



Present:

Mrs M Jones (Chair), Miss S. Eason, Mrs S. Roberts, Mrs R. Gibbins, Mr J. Calderwood, Mr B. Gibbins, Mr B. Briscoe, Mr B. Justice, Mr C. Wilkinson, Mr D. Starmer, Mr P. Marlow, Mr S. Drinkwater, Clerk G. Ravine & Cllr J. Kirkbride.

Apologies:

Mr M. Marketis & Cllr A. Addison.

Public Discussion: (2)

Questions were raised about the litter bins outside of the Primary School & near to the entrance of the garages in Larkhall Lane – the bottoms have been left hanging open & it is wondered if they have broken mechanisms. Concerns were raised over how regularly the street bins are & should be emptied. The Clerk will ask the question to the relevant authorities.

There are various building works around the village & it is felt these are not helping with the poor states of roads, verges & pavements. Builders need to make new in the vicinity where they are working, however there is no point them doing this until they have finished the work. Please be patient, the Council is on top of it & has already approached some builders.

Joan Kirkbride reported that she will not be standing for the District Council again in May, following 20 years in the post. Joan thanked the council for always treating her courteously when she has attended & in turn the council thanked her for all of her help & support she has given over the years. Joan reported that Council Tax will see an increase in the next financial year with extra funding needed for adult social care – this is a countrywide problem.

Matters Arising:

The bin at the end of Glassthorpe Lane – a letter has been received asking what type of rubbish will be going in it, so they can establish what type of bin is needed. As it was originally put there for general rubbish to be put it was felt a black bin would be more use for general litter.

Allotments:

Three quarters of the rents have been collected & there are some vacant plots available.

Churchyard:

A letter has been received from the Old Rectory advising that a large tree's roots in the Church Yard are intruding on a neighbouring wall on the boundary & making it unsafe. Rebuilding of the wall will commence on the 20th February & questions were raised over having the tree removed. The tree in question, in the North West corner is healthy & acts as a good screen for the Churchyard, it is also in the Conservation Area. A site meeting will take place on Thursday 16th Feb with the Churchyard Committee & the Parish Tree Warden to decide on the best course of action. Removal of trees in Conservation Area has to go through SNC at Towcester.

Highways & Footpaths:

A letter was sent from the Old School Hall Committee to residents in the area of School Lane & the Motts regarding problems with parking. Ideas are being sought & parishioners are encouraged to attend PC meetings to raise any issues & ideas. This is not just unique to this area, but to the entire village. There are also a lot of potholes & poor surfaces around the village. Parishioners are asked to report the holes via Street Doctor – this can be done following the link on the village web page or by phone to SNC. The more people who report these holes, the more likely they will be to do something about it. The potholes in Garners Way are currently on a 4 month job ticket! Following a recommendation from Joan Kirkbride, Helen Howard will be asked to come out & inspect the worst areas.

Following many near misses at Harpole Turn due to people u-turning & 2 serious accidents in the past few months, Helen Howard will be asked to send out the Road Safety Inspector to look at the need for a No U-turn sign to be put on to the A4500 turn in to Harpole. Parking in the area of the Old Peoples Bungalows & Mount Pleasant is very poor & whilst we recognise a need for grass areas to be cut out for better parking, it is reminded that parking in this area needs to be mindful. Do not just leave room for a car to pass but think of emergency vehicles – in recent weeks a number of ambulances have had to reverse down the road due to lack of space to get through, think also of the angle which vehicles have to get through – people's lives could be at risk.

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South View:

There will be a road closure on the 19th March & the 26th March from Junction 16 stopping traffic coming down the A4500 as the Kislingbury Turn Roundabout will be closed (subject to the weather) for essential repairs, to drains & ditches.

Youth Club:

Reports made to the council from representatives on the YC – thanking the PC for financial assistance with the refurbishments to the building.

Planning:

Meeting held on Jan 16th to discuss:

S/2016/3184/FUL - 15 Upper High Street
Demolish conservatory & replace rear extension – No objections.

S/2016/3032/FUL – Lavender Cottage
Nobottle Nursery Change of use of static caravan – mess hut to residential. New static caravan for accomm. Cabin for kitchen/dining. Wood shed for laundry for students March-Sept. Walkway with picket fence. Additional car parking. It is unclear from the plans as to what the actual business entails. The application looks more like a traveller's site & would have benefitted from being placed away from the roadside, as the current siting raises concerns about safety.

The Nobottle Road is an extremely busy road & the entrance to the site is very tight. How will the students leave the site to use the local amenities, as stated in the application, as there is no pedestrian access – more vehicular transport will be coming & going throughout these 2 months? Harpole PC has had no input in this application, despite the report saying it has & the 'Local Guru' (as stated in application) does not know anything about the reference made. The applicants would have benefitted coming to a PC meeting to explain their desire to the Parish Council.

· A statement about housing 'Olga' is made – Who or What is Olga? The council are concerned about the enterprise & feel it is not appropriate for the rural area. There are fears of contamination with over use of existing facilities & foul water which currently overflows into Dallington Brook.

S/2017/0258/FUL – 86 Larkhall Lane Variation condition 2 (plans) of planning permission
S/2015/2257/FUL (Replacement dwelling) to allow inclusion of solar panels on flat roof - No comment.

S/2017/0066/MAF – 84b Larkhall Lane –
Demolish Nissan Hut, new 3m track & stable block & tack room/feed store. – No objection although it is thought bats frequent this site & this should be taken into consideration.

S/2017/0028/FUL – 82 Larkhall Lane
Proposed two storey extension to front – No objections

Neighbourhood Plan:

All the documents have been submitted & the Inspector has been appointed to review the documentation.

Red Lion:

This area is in the worst state it has ever been, with rubbish, people living in vehicles; it is an environmental issue & a threat to wildlife.

There is a health hazard with human waste, rats & it is felt that the mound of earth blocking the lay-by from the road is a problem as it is 'out of sight out of mind'. Various points will be raised with the authorities & it is hoped something will soon be done about its state.

Date of next meetings:

The next highways meeting is on Monday 27th February and the next PC meeting is on Monday 13th March.

If you have anything to discuss or just want to listen – you are invited & will be most welcome to all Parish Council meetings. Let us know your views, come along and have your say.

Look on the locked board outside of the Old School Hall, or contact the Clerk for a copy of the minutes.

Planning meetings are advertised on the Notice Boards or on the Website.

Clerk - Guy Ravine - 01327 340410

harpoleparishcouncil@gmail.com

Chair – Maxine Jones – 07515327261
maxpax4@outlook.com

Vice Chair – Sarah Eason
saraheason670@btinternet.com

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