

**MINUTES of the meeting of HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL held on Sept 14th 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		Mrs R Gibbins
Mr B Gibbins	Mr S Drinkwater		Mr D Starmer	Mr C Wilkinson
	Cllr J Kirkbride. NCC	3 members of the Public	Clerk, G Ravine	

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Mr J Calderwood (Holiday) Miss S Eason (Work), Mr. B. Justice, Mr N Faulkner. Apologies accepted by Council. Cllrs A Addison & K Cooper SNC
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** DS regarding PFA, land on Manor farm and near J16. RG re allotments. DS, DB re allotments. CW regarding Larkhall Lane.
- 3 REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATE.** None
- 4 PUBLIC DISCUSSION.** A member of the public thanked Council for their efforts in opposing the proposed development at the former nursery site. This would go to committee on Sept 24th. Chair felt impotent against developers. BG felt that always fighting a losing battle. Cllr JK felt that SNC was turning down large developments, but letting smaller ones through and bemoaned the fact that so many large houses were being built, when smaller affordable ones were what was needed to allow children to stay in their home villages. Clerk to pass council's comments on to Cllr JK.
- John Gibbins reported that the Allotments Association had been in existence for a year now, and shared concerns about the level of development and its effect on the allotments. They are keen to resolve the issue of the hedge between the allotments and the School. He gave council a copy of proposals and letters supporting them. DB felt more allotment land would be needed with the new building. He asked about green spaces in the Neighbourhood Plan. DB replied that a specialist had been asked to draft the plan. A Housing needs survey had suggested that 11 new homes were needed in the village and felt that another affordable homes scheme might be mooted. The Neighbourhood Plan open meeting had been poorly attended and the lack of interest was regretted; another was planned.
- 5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the meeting of Aug 10th 2015. **Resolved.** The minutes and agenda were accepted as a true record, (with one small change) and signed.
- 6 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.** There had been no reply from Gary Crouch about Heygates vehicles using Glassthorpe lane.
- 7 REPORTS FROM ADVISORY GROUPS.**
- Allotments.** School hedge cut, but not well. RG felt a meeting between Council, the Allotments Association and the School was desirable to sort out the situation. RG to facilitate. The hay has been cut. Plot holders had been reminded to lock gates during the Scarecrow Weekend. RG would look into the production of renewed signage. There was disagreement as to whether private signs were appropriate.
- Allotments Association had applied to Northampton Community Funding for funds for microplots and communal fruit trees and bushes. They wish to plant a "Bee World" as part of a national project, this does not involve hives. Friends of the Earth had been approached, but they required a letter of support from the land owner. Resolved. Council support creation of a "Bee world". Clerk to write letter of support.
- Churchyard.** Clerk had received a letter from the Rector about the War Memorial.
- Finance.** Clerk had sent more details about the Annual General return. Precept meeting to follow October 26th Highways meeting at 8pm.
- Footpaths/Highways.** Disabled scooter unable to pass bollards on jitty entrance on High St opposite Antiques shop. Clerk to inform Highways.
- There had been complaints about road closures during the Scarecrow Weekend. Coning had caused problems. Large pothole at entrance to Duck Lane, outside 44 High St.
- Drains had been overwhelmed I Larkhall Lane during a cloudburst. Clerk had reported.
- DB felt that BT had damaged pipes during work on a telegraph pole outside 53 Upper High St.
- Jitty between Larkhall Lane and Manor Close overgrown. And in poor condition.
- Mrs Hine had expressed fears that Sandy Lane had become more dangerous due to an increase in traffic due to work starting on building at Harlestone. Clerk to contact Helen Howard and ask for a site meeting with a view to asking for a speed reduction. CW felt that Council should ask for police training about speed awareness.
- MJ felt that the bus parked in the Red Lion layby would not pass another MOT.
- Heygates vehicles were still badly driven on Glassthorpe Lane.
- Lighting.** Northampton Road light had been moved. New Garners Way light had been installed.
- South View.** Drainage at roundabout still poor. Clerk to report to Streetdoctor.

8	PLANNING			
	S/2015/1691/FUL	42 High Street	Change of use from highway land to residential garden.	Clerk had contacted Land Registry but ownership of land still not clear.
	S/2015/1309/LDP	42 High Street	Replace existing fence increasing the height to 1.4 metres	Refusal
	S/2015/1550/SCO	Norwood Farm	Scoping opinion proposed residential led mix use d' ment	Scoping Opinion Issued
	S/2015/1068/FUL	Land off Larkhall Ln	3 No. dwelling houses and associated garages.	Awaiting Committee

S/2015/1578/FUL	School Lane	Demolish existing wooden workshop, erect new dwelling	Refusal
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Re Larkhall Lane – the size of the houses was felt to be inappropriate, if houses had to be built here they should be affordable houses. Council unhappy that housing was to be allowed when an offer had been made for the land to continue it's use as a nursery. DB to compose a response and send to Clerk.

SE to attend hearing on Sept 24th.

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

9. **A review of the planning system** – MJ had provided comments expressing general feeling of powerlessness against rising tide of building, much of which was inappropriate. Infrastructure improvement and affordable housing was stressed.
 - 10 **Neighbourhood Plan** – DB referred to a process to get land registered as a country park. Clerk to investigate as there were fears that the land between the village and Sandy Lane would be swallowed up by development. Discussion regarding the SNC Local Plan housing targets which suggest that Harpole village should plan to build 49 houses during the plan period. We are to propose alternative numbers as JCS building within the parish will cater for most needs. Councillors to think about and discuss at next meeting whether we should be looking at another affordable housing scheme to cover the requirements highlighted in the latest housing needs survey for local people, and if so how big and where it should be sited.
 - 11 **Staff Assessment. – Deferred.**
 - 12 **Posting events on the website.-** Sue Burt to be asked to comment. A facility for the website to send out e-mails for events etc. would be investigated.
 - 13 **War memorial** – Clerk had received a letter from the rector. Discussion deferred in the absence of JC..
 - 14 **Casual Vacancy** –SNC have given permission to co-opt. vacancy to be advertised in newsletter and noticeboards.
 - 15 **Insurance** – Three quotes considered, from Ecclesiastical, Hiscox and Aviva.
- Resolved.** Hiscox quote for £692.99 accepted, as first year cost in a three year agreement.

16 Correspondence

CPRE - subs. Resolved – Subscription renewed at a cost of £36
 Rev'd French re War memorial.- noted
 NCALC update .- noted
 Mowerman – re maintenance.- noted
 Mansell – re allotments .- noted
 NCC re Allotments survey .- noted. Clerk to re-send to RG.
 Rampchild .- noted
 SNC re co-option permission given. .- noted
 S Hine – re Sandy Lane.- 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

	Accounts for payment.	Chq no.	Amount	Incl VAT	Power used
1	G. Ravine – salary	Chq. 1137	£664.32	gross	LGA 1972 s 112
2	Inland revenue. Tax 166.20 Nis 19.20. Emp Nis 21.53	Chq. 1138	£206.93		LGA 1972 s 112
3	R Howey- Bus shelter	Chq. 1139	£20.00		Clean N/hoods & Env/ Act 2005
4	AH Contracts- Dog bins	Chq. 1140	£72.00	£12.00	Local Gv't Act 1972 S112
5	Hampton Print – newsletter	Chq. 1141	£63.00		Parish Councils Act 1957 s3Highways Act 1980 S301
6	P Warden - grasscutting	Chq. 1142	£448.80	£74.80	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3Highways Act 1980 S301
7	D Gamble – Churchyard grass	Chq. 1143	£192.00	£32.00	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3Highways Act 1980 S301
8	Eon – Hall Close replacement	Chq. 1144	£1170.00	£195.00	Parish Councils Act 1957
9	Eon – Light moved in Northampton Rd	Chq. 1145	£2509.20	£418.20	Parish Councils Act 1957
10	Eon – new light Garners way	Chq. 1146	£2448.00	£408.00	Parish Councils Act 1957
11	Came and Co – Insurance renewal 3 yr	Chq. 1147	£692.99		
12	MG Window systems - OSH windows	Chq. 1148	£4938.00		
13	CPRE - subscription	Chq. 1148	£36.00		
	Income – Bowls Club Rent		£250.00		
	Bowls Club water		£404.65		

Resolved. Payments to be made.

Bank balances HSBC Community Account £95,244.70 16/7/2015

21. Items for next agenda. Affordable Housing discussion. Country Park application.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Full Council Oct 12th .

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.48

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