, toilets etc and not as a permanent dwelling. 15.10.12 – SE spoke with Amanda Haisman SNC and advised them, that the applicant had advised the committee and public present that SNC supported the application and that this had left us in an uncomfortable position when making the best decision and taking all points of view of both the applicant and the residents into consideration. AH advised that council had in fact advised applicant that they would not take legal action for the removal of the original caravan, as per original condition, however this did not apply to a new caravan being erected which may be used for residential and be connected to the services. SNC seemed concerned that the old caravan had been replaced by a brand new one with slate roof and were not aware that although this will still be used as a food store, it may later be connected to the services and used by the applicant to stay in overnight on some occasions. <i>If this is to be the case then it will need a new planning permission for change of use.</i>
S/2012/1157/FUL	Land to rear of Hall Close Harpole	Variation of condition 5 (all existing structures to be demolished/removed) on S/2009/0215/P (Equestrian storage shelter) for existing caravan to be retained.	The committee had no objections to the plans for the building as it can only make it look better; however they do make the following comments: The sewerage system needs upgrading to take the waste as this ditch is close to and eventually runs into the river. The new plans have 12 lavatories and 8 showers – the present system is inadequate. There are concerns about the hedge being demolished and this needs addressing.
S/2012/1106/TCA	The Old Rectory School Lane Harpole	Fell 1 no. Maple Trees, removal of limb to other Maple Tree	No info at present
S/2012/1230/MAF	Hall Farm Yard Glassthorpe Lane Harpole	Redevelopment Hall Farm to provide 11 dwellings consisting of 8 new dwellings, change of use and alterations to 2 traditional stone buildings to form 2 dwellings and the retention and incorporation of the north projecting gable to the south of Glassthorpe Lane to 1 no. dwelling	TBC

Resolved. Comments to be sent to SNC.

JC congratulated SE on handling a difficult meeting very well.

9 20MPH Speed limit – Bugbrooke is felt to have a good system. Clerk to ask Highways if something similar might be feasible for Harpole, and how it might be achieved.

10 Scarecrow Event – no further reports on this year's event.

- 11 Neighbourhood Plan** – No further Report on progress. JC expressed concern that the village in general is not well informed about the scale of the land to be lost to development. DB felt that there had been no agreement given, but that this land was in the overall plan which could not be stopped. As much as could be done had been done – but it was agreed that more could be put in the Newsletter. SE would write. It was suggested that HAT produce a poster/flyer to update villagers.
- 12 Dignity at Work** – Clerk distributed specimen policy. It was agreed that this be deferred.
- 13 Bus Stops** – It was not felt necessary or appropriate to put a bus shelter at the new Maltings bus stop. A request to demolish disused Larkhall lane bus shelter was discussed, but there are no plans to do this at this time.
- 14 First Aid Courses** – DB reported an offer of free First Aid courses. To be publicised in Newsletter..
- 15 CORRESPONDENCE.** –

Anglian Water – noted.
 Country Gardens – ground care – noted.
 H Howard – roads etc – noted.
 Cllr Kirkbride - noted.
 NCALC Update.- noted and distributed.
 -Re AGM - noted.
 NCC – H Unwin Tree packs - noted.
 SNH Homes – works + K McLaughlin - noted.
 SNC – re benefits - noted.
 -Draft Tenancy Strategy –Consultation - noted and distributed.
 M Winters – re bus stops - noted. Clerk to reply.

SNC – South Northants Council NCC– Northamptonshire County Council OSHMC – Old School Hall Management Committee EMRA – East Midlands Regional Assembly. NCALC – Northants County Association of Local Councils. CLASP – Community Landscape & Archaeology Survey Project. WNJPU – West Northants Joint Planning Unit. SNH –South Northants homes

16. Accounts for payment.

Accounts for payment.

Name	Chq no.	Amount	Incl VAT	Power used
G. Ravine – salary	Chq. 883	£466.02		LGA 1972 s 112
Inland revenue	Chq. 884	£116.50		LGA 1972 s 112
R Howey – Bus shelters, benches.	Chq. 885	£20.00		Clean Neighborhoods and Environ/ Act 2005
P Warden - Grasscutting	Chq. 886	£765.60	£127.60	LG(MP)A 1953 s4
AH Contracts –Dog bin clearing.	Chq. 887	£60.00	£10.00	Clean Neighborhoods and Environ/ Act 2005
EON – Streetlight electricity	Chq. 888	£1269.60	£211.60	
Old School Hall – 1/2 year grant	Chq. 889	£2500.00		LG(MP)A 1976 s19
Playing Field – ½ year grant.	Chq. 890	£1000.00		LG(MP)A 1976 s19
Harpole Heritage	Chq. 891	£500.00		LGA 1972 s 137
Income - Harpole Bowls Club – water bill		£94.30		

Bank balances HSBC Community Account £66,337.02. 16/9/2012

* **Resolved.** Payments to be made.

18. Items for next agenda. Dignity at Work Policy. Upgrading of newsletter.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

Nov. 19th 2012

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.24.

<http://www.harpole.org.uk>