

**MINUTES of the meeting of HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL held on Oct 12<sup>th</sup> 2015  
at the Old School Hall, School Lane, Harpole at 7.30 pm.**

**PRESENT:**

Mrs M Jones (in the chair)	Mr D Ballard	Mr B Briscoe	Mr J Calderwood	Mr S Drinkwater
Miss S Eason	Mr N Faulkner	Mr B Gibbins	Mrs R Gibbins	Mr. B. Justice
Mr C Wilkinson	3 members of the Public	Clerk, G Ravine		

- 1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mr D Starmer (Holiday), Apologies accepted by Council. Cllr A Addison (Clerking Green's Norton PC) Cllr K Cooper SNC (Chairing Gayton PC), Cllr J Kirkbride NCC at Bugbrooke PC
- 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** RG re allotments. DS, DB re allotments. CW regarding Larkhall Lane. JC Churchyard, Charities, HAT. DB Harpole Action Team. RG re allotments. DB re allotments. SE HAT, Harpole Charities, School.
- 3 **REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATE.** None
- 4 **PUBLIC DISCUSSION.** Mr Williams asked for assurances to be sought that problems with sewage (as a result of new buildings in Larkhall Lane) would be quickly addressed.
- 5 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the meetings of Sept.14<sup>th</sup> 2015 and EGM Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. **Resolved.** The minutes and agenda were accepted as a true record, and signed.
- 6 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.** Clerk had ascertained that there was no process for initiating Country Parks, other than approaching NCC.
7. **Election of Vice Chair.** Miss Eason proposed as Vice Chair and unanimously agreed.
8. **Co –option of Councillor** – casual vacancy, no application.
- 9 **REPORTS FROM ADVISORY GROUPS.**

**Allotments.** RG reported a meeting between Council, Allots Assoc and School about the hedge was imminent. Also felt that advice was desirable. Clerk had found that Inclosure Act of 1845 and Smallholding Act of 1908 effectively allowed allotments to be fenced and locked. As there was no right of way allotments could effectively be locked. **Resolved.** Signs stating “Harpole Parish Council Allotments. Plot holders only. No Public Right of Way” to be placed.

RG to contact Mr Mansell and assure him that he would be contacted whenever hedge would be cut. He would also be within his rights to trim a hedge that shaded his greenhouse.

JC pointed out that there was documentary evidence of an Allotment Association existing in the past.

**Churchyard. Resolved.** Quote from Lewis Gibbins for £200 to cut hedge accepted.

Clerk had had contact with Highways about changing the steps; they had no issues, but suggested contacting SNC. Clerk had asked for return of plans. There were complaints about children

**Finance.** Precept meeting to follow October 26<sup>th</sup> Highways meeting at 8pm.

**Footpaths/Highways.**

Hedge Larkhall Lane/Sandy lane overgrown. Drain outside Church Farm flooding after rain. Felt all drains need jetting.

Disabled scooter unable to pass bollards on jitty entrance on High St opposite Antiques shop.

Clerk to inform Highways.

BG reported a manhole cover had lifted outside 23 Carrs Way and is now a trip hazard.

Green bin at the end of Glassthorpe Lane needs replacing by a grey one as not being emptied. Clerk to contact SNC.

No action taken on 22 Carrs Way as yet. Clerk to report again.

Layby on A4500 represents health hazard. Human excrement, urine and Rats all an issue. Clerk to report to Environmental Health and Highways.

Tree on Hall Close is not felt to be a problem.

Sandy Lane speed restrictions would be discussed at a meeting on Nov 4<sup>th</sup>

BB reported “Gas Board” signs outside Hall Close.

**Lighting.** Lights 70 – Carrs Way, 4 – Upper High St, and 102 all reported. DB to check light 70 – Carrs Way.

**South View.** BJ reported that no action had been taken on anything that he had reported. Bus stop had flooded again after last rain. Helen Howard had visited on a nice day! Signs had blown into fields alongside the road between Kislingbury Turn and the bridge. Footpath on South side of A4500 overgrown. Former pump station site still overgrown.

Mr Harper had expressed concerns at cyclists ignoring a sign on South View.

**8 Planning.**

S/2015/1691/FUL	42 High Street	Change of use from highway land to residential curtilage.	Approved
S/2015/2286/AGD	The Closes Glassthorpe Lane	Determine whether prior approval required for erection of agricultural building in respect of: siting, design and external appearance of building.	Information only
S/2015/2257/FUL	86 Larkhall Lane	Demolish existing bungalow, construct dwelling with altered vehicular access	
S/2015/1068/FUL	Land off Larkhall Lane,	3 No. dwelling houses and associated garages.	Approved

Planning meeting set for 20<sup>th</sup> Oct to discuss 86 Larkhall Lane.

**Resolved.** Comments of Planning Committee to be passed to SNC.

- 11 Scarecrow event** –AGM due. Concerns over apathy. Newsletter to ask for potential projects. NF suggested tarmac car park on Playing Fields, which would help with school run.
- 12 EGM report** – MJ referred to Cllr KC’s letter and felt there were issues. Her first apology had not come until September, and her account of the Larkhall Lane hearing and aftermath do not match Councillors memories. Councillors wondered how a District Councillor could represent a Parish when unable to attend their meetings because chairing another Parish Council. A vote of no confidence proposed.

**Resolved.** Council has no confidence in Councillor Cooper.

Clerk to investigate further action.

Not felt that a judicial review was an option, but that a complaint to the government Ombudsman should be made.

Cllr AA’s explanation of her declaration of interest was accepted; DB felt that she could have informed Council as soon as she had made that decision, so that it was not a complete surprise at the hearing. DB also felt that para 33 of the Inspector’s report should have been referred to.

BG felt that naming him and referring to his status as a magistrate was inappropriate

- 13 Neighbourhood Plan** – DB reported the first topic plan drafts have been written. Consultant Alex Munro will review at next meeting and they will be shared with SNC. Barwood have been contacted for updates on Norwood Farm development. No response as yet. Expected that Hampton Brook will submit plans for J16 Industrial Park. (They have booked OSH for an exhibition on Nov 4<sup>th</sup>) SJ pointed out that HAT is funded as an NP front runner and does not need PC funding.

DB felt Council should be challenging SNC on the possible 49 houses slated to be built in the village in the Local Plan. He referred to the last social housing survey which suggested 11 affordable houses were needed. If Council suggested an affordable scheme of around this number, (and insisted Harpole was an exceptional case as all other housing needs would be supplied by the new developments in the Parish) – there might at least be a chance of exercising some control over who got these houses. SD felt more provision for an ageing population was appropriate.

- 14 Staff Assessment.** – deferred.
- 15 To Receive the External Auditors report.** The External Auditors had no comment to make on the Annual return. **Resolved.** Council accepted the External Auditors report.
- 16 War memorial – Resolved.** Council agreed to inform Church wardens and Rector about any proposed work on the war Memorial. Clerk to inform Rev French.
- 17 New Homes Bonus** – PFA asked for support for c. £2000 (repair Pavilion flat roof), and c £1000 towards ditch clearance. **Resolved.** Council would support these bids for NHB money.

**18 Correspondence**

*Cllr Addison- re declarations of interest –noted.*

*Cllr Cooper – re EGM draft minutes. –noted.*

*BDO – Audit docs –noted.*

*HSBC –noted.*

*SNC re parking–noted.*

*Mansell re hedge –noted.*

*NRHA Annual report –noted.*

*WPD - Umso certs –noted.*

*Wickstead – re gyms –noted.*

HAT – Harpole Action Team. SNC – South Northants Council NCC– Northamptonshire County Council OSHMC – Old School Hall Management Committee .

NCALC – Northants County Association of Local Councils. CLASP – Community Landscape & Archaeology Survey Project. WNJPU – West Northants Joint Planning Unit. SNH –South Northants homes

<b>19.</b>	Accounts for payment.	Chq no.	Amount	Incl VAT	Power used
1	G. Ravine – salary	Chq. 1150	£605.00		LGA 1972 s 112
2	Inland revenue. Tax 149 Nis 8.64. Emp Nis 9.38	Chq. 1151	£167.02		LGA 1972 s 112
3	R Howey- Bus shelter	Chq. 1152	£20.00		Clean N/hoods & Env/ Act 2005
4	AH Contracts- Dog bins	Chq. 1153	£72.00	£12.00	Clean N/hoods & Env/ Act 2005
5	Hampton Print – newsletter	Chq. 1154	£63.00		Local Gv’t Act 1972 S111
6	P Warden - grasscutting	Chq. 1155	£448.80	£74.80	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3Highways Act 1980 S301
7	D Gamble – Churchyard grass	Chq. 1156	£192.00	£32.00	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3Highways Act 1980 S301
8	Heritage group ½ yr payment	Chq. 1157	£500.00		LGA 1972 s 137
9	Playing Field ½ yr payment	Chq. 1158	£1500.00		LG(MP)A 1976 s19
10	Old School hall ½ yr payment	Chq. 1159	£1750.00		LG(MP)A 1976 s19
11	J Nickolls – Flagpole maint	Chq. 1160	£95.00		Parish Councils Act 1957 s3Highways Act 1980 S301
12	Leander Architectural – finger post	Chq. 1161	£1077.48	179.58	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
13	NCALC Chairmanship training course	Chq. 1162	£39.00		LGA 1972 s 114
14	South Northants Council- Election expenses	Chq. 1163	£874.97		LGA 1972 s 112
15	Eon- quarterly light maint	Chq. 1164	£436.10	£72.68	Parish C Act 1957 s3Hways Act 1980 S301
16	BDO – external audit	Chq. 1165	£276.00	£46.00	

**Resolved.** Payments to be made.

Bank balances HSBC Community Account £89,274.74 16/9/2015

**21. Items for next agenda.** Scarecrow.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.**

Full Council Oct 26<sup>th</sup>. H&F committee & Finance meeting. Nov 9<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting.

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.48*

<http://www.harpole.org.uk> [harpoleparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:harpoleparishcouncil@gmail.com)