

**MINUTES of the meeting of HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL held on February 17th 2014
at the Old School Hall, School Lane, Harpole at 7.30 pm.**

PRESENT:

Miss S Eason (in the chair)	Mr B Briscoe	Mr D Ballard	Mr J Calderwood
Mr E. Church	Mr B Gibbins	Mrs R Gibbins	Mr J Green
Mrs J Jenkinson		Mr D Starmer	Mr C Wilkinson
Cllr J Kirkbride. NCC		8 members of the Public	Clerk, G Ravine

- 1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mr B Justice. Apologies accepted by Council. Cllr A Addison SNC
- 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST;** JC re Churchyard, as Trustee of the Charity, Playing Fields, and Youth Club, and member of Heritage Group. DB and JC regarding the Harpole Action Team. DS regarding land on Manor farm, Allotments, OSH and PFA. BG and RG re allotments.
- 3 **REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATE.** None
- 4 **PUBLIC DISCUSSION.** Highways Warden reported That work was to be done on the drain at South View bus stop. That there was no major problem at the Harpole turn bus stop That the junction of Carrs Way and Northampton Rd was apparently too expensive to be changed at present. Nobottle Rd drainage work had been carried out. Water coming from Carr House still causing problems. Clerk to ask for drain to be relocated again. Damage to kerb/grass outside 19/21 Chester Avenue to be repaired by SNC. Drainage outside the farm a problem.
John Gibbins expressed concern about the lack of information about the survey relating to the demand for a new village hall, and on being given the figures, (53 responses from 700 questionnaires, 68% of which were in favour of a new hall) felt that this was a very low true percentage of Parishioners in favour of a new village hall. BG agreed and felt the figures redundant. RG also felt this a very low percentage
Cllr JK reported that new buses were about to enter service on the D3 route, with far superior wheelchair facilities.
- + **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the meeting of 20th January 2014. With one small change, the minutes were accepted
- 5 as a true record, and signed.
- 6 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**
No update on Open Gardens/Roadworks situation, but has been reported to local Ombudsman. Mr Howey is painting out graffiti. Mud still on path between Turnpike and Roundabout. No report on inspection cover on Sandy Lane.
- 7 **To Consider candidates for Co-option to the vacancy created by Cllr Eason's resignation.** No response from SNC as yet. BG opined that potential candidates should attend meetings if they were really interested.
- 8 **REPORTS FROM ADVISORY GROUPS.**
Allotments. Meeting had been held on 3rd February. Rent night 31st Jan, £725 collected thus far. Meter readings had been taken, RG reported that various maintenance works were planned for this concentrating on safety and access; and discussion was taking place about the best way to use a neglected plot. RG thanked those plottolders who had helped recently.
SE reported that the proposed lease had been distributed, and that concerns had been expressed about the wording. NCALC had therefor been approached. Danny Moody of NALC had looked at the document and had met with SE and DB at the allotments. He advised that the previous agreement regarding the so called "smallholding" had probably been unlawful, and felt that the proposed agreement was potentially unlawful as it seemed to constitute a disposal of allotment land. He had advised that no agreement should be pursued until the issue of the village hall project had been settled he had approached NCALCs solicitors and their advice was awaited. RG disputed these findings and cited wording from Paul Claydens book on Allotment law, and felt that he should be approached. BG felt there was a hidden agenda and that meetings had been going on outside council regarding the village hall project. RG felt that great care needed to be taken about legality in this case.
JC and EC both felt it important to proceed lawfully and it was felt that discussion should be deferred until the solicitors report had been received.
Churchyard. No report.
Finance. Precept demand had been acknowledged.
Footpaths. BG reported litter in the gutters around the nursery site entrance in Larkhall Rd. Dirt and detritus were reported in the gutters around the farm in Upper High St, and parishioners had raised concerns about environmental health issues. JG stated that exceptional rainfall had caused problems He raised concerns about the ditches being full of stagnant water on Road Hill. He thanked Terry and Jen Claridge for clearing gutters on Northampton Rd
SE reported that the overhanging laurel at 10 Glassthorpe Lane had been cut back. But that there were problems with another between Carrs Way and the nursery site. A large pothole in Chester Ave had worsened since apparent repair. A lorry associated with building work had apparently clipped a car in Chester Avenue – photographs were awaited. CW reported that the hedge in Larkhall Rd was not being cut because Heygates were on "entry level stewardship" which involved less frequent cutting.
Considerable litter reported on both sides of Road Hill. Tyres had been reported, clerk to report to SNC. The Red Lion layby is reported full of litter, and 2 people reported living there.

Lighting. DS and DB to inspect when weather improves. Lamp outside 78 Carrs Way reported damaged.

South View. Large diversion sign felt to be dangerous, and large roundabout sign reported as not being illuminated.

9 PLANNING

S/2013/1665/LDP	66 Carrs Way	Lawful Development Cert for loft conv. with flat roof dormer to rear	Approved
S/2013/1574/FUL	Red Lion Cafe A4500	Erect canopy to front, render blockwork, single storey ext to relocate security kiosk. Smoking shelter replaces sheds. Retained wall/steps rear.	Approved
S/2013/1573/FUL	5 High Street	First floor side extension	Approved
S/2013/1646/MAO	Land W of Npton Rd Harpole	Residential development of up to 50 dwellings, estate road, open space and site for a new Village Hall. (Outline).	Application refused.

10 Rectory Hedge – EC to approach owner to ask that it be cut back.

11 Neighbourhood Plan – DB reported that as JCS not finalised, no further work had taken place. A meeting would take place at Northampton Guildhall on Thursday 20th Feb involving various groups to try and clarify the situation.

12 New Village Hall – This was also on hold because of lack of progress on JCS.

13 New Homes bonus – JJ outlined a proposal from the OSH to ask for funding for new flooring. At a cost of £1680. **Resolved.** Council supported the application.

14 Joint Core Strategy response – DB had distributed a report, and had had contact with the MP, who felt that an emerging Neighbourhood Plan carried some weight. NCC was opposed to the JCS because of inadequate infrastructure, and felt development should take place around Moulton. Good responses had been received at the Open Weekend, and many objection forms filled in. It was felt that objections related to flooding issues would be effective in the current climate. It was felt that the WNJPU could not be swayed, but it was hoped that an independently appointed inspector would be amenable to reasoned argument.

DB felt that a letter should be sent, rather than an online submission.

Resolved. Working Party report to be sent with a covering letter.

15 NCALC training courses. – Clerk reported that SE had been booked onto 3 courses.

Resolved. Clerk to attend course on march 12th with appropriate overtime and mileage.

16 CORRESPONDENCE. –

Cllr Addison- regretted that she was unable to attend more often due to the number of SNC and other meetings she was obliged to attend- but stressed that she was willing to answer any queries Council might have.

D Moody – re precept capping – noted

NCALC – Update- noted

SNC re precept – noted

Re JCS -- noted

- re dustcart damage – noted SNC do not accept liability but will repair.

NCC – Greener Fair. – noted

Emergency Planning – noted

Valuation Office – re Bowls Club- noted

D Starmer – notice of resignation as trustee of Harpole Charity. Clerk to write letter of thanks.

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

17. Accounts for payment.

Name	Chq no.	Amount	Incl VAT	Power used
G. Ravine – includes holiday pay and overtime.	Chq. 1033	£1289.06		LGA 1972 s 112
Inland revenue Tax 327.41 Nis 21.60 Emp Nis 22.27	Chq. 1034	£371.28		LGA 1972 s 112
R Howey – Bus shelters, benches, graffiti removal.	Chq. 1035	£66.00		Clean N/hoods & Env/ Act 2005
AH Contracts – Dog bin clearing.	Chq. 1036	£60.00	£10.00	Highways Act 1980 S96
Hampton Print – Newsletter	Chq. 1037	£63.00		Clean N/hoods & Env/ Act 2005
Anglian Water Allots water	Chq. 1038	£176.73		Allotments Act (1950),

Income:- Allotments rent £725.0

Bank balances HSBC Community Account £87,033.27 16/1/2014

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

19. Items for next agenda. E-mail bank for Parish Council.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS. March 17th.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.31.

<http://www.harpole.org.uk> harpoleparishcouncil@gmail.com