

HARTLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllrs Mrs J Jones (Chairman), A Bishop, Mrs C Boughton-Thomas, A Cupper, D Southall, D Stocker, H J Webb, Mrs L Brookes, P Holden, G Howard, R Kirby

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

1. Apologies: Cllrs N Dowty and A Jones,

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: See below

C: Prejudicial Interests: Cllrs Mrs L Brookes, R Kirby, P Holden (Item 7 – these Councillors left the room for the discussion and vote)

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

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2011 were approved as a true record and signed by the chairman.

4. Reports:

a: Police: CSO Leslie reported that fuel thefts were drastically reduced but there had been a number of pallet thefts on Hartlebury Trading Estate, a vehicle damaged on Old Worcester Road and WAIL banners vandalised. Incidents at Hartlebury Common had taken place – court proceedings were continuing. The Safer Roads Partnership is continuing to monitor the speed of traffic along Old Worcester Road following speed enforcement. One Councillor asked if a weight / width limit of HGV's using Rectory Lane, Inn Lane and Quarry Bank could be enforced. P.C Richard Davies is retiring this month – the Clerk was asked to write to him to thank him for his support in Hartlebury.

b: Clerk:

Incinerator: Jack Hegarty (Managing Director – Wychavon) does not intend that the District Council will speak at the Public Inquiry but will prepare a “strong written statement” to supplement their previous report.

Footpaths: A lot of these have now been strimmed as a result of our £500 funding.

Annual Return: We have been nominated as one of the 5% of Councils to have an intermediate audit.

Hartlebury Primary School: Councillors were saddened to hear that three mature trees at the front of the school had been identified as diseased and dying and were to be felled.

Allotments: 3 new people have been allocated allotment plots. 2 remain on the waiting list. An issue arose with horses coming onto the allotments – the clerk was asked to find out how much it will cost to install a gate.

Hartlebury Castle and the Hurd Library: Jack Hegarty has confirmed that Wychavon will continue to work closely with the Trust to secure the future of the Castle. The Clerk has written to the Trust offering the Parish Council's support.

c: County Councillor: Cllr Broomfield reported that the planning application for a Reverse Osmosis plant at the landfill will be considered at Planning Committee – the Parish Council had previously offered no objection to this.

A pre-inquiry meeting for the Incinerator Public Inquiry will be held in August.

Councillor Broomfield was asked what he was considering spending his £10,000 funding from Worcs C.C on – he said he would be looking to share it within his parishes.

d: Other:

Village Hall Management Committee: The committee has been trying to secure agreement with the housing group to access the gas supply to allow improvement work on the hall to start – the clerk was asked to write to the housing group asking that they respond urgently.

South Worcestershire Housing Allocation: An Open Evening to view and discuss housing allocation from 2012 for 20 years was attended by two councillors. Hartlebury is a Category 1 village and could expect to see an additional increase in the village population of 10% over 20 years. It is envisaged that the restrictions on building on the green belt will be tightened.

5. Finance: Payments totaling £2,255 were approved and passed for payment.

6. Sub-Committees

a: The minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held 7 June 2011 were received.

b: The minutes of the Playing Fields Committee Meeting held 13 June 2011 were received.

c: The minutes of the Allotments Committee Meeting held 13 June 2011 were received – 2 amendments were made.

7. WAIL Request: Councillors were informed that, prior to WAIL's written request for a contribution towards funds for the legal and planning campaign against the incinerator, it had been suggested by a current Councillor that this should be considered as an agenda item. It was resolved that the Parish Council will give WAIL a donation of £5,000 towards legal costs – subject to legal checks by NALC.

8. Hartlebury Common: Due to ongoing legal proceedings the Countryside Officer was unable to attend the meeting to explain to Councillors the 10 year plan to “restore” Hartlebury Common. This will be an agenda item next month.

9. Village Website: Work has started to alter the current website hartlebury.org.uk to become a village website. Organisations have been asked to provide content for their “page”.

10. Gypsy and Traveller Sites Planning Policy Consultation: It was agreed that the Clerk will respond agreeing with Wychavon that traveller site needs should be accommodated within targets for overall housing provision. There should be a presumption against new gypsy / traveller sites within the green belt as there is with new housing.

11. Hartlebury Gardening Club: It was resolved to give the Gardening Club a donation towards the purchase and upkeep of planters and flowers.

12. Hartlebury Castle: The Clerk was asked to write to the Hartlebury Castle Preservation Trust suggesting the following improvements to the village if they are successful in their bid to purchase the Castle; improved parking at the Primary School, restoration of the trees in

the parkland, access to the castle for village organisations to hold fetes, concerts etc and an improved vista from Charlton up the disused driveway.

13. Youth Club: This will be an agenda item in September once the Youth Bus has been in the village during the summer.

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

15. Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda:

The use of the back entrance of Hartlebury Trading Estate onto Station Road – next meeting

16. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 2 August 2011 at 7pm at Hartlebury Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed(Chairman) Dated

Notes from Public Question Time

Four residents attended. Two raised concern about the security of the allotment site following an incident with horses on the site and a white van accessing the plots. The clerk will look at costings for an agricultural gate to be installed.