

Harpole Parish Council Newsletter

Issue 03 – March 2016



Present:

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

Apologies:

Mrs S. Roberts (hols booked before appointment of position) Cllr J. Kirkbride NCC (attending Bugbrooke PC), Cllrs A. Addison (attending a meeting in Oxford) & K Cooper (Chair of Gayton PC) SNC.

Public: 3

A member of the public asked about the Neighbourhood Plan, advising that the previous newsletter stated a draft has been written. He asked if it is ready for public view & can changes be made if needed.

Neighbourhood Plan:

A NP draft has been written & passed on to a professional company who are writing it in the correct format which is needed. It is hoped that it will be ready for a public consultation in April. Any comments or views can then be included before it goes to final draft. Further information on proposed planning is available on the HAT website.

Allotments:

Nearly all of the plots are now sorted out & rents are paid. Following the hedge being cut, Rita & 2 allotment holders did a litter pick along the Larkhall Lane side of the allotments. Thanks go to John Gibbins & Carmen Boyes for assisting with this. Following a complaint from a householder over the cutting of a boundary hedge, it was decided that permission will be given for the hedge to be lowered. The householder can erect a fence on their own ground without permission. Please remember any problems with any hedges or anything which is on PC land, feel free to come & talk to us, face to face so that we can sort things out amicably. If you feel we are not listening then you can request a face to face meeting to avoid confrontational emails. The Boundary Hedge around the school is being attended to when time & money allow. Road plainings are to be sourced to fill in the holes on the access roads in the allotments.

Footpaths:

Various potholes around the village have been reported.

The leak near to Hill Lane has been mended & the repair on the road has been completed properly. Some of the other potholes in Road Hill have also been repaired properly, however the PC are concerned as to why the rest of the potholes in Road Hill were not completed whilst the road was closed.

The PC have another dog bin to site, if anyone knows of a suitable area, then please contact a member of the Parish Council. There are currently dog bins next to the Old School Hall, in Northampton Road, Hill Lane, Park Lane, South View & Glassthorpe Lane.

Dog owners are requested to pick up after their dogs & deposit it in the dog bins provided. Please do not throw plastic bags of dog mess in to the ditches, trees or vegetation. The Parish Council are aware that some disgruntled members of the public have set up cameras for filming possible offenders.

A letter will be sent following a complaint from a householder in South View concerned about the safety of cyclists passing driveways near to the sign which states no cycle path. Highways are to be asked to possibly move this sign so that it can be seen early enough & cyclists will be aware.

Flooding:

After the recent rain many areas experienced flooding including South View & Larkhall Way. The Housing Association have been contacted regarding Larkhall Way – it is thought the flood attenuation tank is in the wrong place, a ditch is needed to channel the water straight in to the ditch, avoiding the houses. A timeline is being drafted & will be sent together with a letter asking to be kept informed of what is going to be done to avoid this happening in the future.

The Chair met with a member of the Highways department in South View following the closure of the A4500 due to the amount of water. The ditch from Sandy Lane to the A4500 is full of hard-core & the drains are blocked (these have been continually reported over the past years). A letter is to be sent to the landowners to ask them to clear the ditches & highways will blast the drains to clear them.

Contact us on:-

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The ditches from the A4500 down to the river are also full of rubbish – letters will be sent to the landowners.

Clean for the Queen:

Following an initiative from the WI last month, the PC were asked to organise a litter pick for this event. However it was thought that the PC could support anyone doing it, but could not organise it as many of our members are volunteers on many other organisations who would be taking part. Also it would be up to each organisation to have the relevant insurance to take part.

Members from various organisations within the village have taken part in the Clean for the Queen event by doing a litter pick in & around the village, including part of Road Hill. These included members of the Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Boys Brigade & the WI will be doing their part of the event on May 21st – thanks go to all of the volunteers for their hard work & community spirit.

Churchyard:

Following a meeting of the Churchyard Committee, work has been instructed to remove 4 Yew Trees, hedges are to be trimmed, cut back & shaped once the birds have finished nesting.

Planning:

The signs at the Turnpike have been approved. The application for a 2 storey detached dwelling on Land at rear of 44 Upper High Street has been withdrawn. A meeting was held prior to the PC meeting to discuss applications for 84b Larkhall Lane – No objections raised & 36 Larkhall Lane – we supported the application. The application for Land at Junction 16 will be discussed at a meeting on 17th March.

A discussion took place around a wish list for the Playing Field Committee & the Football Club for part of the Green Area, Barwoods & the recent consultation. The recent consultation held in Duston was a Pre Application consultation, not a formal application - this has not yet been received.

Parish Meeting:

The meeting next month is our Annual Parish Meeting.

Organisations are invited to attend & give a report of their years' work, what they do & any highlights.

Those organisations who receive a grant from the PC, are obliged to give a report - a copy of their accounts are also needed.

A copy of each report should also be sent via email (where possible) to the Clerk for insertion in the minutes.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is on Monday April 11th with the Parish Meeting starting at 7pm & a reduced agenda being discussed after that.

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.

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