

HARTLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Meeting of Hartlebury Parish Council held at 7pm on Tuesday 5 April 2011

Present: Cllrs Mrs J Jones (Chairman), R Inman, Mrs C Boughton-Thomas, Mrs M Mathews, D Southall, N Dowty, H J Webb, D Stocker, Mrs W Southall, Mrs H Dixon.

In Attendance: Mrs J Hyrons (Clerk), County Councillor M Broomfield

1. Apologies: Cllrs T Harrop, A Bishop, A Cupper

2. Declarations of Interest:

a: Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to ensure their register of interest is updated.

b: Personal Interests: Cllr N Dowty (Item 6)

C: Prejudicial Interests: None

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time – see notes appended at end

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2011 were approved as a true record and signed by the chairman.

4. Reports:

a: Police: The police did not attend but emailed a report detailing issues within the parish. Bullet holes in signs have been reported which is worrying as the type of gun used must be licensed and the owner be a member of a Gun Club. Two property burglaries were reported in March as well as vehicle crime, copper / diesel theft and a number of fly tipping incidences.

b: Clerk:

Parish Paths: We have applied for funding for up to £500 from Worcs C.C for strimming footpaths and bridleways.

Affordable Housing: Nigel Potter has asked if the Parish Council would support a follow up survey to see if the need for affordable housing is still there. They are considering 10 units being built by the allotments. The Clerk was asked to write to him to ensure he is aware of covenants on that land and rumours of development within the parish which would need to include affordable housing. This will be an agenda item for the new Council.

Parking on Village Green: Quotes have been requested for small bollards to be put on the Village Green where a minority of residents continue to park. These quotes will be discussed at the next Playing Fields meeting.

Allotments: It appears that all allotment holders will be keeping their plot this year. We currently have 5 people on the waiting list.

WCC Closed Landfill: Work to install 4 extra boreholes has been completed - 2 on land owned / occupied by Wienerberger and 2 situated up on Walton Road. The purpose of these bore holes is to increase WCC's understanding of the gas and groundwater regimes.

Summerfield: A request from a resident for a dog bin was considered. Unfortunately Wychavon D.C will not take on the emptying of any more bins and therefore the Parish Council would need to incur excessive cost to accommodate this. Dog holders are reminded that it is their responsibility to pick up their dog's mess.

c: County Councillor: Cllr Broomfield reported that the Secretary of State has requested more time to assess the planning application for the incinerator. He encouraged everyone to write to the Secretary of State (over 200 letters have already been received) and he reported that Mark Garnier, MP for Wyre Forest, had also written objecting to the proposal. Worcs County Council must also consider the financial implications of this proposal and the savings that can be made by using alternative methods of waste disposal. Comment was made that the CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England) had not objected to the incinerator proposal – the Clerk was asked to write to them querying why not.

5. Finance: Payments totaling £1,567 were approved and passed for payment.

6. WAIL Meeting Room Charge: Further to the 29 meetings that the Parish Council has funded since WAIL was set up in January 2010 it was resolved that future funding be capped at one meeting per month for the next 12 months. This will be reviewed next March.

7. Annual Meeting of the Parish Council: Elections will be held for the 13 positions of Parish Councillor on May 5. Due to the regulations regarding the calling of meetings the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday May 17.

The following sub committees have also been changed to:

Planning – Tuesday 3 May 7pm in the Village Hall

Staffing – Tuesday 3 May in the Village Hall after the Planning Meeting

Allotments – Monday 13 June 6pm at the allotment site

Playing Fields – Monday 13 June 7pm on the Village Green.

It was resolved that salaries and contractors' fees due beginning May will be authorized by the Staffing Committee on 3 May subject to a set maximum figure.

8. Finance Meeting: The minutes of the Finance Meeting held 7 March 2011 were received and the amended budget adopted.

9. Wienerberger / Biffa Liaison Meeting: The minutes of the Wienerberger / Biffa Liaison Meeting held 10 March 2011 were received.

10. Hartlebury Trading Estate Liaison Meeting: The minutes of the Hartlebury Trading Estate Liaison Meeting held 31 March 2011 will be emailed to Councillors.

11. Waste Core Strategy Publication Document: It was resolved that the Clerk will respond to this consultation commenting that alternative strategies have not been effectively considered and questioning the original canvassing of residents of a need for an Energy from Waste facility by Mercia Waste.

12. Correspondence: The correspondence issued with the agenda was noted. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the District and County Councillors drawing to their attention the need to ensure that a good, robust and effective bid is made to secure funding for high speed broadband in Worcestershire's rural areas.

13. Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda:

It was suggested that all Councillors elected to the Parish Council in May put forward their thoughts on what they believe the Parish Council is and what they individually hope to achieve by being a Councillor.

Cars for sale on Highways and private land – the Clerk to liaise with the police and Wychavon D.C

The derelict state of the late Mr Lamb's property – the Clerk to contact Wychavon.

Council Tax – the clerk was asked to contact Wychavon who had sent out Council Tax literature wrongly stating that the Parish Council had increased its precept by 0.2%. The Clerk will put a notice in the Parish Magazine to confirm that no increase has been applied.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 17 May 2011 at 7pm at Hartlebury Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed(Chairman) Dated

Notes from Public Question Time

Two residents attended to provide Councillors with additional information regarding their planning application which was being considered at the Planning Meeting.

One resident attended to update Councillors on matters concerning the Hartlebury Trading Estate and the covenant. He was disappointed that the trading estate has not responded to his concerns. Noise from Wienerberger continues to be an issue for residents in the vicinity and logs are being made of dates / times when it is particularly bad – this will be copied to the Trading Estate Management. The resident is in communication with Keith Handy at Wychavon D.C.

He restated that residents must be protected by this covenant and that the County, District and Parish Councils should be working to the resolution of these issues. The Chairman confirmed that the issues had been raised at the recent Liaison Meetings with the Trading Estate and Wienerberger and the Clerk was asked to send the minutes of these meetings to the resident.