

Harpole Parish Council Newsletter

Issue 10

Meeting held on November 14th 2016



Present:

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

Apologies:

Cllrs A. Addison, J. Kirkbride & K. Cooper.

Public Discussion (2):

Mr J. Gibbins complained about the state of Larkhall Lane's Road Surface & felt the development at the Nurseries should be held to account. *Highways have already been contacted on this matter & it does not meet the criteria for a repair.*

He also referred to the difficulty residents of Mount Pleasant have with parking, and felt parking spaces could be created on the green spaces in front of the bungalows & on the edge of Mount Pleasant. *This has been requested in the past by the council – Clerk to chase up with SNH.*

Approval of October minutes: Councillor B. Gibbins commented on the reference about District Councillors not attending meetings and still felt SNC should be contacted on this issue. The Council were made aware that they are not obliged to attend Parish Council meetings.

Allotments

Councillor R. Gibbins reported the Allotment Association's AGM had taken place with a very good turnout & the Committee had been formally accepted. Work on the school hedge/boundary has started, although the emergency gateway is yet to be erected. The Bowls Club hedge had been trimmed & the Allotments water had been turned off for the winter.

Highways/ Footpaths.

Councillor B. Gibbins expressed concern about cones left outside the Church East gate. Councillor Jones will contact the Scarecrow's Treasurer regarding these. Please be careful on the Footpaths, as the wet leaves are very slippery & may cause some difficulty when walking on them.

Potholes:

Correspondence received from Helen Howard at Highways regarding the state of our roads:

Regarding the condition of the highway in Harpole. I am sorry to learn of the concerns raised, but you may find it helpful if I provide you with some brief information on our maintenance policies which you can share. Northamptonshire Highways' maintenance policies & standards are aimed at providing an affordable & consistent approach across the whole highway network on a countywide basis. Our priority is to keep the network safe for all road & footway users, drivers, pedestrians & cyclists alike, & in practice this is achieved through our systems of regular inspections, as well as investigating reports from members of the public.

Contact us on:-

Twitter @harpole_village

Visit our Website <http://www.harpole.org.uk/>

Given the extensive highway network within the county I am sure you understand the need for a robust maintenance policy. The policy has been developed to ensure that the very limited funding is prioritised to the areas of most need. Safety defects on our highways are categorised according to their severity & have differing response times. For potholes on local access roads, our intervention levels start at a depth of 50mm/250mm wide, & 20mm/75mm wide for footways.

Unfortunately not all defects will be classed as safety defects since they will not be of sufficient severity to warrant action immediately, this doesn't mean that there are no defects present. We appreciate that this may give the impression that we are ignoring problems, but we have to prioritise our limited maintenance funding & resources & cannot fix all defects reported to us immediately.

Double Yellow Lines:

Following further correspondence on the request to make the single yellow line outside the playing fields, a double yellow line, a letter has been sent to Highways. It also requests a short line to be placed near to the allotment gate just along from the Primary School to create a pull in for passing vehicles.

Community Police Support Officer:

Harlestone PC put an idea out to other PC's about funding a CPSO between four or five villages & sharing the cost. Our Clerk made some enquiries & reported that along with £30,000 needed for funding per year, they would need an office as well. Councillors disagreed with progressing this at this time, however this could change in future with ongoing developments.

Silver Birch Trees:

Correspondence has been received from a householder requesting extensive maintenance to be carried out on the Silver Birch Trees near to the Bowls Club, as they are dropping their leaves into gardens & guttering's. After much discussion the Council decided to decline the request, on the basis, that leaves are only a problem, for everyone, for a few weeks of the year.

Grass cutting:

The contracts for the cutting of the grass are now up for renewal. Letters will be sent out to various contractors asking for quotes. Anyone else wishing to quote for this, should contact the Clerk on details at the end of this letter.

Lighting. The light on the corner of Glassthorpe Lane & Chester Avenue has been replaced, as has the one on the junction of School Lane and High St.

Hall Close light is still out of action, Thanks go to Marion Oliver for her efforts with phone calls etc. in dealing with this issue.

1st light on Larkhall Way is out & the light outside Methodist Chapel is still out.

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South View:

Following a recent car fire, the carriageway was repaired the next day. The drains have been inspected & marked ready for work to be carried out.

Bus Shelters:

A quote has been received & accepted to remove the front walls of the Bus Shelters at Harpole & Kislingbury Turn. This will make them more user friendly & deter unsociable behaviour.

Planning:

S/2016/2726/PA Land off of Sandy Lane – To determine whether prior approval required for change of use of agricultural building to 2 dwelling houses. (*Meeting on 6th December*)

S/2016/2455/FUL – First Floor Rear extension – 34 Upper High Street. (*Concern as to how materials will be transported to the rear of the property.*)

S/2016/2608/FUL – Variation of condition 2 to alter boundary, wall & gates & include solar panels on the roof – 86 Larkhall Lane (*Out of keeping with surrounding properties & concerns at height & nature of boundaries*)

A/2016/1648/FUL – Single Storey front extension, two storey side & single storey side ext. single storey rear ext. with balcony over - 84B Larkhall Lane. (*Committee support this appeal however are unable to make further comment to SNC.*)

S/2016/2282/NA – Neighbouring authority consultation, planning permission for construction 53 dwellings incl public space, balancing pond & assoc. infrastructure. – Whites Lane, Harlestone (*Objections raised*)

S/2016/2133/FUL – Single Storey front extension – 22 School Lane (*Approved*)

S/2016/2176/FUL – Single storey front extension, porch window, side ext. & rear ext. – 28 Garners Way (*Approved*)

S/2016/2041/FUL – Two storey side extension & rear first floor dormer extension – 43 Carr's Way (*Approved*)

S/2016/2314/FUL – Single & two storey rear extension – 14 High Street (*Approved*)
Ground Floor & 1st Floor side ext. 41 South View (*Meeting 6th December*).

Website:

Thanks go to David Lawrence for his work on the new website which not only incorporates the Parish Council but the Community of Harpole as well. David, who was in attendance, was thanked for his work & for taking pictures of the Council in progress, as well as individual pictures which will go on the site along with profiles of each councillor. The site will be launched within the next 10 days – see notice boards for details. Details will be sent to the many organisations in the village for them to keep their details updated.

Neighbourhood Plan:

SNC have now completed their consultation on our Neighbourhood Plan where 16 responses were received.

Contact us on:-

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Visit our Website <http://www.harpole.org.uk/>

If necessary changes will be made following this feedback & then the plan will go to the inspector.

Minibus:

Councillor Wilkinson has been looking in to the practicalities of a Community Minibus. Some interest has been expressed, however it would be the responsibility for the organisation who takes it on to maintain it & pay for the running costs. The PC would offer their support to anyone wishing to do this, however would not be willing to be responsible for it. The Chair will contact the School for their opinion. Anyone needing further details please contact the Clerk (details at the end of this newsletter).

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting is Highways followed by the Precept Meeting on the 28th November at 7pm at the Old School Hall.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday December 12th at 7.30pm & will be a shortened agenda.

Everyone is welcome to attend – why not come & share a glass of Christmas Cheer & a Mince Pie!

Draft Minutes can be viewed on the locked board outside of the Old School Hall, or by contacting our Clerk.

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

Chair – Maxine Jones – 07515327261
maxpax4@outlook.com

Vice Chair – Sarah Eason
saraheason670@btinternet.com

Harpole Parish Council wish everyone a Merry Christmas

& a Happy & Prosperous New Year