

HARTLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Meeting of Hartlebury Parish Council held at Hartlebury Parish Hall at 7pm on Tuesday 1 February 2011

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

In Attendance: Mrs J Hyrons (Clerk), County Cllr M Broomfield, CSO Andrea Leslie

1. Apologies: Cllrs Mrs J Jones, T Harrop, Mrs H Dixon, 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 7

C: Prejudicial Interests: None

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

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 4 January 2011 were approved as a true record and signed by the chairman.

4. Reports:

a: Police: CSO Andrea Leslie apologised for her lack of attendance due to both operational and shift issues. Whilst crime remains low in Hartlebury there has been a burglary as well as car crime in the last month. In addition, fuel thefts and scrap metal thefts are becoming more prevalent in the rural areas so a lot of police time is being spent dealing with this. Residents with external fuel tanks are urged to fit fuel alarms. Councillors were informed of the new website www.police.uk where anyone can log in to look at local crime information.

b: Clerk:

Planning Complaint: Jack Hegarty has responded to our query on the role of the Parish Council in planning – he is keen to point out that the Parish Council's views are taken into consideration by the Planning Department.

The Localism Bill: Peter Luff, MP, has written to all Parish Councils providing more information about the Localism Bill. Wychavon D.C has produced notes on Planning Reform Measures in the Localism Bill and Community Empowerment.

Talbot: Work continues with the hope that the pub will re-open in February. The Enforcement Officer has been asked to look at an intrusive extractor fan on the listed building.

Station Road: The road will be closed for one or two weekends in February to undertake repairs to the soffit of the bridge deck. No firm dates have been given.

Potholes: These are being repaired when reported. Station Road carriageway on the crossing is marked for repair but no date yet.

Inn Lane: It was agreed to request that the centre white lines are not painted on the road which should reduce the speed of traffic now that the road has been resurfaced.

Eon: Eon sent a demonstration pack containing items a household should have during a power cut (analogue telephone, torch and batteries, wind up mobile phone charger, battery operated radio, foil blanket and reusable hand warmer).

Conservation Area: The approved boundary map is available on the website.

c: County Councillor: Cllr Broomfield urged Councillors and residents to attend the Planning Committee meeting on 1 March 2011 when the proposed incinerator will be discussed. He reiterated that budget cuts will affect everyone and bus services will be considerably reduced.

d: WAIL: Further to the request from the WAIL representatives at Public Question Time it was agreed that the Clerk will write to all members of the Planning Committee reminding them of the terrific financial burden the Private Finance Initiative will be placing on all of us for generations to come if they approve the application to build an incinerator. The Parish Council will be formally represented at the Planning Committee on 1 March.

The issue of Incinerator Bottom Ash being sent to the Hartlebury Landfill has been brought up by a couple of residents. Councillors understand that this waste is classed as “non-hazardous” by the Environment Agency which is allowed under the terms of the landfill permit. There is no information that the permit is being breached. If the Parish Council has positive information that it is being breached then action would need to be taken

5. Finance: Payments totaling £1,175 were approved and passed for payment.

6. Elections: The Clerk issued Councillors with a timetable of proceedings for the elections on 5 May 2011. This will be available on the website. The Clerk will issue Nomination Packs to existing Councillors and will hold a supply for other interested residents. Councillors were informed that, should the Parish Council elections be “Contested” (i.e.: more nominees than seats) then the Parish Council will be liable for up to 50% of the election cost which could be well in excess of £1,000. This will be a cost on the precept.

7. WAIL Meeting Room Charge: It was agreed that this should be postponed until March in view of the impending decision on the planning application.

8. Playing Fields Committee: The minutes of the Playing Fields Committee held on 25 January 2011 were received and all recommendations agreed by the full Council.

9. Correspondence: The correspondence issued with the agenda was noted.

10. Councillors’ Reports and Items for Future Agenda:

Mr R Bell from Lincomb Lane sent his thanks to the Parish Council for their kind words on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

11. Date of Next Meeting: After the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 1 March 2011 at Hartlebury Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed(Chairman)

Dated

Public Question Time

2 representatives from Hartlebury Primary School attended to hear the thoughts of the Safer Roads Partnership and Highways regarding speeding in the village and, specifically, around the school site.

2 representatives from WAIL attended to inform Councillors of the work that WAIL are doing in the run up to the 1 March 2011 when the Planning Committee consider the planning application for the incinerator. WAIL has organized a public meeting for 7.30pm on Tuesday 15 February at Hartlebury Village Hall to let residents know what they can do to help in the opposition of the incinerator. A newsletter will be issued to residents within Hartlebury and the neighbouring parishes urging them to attend the Planning Committee meeting and the representatives requested that the Parish Council write to the individual members of the Planning Committee to remind them of their objections. This was discussed in the meeting.

1 attendee asked the Clerk to report the poor footway along Station Road to Highways.

Rodney Reynolds (Safer Roads Partnership – Police) and Dave Clee (Safer Roads Team – Highways) were invited to attend the Parish Council meeting to discuss the possibility of speed enforcement throughout the village. This was felt by Councillors to be a quicker and cheaper method of reducing speed. Rodney explained that speed enforcement was a “last resort” as it effectively means people are being criminalized but he did agree to support the local policing team in sporadic enforcement. He was not able to offer signage or permanent levels of enforcement due to budget cuts.

Dave Clee once again explained the review of the A & B class roads which is almost complete. Whilst the 40MPH speed limit will remain on A4025 (Mitre Oak – Chadwick Bank) minor engineering work will be done to reduce vehicle speed. Rectory Lane around the school has already been noted as causing speed issues which is why the high profile flashing lights were installed. Councillors were pleased to hear that the 30MPH sign on the approach into Hartlebury on Rectory Lane from A449 will be moved further back to reduce the speed of traffic outside the school. The Parish Council requested this some years ago. Dave was asked if Hartlebury Primary School could get two “20MPH when lights flashing” sign (as at Wilden School). Unfortunately there is no budget for the £3000 required although he can facilitate the work if any group can find the funding.