

**MINUTES of the meeting of HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL held on Jan 20th 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 B Gibbins	Mrs R Gibbins	Mr J Green
Mrs J Jenkinson	Mr B Justice		
Cllr J Kirkbride. NCC		8 members of the Public	Clerk, G Ravine

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mr D Starmer(Holiday), Mr E. Church (illness), Mr B Briscoe. Apologies accepted by Council. Cllr J Eliot SNC. Cllr A Addison SNC
Resignation. Mr J. Eason had resigned by letter to the chair. Council thanked him for his long service. Clerk to write.
- 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. JJ regarding.BG and RG re allotments.
- 3 REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATE.** None
- 4 PUBLIC DISCUSSION.** Mr Bransby introduced himself as Highway Warden. The warden is the link between Highways and the Parish Council and has already been on a training course. He will pursue the case of flooding at the Nobottle Rd roundabout. Feels that the question of U-turns at the Turnpike has reached an impasse, and is looking into the problem of mud on Glassthorpe Lane.
 John Gibbins reported that the electronic sign was again malfunctioning and questioned the cost again .He reported damage caused by a bin lorry on Larkhall Way and felt that the damage should be repaired and the bill passed to SNC.
- 5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the meeting of 16th December 2013. The minutes were accepted as a true record, and signed.
- 6 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**
 No update on Open Gardens/Roadworks situation. 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 Roberts resignation.**
 It was recommended that Mr C Wilkinson should be co-opted. **Resolved** .Mr Wilkinson co-opted.
- 8 REPORTS FROM ADVISORY GROUPS.**
Allotments. Meeting had been held on 6th Jan. Rent night 31st Jan. 12 months' notice of rent changes needed. Hawthorn quicks to be purchased. Allotment Land lease to be revised and it was stressed that the lease should be clear that the rental was for one year and to be reviewed then. It was suggested that the Allotment land might be split, JJ felt it unfair to back down from the offer to Mr Gibbins. BG felt that DS had never said that he would take on this land, only look after it until a tenant came forward. DB stated that Council had resolved in April to investigate the possibility of building a Village hall on part of the Allotments and that it was important that this not be forgotten or ignored.
Churchyard. PCC will arrange for a contractor to clear drains twice a year at a cost of £240.
Finance. See precept.
Footpaths. Nobottle road closure discussed. Diversion will not pass through village. BG reported damage caused by a bin lorry, and had already contacted SNC. Ditches on road hill reported full of water. Drain outside Church farm overflowing again. Water flowing on High St causing puddles around Bus Stop. It was felt that if a drain outside Carr House were relocated about 5 yards away, that the problem would be much alleviated.
 Drain blocked outside 74 High St. Water coming through light base outside 38 High ST. Drain may be broken. Potholes in South View reported. Mr Howey to get anti –graffiti paint.
Lighting. Developers on the Hall Farm site have requested that Western Power move a pole, which has a bracket lamp on it. The Clerk has told Western Power that Council would expect the developers to pay for relocation, or a new lamp. No further report on this subject. Light 10 reported.
South View. The bin had been emptied this week, and should be emptied weekly.BJ reported problems with puddles in front of the bus stop again. Mud reported still on the path between Kislingbury and Harpole turns. Inspection cover outside 20 Sandy lane damaged.

9 PLANNING

S/2013/1574/FUL	Red Lion Cafe Weedon Road Harpole	Erection of canopy to front, render blockwork infill, single storey extension to side to relocate security kiosk. Replace existing sheds with smoking shelter to rear. Retained wall and steps to rear.	No Objections.
S/2013/1573/FUL	5 High Street	First floor side extension	No Objections.
S/2013/1665/LDP	66 Carrs Way	Lawful Development Certificate for a loft conversion with flat roof dormer to rear	Information only
S/2013/1646/MAO	Land W of N'pton Rd	Residential development of up to 50 dwellings, estate road, open space and site for a new Village Hall.(Outline).	Object as below.

The application is outside the village confines.

Flooding: Will the attenuation tank, at 1050 tonnes, be big enough and what happens when it fills up? We already have another development within the village, where the water floods before getting to the attenuation tank and that site has been flooded 9 times.

The ditches are full already without extra developments, so where will the extra water go and will the drains be able to cope?

The report states the attenuation tank will relieve the water course downstream at the bottom, what happens to the top?

The report also states this development will enhance the landscape – however it is unclear how this will happen and for

water from the village, the hills and the fields comes down, via a stream through the village, into this area where it is piped down to the Turnpike and then through a culvert under the A4500. If the river Nene bursts its banks then the water is pushed back up the culvert, which is not big enough now and needs improving. This development is unsustainable in terms of drainage without a new culvert under the A4500. The Turnpike has been flooded on numerous occasions, most recently in 2012 when they had to close the pub for complete refurbishment around Christmas time. Anglian Water had to do some pipe work in this area, although it is unclear exactly what has been done.

The Northwest corner of the development has a large willow tree, which currently soaks up some of the water, and is in need of attention, the ditch in this area floods and the hollow fills up – if this area is levelled will this increase the flooding?

One householder has lost her heavy oak bridge in the recent flooding, is it fair to put houses in an area where it will flood? The report states that the brook is maintained and whereas householders do keep the stream and pipes clear when able, once a lot of water comes down then it is too dangerous to do. Villagers report that in 77 years the brook has only been cleared out once.

Other developments in the village area are adding extra water to the drains, which are not adequate for the amount going through. The pipes are not of adequate capacity already without adding to the problem.

The flooding report has been done in the summer and so does not take into consideration the existing conditions.

Amenities:

Amenities need putting in to place before any development – what provision has been made for extra pupils in the schools, shops, surgeries and public transport.

The area marked as village hall will not address the existing parking issue at the school, which is why other sites were being looked at – if the hall does not go in this site then what will happen to the open space left – more housing?

Highways:

There are already existing problems at Harpole Turn and alterations would need to be done to this area before extra development and traffic, i.e. a roundabout. The already dangerous junction of Northampton Road / Carrs Way is not adequate now for the existing traffic, with cars having to wait on the main road for traffic coming down Carrs Way to pull out and damage has been done to parked cars by large traffic trying to use this highway.

There is insufficient parking for the development on the proposal with estimated 100 cars for the housing and more if a village hall is built on the site. Parking is already a problem in the village and in particular the area of Northampton Road, Carrs Way.

Other developments:

Following a more recent application for another development within the village, it was reported that SNC advised that they have enough housing to meet the requirements for the next 5 years.

With the recent revisions of the JCS and estimated 5000 houses around Harpole, why should we need any more housing? This provides much more than needed as in the recent housing survey.

Resolved. Comments to be passed to SNC.

- 10 Grasscutting** – The following contractors had tendered. *Barnett. M Young. P Warden. D Gamble. T Judkins.*

Resolved. Mr Gamble to be awarded the contract for the Churchyard at a cost of £160 per cut for a period of 3years.

Resolved. Mr Judkins to be awarded the contract for the Verges at a cost of £220 per cut for a period of 3years.

- 11 Precept.** –The Finance Committee recommended a precept of £39,000. The same as last year, although that had been inflated by the addition of a “windfall grant” from SNC, which increased the figure received.

The Grasscutting quotes accepted, were slightly larger than anticipated, but the figure for potential election costs was reduced proportionately so that the request could remain the same.

Anticipated Expenditure	2014 15	Churchyard Grass	2500	Reserves	
General Administration	1500	Maint -Hedges/Paths	3000	Anticipated balance	84000
Newsletter	1000	Grants		General reserve	52,000
Salaries	9500	Old School Hall	3500	Churchyard	10000
Insurance	750	Playing Field	3000	Old School Hall	10000
Audit Fees .NCALC	480	Heritage Group see s137	0	Gratuity	2000
Website	50	HAT	0	Parish Clock	3000
Public Lighting		Highways	3500		
Energy	4500	Election	700		
Repairs& Maintenance	1600	Training	1000		
New Lights	780	Total	41650		
Section 137 Payments	250	non precept income	2650		
Bus shelters, benches, etc	1200	Recommended precept	39000		
Dog Bins	800				
Flagpole maint incl flags	540				
Allotments water	1000				
maint	500				

Resolved. South Northants Council to pay a precept of £39,000 in 2 instalments in April and September 2014.

BG requested that proper Playing Field accounts be received before their grant be paid out.

- 12 Neighbourhood Plan** – Report on progress. DB reported that the plan had stalled because of the revisions to the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) and the potential incursions of the West Northampton SUE, the Norwood Farm SUE and the Industrial Park at J16. It was felt that dialogue between the PC, HAT and SNC was needed. He reported that if there was a neighbourhood plan, then the PC would be in receipt of some £9,500,000 of Community Infrastructure Levy money. The Clerk felt this was unlikely to happen in actuality.

Resolved. To object en bloc to all these proposed developments.

The situation was felt to be complicated, and it was felt a weekend presentation of the situation was required to be jointly staffed by PC and HAT members. This would take place on Feb 8th and 9th. Disappointment was expressed that District Councillors rarely attended PC meetings at this difficult time. Clerk to ask Cllr AA what had happened to the original application for Norwood farm that had been passed to the Secretary of State 3 years ago. In this application

there was a country park behind the sandy lane Houses.

There had been a technical objection to the Dec 16th meeting of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee where the revised JCS had been accepted only on the casting vote of the chair. This meeting would now be re-run on Feb 5th.

- 13 New Village Hall** – Sonja Roberts was asked to give a report from the working party. She related the history of the project and asked that the PC show support for it if they wished work to continue. There were disputes as to how much support for a new village hall had been shown from the various votes and surveys. BG felt a new hall was not required and there was little support for one, and that the OSH was a part of the heritage of the village and should be preserved as such. The Pre School did not want to leave OSH and had asked that the OSH not be sold, and it be leased to Pre-School at a peppercorn rent. DB replied that OSH would have to be sold to help finance a village hall. The fact that the village charities stood to receive large sums of money for the charity lands was mentioned as a possible future source of finance.

BG proposed that work stop on the new Village hall project. The proposal was seconded, but not otherwise supported.

Resolved. Working party to continue to look at the viability of a new Village Hall.

- 14 New Homes bonus** – No further reports.

- 15 To consider a response to the Planning Inspectorate. Resolved** Council to support the maintaining of the Parish Confines.

DB to draft letter.

- 16 NCALC training courses.** – Clerk to attend courses on Jan 29th and Feb 12th, and claim appropriate overtime and mileage allowance. Clerk recommended new Councillors attend “Off to a Flying Start” courses and would bring them up again.

- 17 CORRESPONDENCE.** –

<i>A – One – re ml closures SNC re Sandbags - noted</i>	<i>AKent, M Jones re vacancy - noted</i>
<i>NCALC Training courses. - noted</i>	<i>Pre – School – 2 letters re hall. - noted</i>
<i>SNC re precept - noted</i>	<i>NCC – Consultation -Heritage Environment Conservation Planning</i>
<i>Re electoral roll -- noted</i>	<i>Building Development - noted</i>
	<i>NCC –r e road closures - noted</i>

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

18. Accounts for payment.

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<i>Name</i>	<i>Chq no.</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Incl VAT</i>	<i>Power used</i>
G. Ravine – salary	Chq. 1024	£469.94		<i>LGA 1972 s 112</i>
Inland revenue	Chq. 1025	£117.47		<i>LGA 1972 s 112</i>
R Howey – Bus shelters, benches.	Chq. 1026	£20.00		<i>Clean N/hoods & Env/ Act 2005</i>
AH Contracts –Dog bin clearing.	Chq. 1027	£75.00	£12.50	<i>Highways Act 1980 S96</i>
Hampton Print – Newsletter	Chq. 1028	£63.00		<i>Clean N/hoods & Env/ Act 2005</i>
T. Spokes Allots hedge	Chq. 1029	£216.00	£36.00	<i>Local Gov't Act 1972 S111</i>
All Saints Church – newsletter distr.	Chq. 1030	£100.00		<i>LGA 1972 s 137</i>
Eon. Quart. Maint	Chq. 1031	£436.10	£72.68	<i>Parish Councils Act 1957s3</i>
Eon – Streetlighting Electricity	Chq. 1032	£1271.77	£211.96	<i>Parish Councils Act 1957s3</i>
Income. Church – burials £1002.00				

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

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

- 19. Items for next agenda.** Rectory Hedge. JCS response. Co-option.Training Courses.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS. Feb 17th .

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.41.

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