



Present:

Mrs M Jones (Chair), Mr B. Gibbins, , Mr D. Ballard, Mr C. Wilkinson, Mr B. Briscoe, Mr D Starmer, Mrs R. Gibbins, Mr S. Drinkwater, Miss S. Eason, Mr J. Calderwood, Mr N. Faulkner, Mr B. Justice & Clerk G. Ravine.

Apologies:

Cllr J. Kirkbride NCC, Cllrs A Addison & K Cooper SNC

Public: 4

Various members of the public raised concerns about the size of the potholes from 59 Upper High Street upwards to the top of Road Hill.

Drains in Hill Lane are blocked & causing surface water from the fields to run down the road.

Parking in the village particularly in Garners Way & Chester Avenue is becoming a hazard with people parking irresponsibly.

Potholes are being filled inadequately & a suggestion was made to ask that highways to cut them out properly & seal them at the edges.

Questions were asked why there is a lack of District Councillors attending each meeting. It seems to villagers that we are being abandoned given the important planning issues which are arising on the outskirts of this village.

White lines are missing at the entrance to South View – these will be restored in 3 months.

There is a concern over flooding in the area of & including South View.

An absent member of the public relayed a message via a member of the council – wishing members of the Parish Council a Happy New Year & thanking them for their hard work over the past 12 months & for their continued work over the next year.

Allotments:

Contact us on:-
Twitter @harpole_village
Visit our Website <http://www.harpole.org.uk/>

The hedge around the School & allotments has had some short term work done on it & is looking much better. More extensive work will take place when time & money permits.

A big thank you to Mr Thorpe, Head of the Primary School, for all his help & support around this issue. Land where the School & grounds are is owned by the Free School Charity & they will help fund this project.

The field hedges have not yet been cut due to the weather & the land being very wet to take the machinery.

Churchyard:

The Rectory Hedge which borders the Churchyard has been cut back.

In the recent high winds a branch fell down on one of the graves – thanks go to Louis Gibbins for dealing with this free of charge.

Footpaths:

Reports have been received about the verges in Chester Avenue / Glassthorpe Lane being churned up by the Bin Lorry or the Bin cleaner Van. The Vice Chair inspected these following the call – it seems that there is very little either vehicles can do other than mount the verges in this area, as the parked cars take up half of the road & these other vehicles are wider so to avoid parked cars this has to be done.

Some discussion took place about this area. Currently the thin grass strips are used for parking on & are not only a mess but also restrict pedestrians passing down the pavement with ease.

Ditches at the top of Road Hill are full of water & need some investigation as the water is not draining away.

Grass verges throughout the village are



being churned up in the inclement weather. Where possible DO NOT park on the verges in wet weather & take care when doing so – if large holes are made please fill them in to avoid looking unsightly & being dangerous.

Please be aware when parking in the village – where rows of vehicles are parked on one side & then change to the other, make sure enough room is left for an emergency vehicle to pass through. Some cars are parking on pavements either just on or all 4 wheels on – this is an offence & any obstructions should be reported to the Police. Parking around the Old School Hall is causing some concern where cars park near to the side gate, this reduces the vision of cars passing up & down School Lane safely. Possibilities were discussed around placing cones a cars length away from the blind corner to try to stop cars parking & opening the view.

Layby on A45 near to the Red Lion will again be reported as the rubbish has again become a disgrace.

Lighting:

Lights in Park Lane & Orchard Way have been reported & the light on the Baptist Chapel will be reported.

Planning:

Plans have been received for a two storey dwelling on land adj to 44 Upper High Street & illuminated & non illuminated signs to the Turnpike. A meeting to discuss this will have taken place on 14th January.

Applications for 1 Shepherds walk – Two Storey Extension & Riding Hill Farm - Conversion of farm buildings to dog boarding kennels have been approved by SNC.

South View:

Following concerns around flooding the drains on the roundabout & A45 will be reported again as they are full of silt. Manhole cover opposite South View is

open & will be reported. Bags of rubbish have been dumped in the small spinney just before the river & may be blocking the ditches causing water to back up & not draining down to the river.

Neighbourhood Plan:

Tri Parish meetings are taking place between representatives of the PC & Duston & Harlestone. It is thought that fighting planning as a band of 3 villages is better than trying on our own. The PC have sent SNC a Solicitors letter detailing points of concern where the developer is proposing to build outside of the agreed JCS. Further details can be found on the HAT website & Barwoods are planning a consultation to the village by the end of January.

Vacancy:

One application has been received & an interview committee will take place in the next few days.

Next Meeting:

The next highways meeting will be on January 25th at 7pm. The next general meeting will be held on February 8th at 7.30pm. Both are held at the Old School Hall.

All members of the public are invited & welcomed to attend any Parish Council Meeting – let us know your views, however trivial they might seem.

Copies of minutes are on the PC Notice Board outside the Old School Hall.

Clerk - Guy Ravine - 01327 340410
harpoleparishcouncil@gmail.com

Chair – Maxine Jones – 07515327261
maxpax4@outlook.com

Vice Chair – Sarah Eason – 07906066011
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Contact us on:-

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