

**MINUTES of the meeting of HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL held on Nov 17<sup>th</sup> 2013  
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 J. Eason	Mr B Gibbins	Mrs R Gibbins
	Mrs J Jenkinson	Mr B Justice	Mr D Starmer
Cllr J Kirkbride. NCC.		14 members of the Public	Clerk, G Ravine

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mr J Green (Holiday) Apologies accepted by Council. Cllrs A Addison and J Eliot SNC.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST;** JC re Churchyard, as Trustee of the Charity 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 Northampton Rd proposal. BG and RG re allotments.
3. **REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATE.** None
4. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION.** Barry Howard outlined proposals to build five houses on the site of the former Nursery off Larkhall Lane. Residents and Councillors raised concerns about access, drainage, sewage, boundary ditches and waste bin storage and presentation for collection. The ownership and maintenance arrangements for the entrance road were questioned. This belongs to Mr Lines, but would become the joint responsibility of new properties. BG felt access the biggest problem. Mr Howard pointed out that with the present permission traffic was not controlled, a known number of movements could be predicted with 5 dwellings. It was also pointed out that this scheme fell outside the village confines and to support it might set an unfortunate precedent. Mr Howard had already consulted with the residents, and answered questions on all the above topics from Councillors and Parishioners. He said deeds implied the ditch was not part of the property. It was argued that this should not be referred to as a "Brownfield Site" but was properly an agricultural site.  
Mr Williams expressed concern as to the adequacy of sewage pipes should the development proceed. BH had consulted Anglian Water.  
Cllr JK reported that NCC had apologised for the road works that had affected the Open gardens scheme and would try to make sure this sort of thing would not happen again.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013. The minutes were accepted as a true record, and signed.
6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.** Putting bins out overnight would appear to be legal, provided they do not obstruct.
7. **To Consider candidates for Co-option to the vacancy created by Cllr Roberts resignation.** SR expressed an interest in re-joining Council. BG objected. Clerk expressed concern as to how to proceed, and would consult SNC.
8. **REPORTS FROM ADVISORY GROUPS.**  
**Allotments.** RG reported on a well attended meeting on Nov 4<sup>th</sup> Hedges still not cut, ditch clearance under discussion with Bowls Club. "plots freed up, others re- allocated. Next meeting to consider names for the committee. New lease agreements would be needed.. Bowls Club meter now difficult to read.  
EC referred to the June minutes when it had been resolved that DS would maintain the land. DS felt this meant the status quo would be maintained. It had subsequently been agreed to let the land to John Gibbins and Matthew Bransby, but this had been put into doubt on the question of the sale of produce, and no agreement had been signed. Opinions differed as to the nature of the land – whether it be referred to as a "Smallholding" carrying an Agricultural Agreement or whether it was just allotment land that had been informally referred to a smallholding, which had been let on a "Gentleman's Agreement" years ago.  
**Churchyard.** JC reported that the memorial plaque had been attached to the war memorial.  
**Finance.** Finance meeting arranged for Mon Jan 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at OSH. Clerk reported that the rule requiring at least two Councillors to sign each cheque was being relaxed to allow electronic payments, recommended that the bank account be changed when the legislation had been passed.  
**Footpaths.** Bob Mabbutt had asked that new laybys be cut on Northampton Rd to alleviate the effect of cars parking on the grass, or failing that, wooden posts put in. He also felt the graffiti on the outside of the A4500 bus shelter should be cleared. Councillors felt that the graffiti on the interior should be cleared, but were not concerned about the exterior.  
**Grasscutting tenders.** Clerk and DS to liaise over maps. Clerk to produce a specimen contract including a reference to the possibility of 16 cuts per annum as opposed to the 12 currently specified. It was felt that the additional expense would be justified in view of the extended nature of the growing season at present, and the number of complaints there had been about grass.  
BG wondered who was responsible for maintenance of the tree outside  
**Lighting.** No Report.  
**South View.** BJ reported problems with puddles in front of the bus stop and that a drain on the south side of the roundabout had been tarmacked over. Clerk asked to request a larger bin at the bus stop again. Mud reported on the path between Kislingbury and Harpole turns.

**9 PLANNING**

S/2013/1399/MAF	Hall Farm Yard Glassthorpe Lane	Variation of planning permission S/2012/1230/MAF to allow addition of dormer window to the rear of plot 11	No Objections
S/2013/1366/FUL	Nursery site Larkhall Ln	Three new dwellings and detached garage to plot 1	Object – outside village confines
S/2013/1351/FUL	139 Sandy Lane	Demolish existing garages/workshop, erect replacements	No Objections

**Resolved**

Comments to be passed to SNC

- 10 Flagpole Green** – deferred.
- 11 War memorial** – Clerk pursuing enquiries, no responses as yet.
- 12 Neighbourhood Plan** – Still in abeyance as the Joint Core Strategy is yet to be agreed. DB referred to the Bloor homes scheme, which if pursued, would join Harpole to Duston. Clerk to write to SNC to express Council's concern about the proposed developments and ask to know SNC's attitude.
- 13 New Village Hall.** - It was reported that the Old School hall was operating well under an effective chair and committee, and that there were no serious concerns at present. DB wondered whether the situation had changed regarding the desire to have a new hall.
- 14 New Homes bonus** – No further reports. JC and clerk to liaise on Parish Clock proposal.
- 15 S Northamptonshire Settlements and Development Management Policies Local Plan – Issues Consultation and Briefings report.**  
DB reported that he and Clerk had attended on behalf of Council. The consultation had been introduced and a lot of background detail given. Council would be asked to make some preliminary comments by January 24<sup>th</sup>. Booklets were distributed to Councillors. It was felt that these should have gone to all households, although BG felt the cost was unjustified. It was stressed that the entire area between Northampton and the M1 was being looked at, as Northampton Borough Council were also looking to develop.
- 16 To consider a response to the Planning Inspectorate.** The date for the process had been put back to March.  
**Resolved.** Clerk to write to SNC and ask their attitude to the two proposed developments affecting Harpole.
- 17 Clerk's forum** – SNC Nov 8<sup>th</sup> Clerk reported that the Forum had concentrated on 3 issues:- Budgets, New Homes Bonus, and the Local Plan. The situation in all 3 areas was complicated by lack of clear guidance from central government, and uncertainty as to what the future holds.
- 18 To appoint a Highway warden. Resolved.** Mr Bransby to be appointed Highway Warden, and to be helped by Mr Briscoe. Clerk had already passed details to Helen Howard at MGSWP.
- 19 New Model Standing Orders** – SE and JJ had approved the Clerk's adaptation of Model Standing Orders for Harpole. Clerk to distribute to all Councillors for ratification at next meeting..
- 20 Meeting dates 2014.** – Clerk reported that April 21<sup>st</sup> was a bank holiday, April meeting therefor changed to April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 21 CORRESPONDENCE.** –

A D'Arcy Planning - noted Barry Howard Homes – re meeting - noted Don Foster MP – Our Place. - noted Harpole Rangers re grant of £100 towards flag <b>Resolved.</b> Grant approved. Cheque to be paid at next meeting. Harpole Heritage - noted R Mabbutt - Maintenance	Highways – re mowing grants - noted NCC Asset Management consultation – needs completion. NCC- re salt bins. Council could now buy salt bins from NCC but would have to pay for salt and maintenance PFA re grant request. Retained for precept meeting Police – Re meeting
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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

**22. Accounts for payment.**

Name	Chq no.	Amount	Incl VAT	Power used	Remaining Budget
G. Ravine – salary	Chq. 1006	£534.07		<i>LGA 1972 s 112</i>	3543/8800
Inland revenue £133.52 Nis 3.68	Chq. 1007	£137.20		<i>LGA 1972 s 112</i>	3543/8800
R Howey – Bus shelters, benches.	Chq. 1008	£20.00		<i>Clean N/hoods &amp; Env/ Act 2005</i>	740/2100
P Warden – grass cutting	Chq. 1009	£224.40	£37.40	<i>Highways Act 1980 S96</i>	256/2500
AH Contracts –Dog bin clearing.	Chq. 1010	£60.00	£10.00	<i>Clean N/hoods &amp; Env/ Act 2005</i>	740/2100
Spoiled	Chq. 1011	0.00			
R Powell – replacement cheque	Chq. 1012	£25.00		<i>Local Gov't Act 1972 S137</i>	146/200
Anglian Water – allotments water	Chq. 1013	£451.77		<i>Allotments Act (1950),</i>	522/1800
Petty cash	Chq. 1014	£250.00		<i>LGA 1972 s 112</i>	189/2000
Hampton Print – Newsletter	Chq. 1015	£63.00		<i>Local Gov't Act 1972 S111</i>	189/2000
Income					
Precept - SNC		£19,500			

Bank balances HSBC Community Account £96,091.54. 16/10/2013

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

**23. Items for next agenda.** Flagpole Green, War Memorial, Response to the Planning Inspectorate.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.** Dec 16<sup>th</sup> 2013. Finance Meeting Jan 13<sup>th</sup> 2014.

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.54.*