

MINUTES of the meeting (Annual Meeting) of HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL held on 20th May 2013 at the Old School Hall, School Lane, Harpole at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT:

Mr D Ballard	Mr B Briscoe	Mr E Church	Mr J Calderwood	Miss S Eason
Mr J H Eason	Mr B Gibbins	Mr J L Green	Mrs J Jenkinson	Mr B Justice
Mrs R Gibbins		Cllr J Kirkbride (NCC)	3 members of public	Clerk, Mr G Ravine

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed and seconded that Miss Eason be nominated for the post of chairman for 2013/14. Unanimous. Carried. Miss Eason took the chair and signed the declaration of office.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN. It was proposed and seconded that Mrs J Jenkinson be nominated for the post of vice chairman for 2013/14. Unanimous. Carried.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Mr D S Starmer(holiday), Mrs S Roberts (work commitments). Apologies accepted by Council. Cllr J Eliot SNC, Cllr A Addison. SNC

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST EC, RG declared a personal interest regarding the Old School Hall; JC as Trustee of the Charity. DB JC SR regarding the Harpole Action Team.

5. TO APPOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS*Advisory Groups*

Allotments	<i>J Eason J Green R Gibbins D Ballard J Jenkinson S Eason</i>
Churchyard	<i>J Calderwood J Green B Gibbins</i>
Finance Committee	<i>J Calderwood E Church D Starmer R Gibbins B Gibbins S Eason</i>
Footpaths	<i>B Gibbins</i>
Lighting	<i>D Starmer D Ballard</i>
Planning Committee	<i>S Eason (Chair) J Calderwood E Church J Jenkinson S Roberts</i>

** Resolved that these appointments be made.*

6. TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO SIT ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Old School Hall Management Committee	S Eason E Church R Gibbins B Gibbins J Jenkinson
Youth Club	(JCalderwood is a trustees) D Ballard, E Church
Old Peoples Welfare	R Gibbins B Justice
Playing Fields	J Green D Starmer B Briscoe (J Calderwood is a trustees)
School Governors	S Eason
Free School Charity	C Briscoe.(J Calderwood is a trustees)
Harpole Charity	J Calderwood P.Bateman, Mr R Starmer M Burt (Clerk)
Road Safety Officer	J Eason
Field Footpath Warden	B Gibbins
Bus Services Liaison	Mrs J Tilley
Tree Warden	B Gibbins
Scarecrow Committee	S Eason J Jenkinson D Ballard
Village Hall Committee	<i>E Church D Ballard J Jenkinson S Roberts</i>
Harpole Action Team	<i>D Ballard J Calderwood S Roberts</i>
Mid Northants Parishes	<i>D Ballard</i>

** Resolved that these appointments be made.*

7. To confirm the Clerk's appointment as Proper Officer and Responsible Finance Officer

** Resolved* Clerk's appointment as Proper Officer and Responsible Finance Officer be confirmed.

8. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S INSURANCES

Deferred as Council insurance renewal not now due until October.

9. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mr Williams complained at the continued delay in opening the Sandy Lane relief road, and at the continuing poor state of visibility at the junction with Larkhall Lane. Clerk to report again.

Cllr JK is looking at the situation with a view to resolving the situation soon. She suggested that Council look at the London marathon charities site as it has a connection with South Northants communities.

John Gibbins felt that individuals were putting themselves at risk while carrying out maintenance that is not being done by Highways etc. He reported that the lights were on at inappropriate times, and asked for information regarding the power consumption of the electronic signs at the school, and reported that NRHA had distributed flood prevention equipment on Larkhall Way, but that no communication had been received, and that it was unclear whether the relief ditch would actually be created.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

* **Resolved** Minutes of the meeting on 15th April 2013 were approved - and duly signed by the Chairman.

11. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES. None

12. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Allotments. RG reported that 25 pole plots were available, and that some plots were in poor order. The tenants of these had been contacted, but it was felt that 2nd warning letters should go from the clerk. She thanked John Gibbins for repairing taps, and Gary Barnet for providing litter picking equipment. She felt that attending the Allotments course had been worthwhile, and had confirmed that they were proceeding correctly. Any change of use would need the permission of the secretary of state. 12 months' notice of a rent increase would be required – and it was recommended that this be collected at Michaelmas. It had been suggested that a site plan be put up, and that bonfires and hosepipes be banned. EC felt arrangements for the return of the smallholding should be put into action.

Clerk

Churchyard. The grass has been cut, but is rather messy due to the weather. Clerk to remind Mr Bruce and Mr Manning of intended works. The hedge will have to be left until an appropriate time. Gravestones are being checked, and grave owners or relatives being contacted.

Clerk

Footpaths BG will meet Rights of Way officer, Mr Wedgebrow. No problems at present. SE reported tree roots undermining pavement outside 30 Carrs way, and reported that the Flagpole keys had been lost.

Potholes in Garners Way and Glassthorpe Lane were reported to be getting worse.

BG expressed some Parishioners concern that they were unable to rent garages, but that many of the available garages were being used for storage rather than cars. SNH to be contacted and asked what the policy is.

JC referred to the difficulty in using invalid carriages on uneven and unsuitable pavements.

Clerk to remind Mr Warden to mow the green at the start of Glassthorpe Lane.

Clerk

Finance. Annual return due July 20th. Meeting tbc to discuss insurance and investment situation.

Lighting. Light outside 74 Carrs Way not working.

South View. BJ felt lack of maintenance was an ongoing problem. Water retention at the bus stop was still a problem. Trees outside the bus shelter were pushing suckers under the road. Clerk to report. Problems regarding car repairs had restarted, but were thought to be only short term.

Clerk

13. REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMITTEE

S/2013/0578/FUL	96 Larkhall Lane Harpole	Two storey extension to rear of property	Support
S/2013/0537/LDE	Land to the rear of 8 Hall Close Harpole	Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use of land as (D2) private leisure use (to include the mobile home) for the sole purpose of the applicant/land owner's use only.	No further comments
S/2013/0486/FUL	30 High Street Harpole	Single storey rear extension	Support
S/2013/0487/LBC	30 High Street Harpole	Single storey rear extension	Support
S/2013/0456/TCA	Provident House 35 Upper High Street Harpole	Reduce crown of apple tree by 4 metres in height and 5 metres in diameter and thin crown by 30%	Information only

14. Accounts. Clerk had not met auditor as yet.

15. Neighbourhood Plan. DB reported that plans were progressing, and it was felt that an open day combined with the village hall research would be useful.

16. Village Hall. As part of the research a valuation for the Old School Hall was required, but a meaningful valuation could only be obtained if outline planning permission were sought for a change of use to residential use. This would be an academic exercise – but would incur costs.

* **Resolved** It was agreed in principle that outline planning permission should be investigated.

17. Annual Parish Meeting. Minutes not complete, some reports not in clerk's possession.

18. Clerks Appraisal To be arranged with SE.

19. SLCC conference report. Clerk reported that the conference had proved very useful in

obtaining up to the minute information on a wide variety of topics. Clerk had ordered two books on Allotments and Councillor duties.

* **Resolved** Clerks action endorsed.

20 Village Walk . To take place on 3rd June at 7pm starting at the Allotments.

21. New Homes Bonus. Clerk reported that Harpole would receive (in theory) some £14,000 from this fund from SNC. Other village organisations would also be eligible to apply. JC wondered whether work on the church clock would be a suitable cause for some of the money. As a response to the consultation it was felt that the money should not be used to reduce Council tax.

* **Resolved** Clerk to inform SNC that Harpole Parish Council did not want the New Homes Bonus Clerk to be used for Council Tax reduction.

22. Youth Day. JJ outlined a plan to hold a Youth day, with village organisations co-ordinating their efforts and sharing resources.

* **Resolved** Council to support the project.

23. WI proposal to plant bulbs in Garners Way. The WI asked for permission to plant bulbs in this location. Councillors were generally supportive, though concerns were raised about mowing and a preference expressed for block planting. SE to liaise with WI. SE

24. Scarecrow Event. JJ informed Council of proposals to change the date of the AGM, and JJ increase the reserve fund. JJ to distribute updated copies.

25. CORRESPONDENCE

M Barber –re bus stops - noted
C Heaton-Harris –re planning – passed to SE
H Howard re – grips. BG to contact Helen Howard.
HMRC re tax overpayment - noted
SNC – re New Homes Bonus Noted
Youth Activators - Noted
Glasdon –catalogue – Noted.
NCC Youth Ambition award – Noted and SE to consider.
SNAST – subscription request Noted.

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

26. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

G. Ravine – salary	938	£529.19		LGA 1972 s 112
Inland revenue. Tax 132.84. Nis 2.22. Emp Nis 3.16	939	£138.22		LGA 1972 s 112
R Howey- Bus shelter	940	20.00		LG(MP)A 1953 s4
P Warden – grasscutting	941	607.20	101.20	LG(MP)A 1953 s4
AH Contracts- Dog bins	942	75.00	12.50	Clean Neighborhoods and Environment Act 2005
Hampton Print – newsletter	943	63.00		LGA 1972 s 111
Old School Hall – i/2 year grant	944	£1750.00		LG(MP)A 1976 s19
Playing Field – ½ year grant.	945	£1500.00		LG(MP)A 1976 s19
Eon – Light Maintenance	946	436.10	72.68	Parish Councils Act 1957
Nether Heyford Parish Council for SLCC conf and books	947	£75.80		LGA 1972 s 114
NCAALC Training Allots course	948	29.00		LGA 1972 s 114
Nickolls landscaping Flagpole maint	949	85.00		LG(MP)A 1953 s4
L Gibbins – replacement cheque hedge cutting.	950	60.00		LG(MP)A 1953 s4
SNAST – Neighbourhood watch subscription	951	10.00		LGA 1972 s 137
Precept £22,603.56				

Bank balances HSBC Community Account £95,193.95. 16/5/2013

Resolved -That these payments be approved, with the exception of 945 the playing field half year grant. BG felt that the revised Playing Fields accounts should be examined before the cheque was paid. Payment therefor deferred. Clerk to contact the new treasurer Mr Cordingly.

27. Items for the next Agenda. Smallholding

28. DATE OF NEXT MEETING ,Mon. June 17th. Mon. July 15th. 2013

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.23 pm.