

HARTLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Meeting of Hartlebury Parish Council held at 7pm on Tuesday 10 January 2012

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

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

1. Apologies: Cllrs D Stocker and 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: None

C: Prejudicial Interests: None

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time – see notes appended at the end.
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3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2011 were approved as a true record and signed by the chairman.

4. Reports:

a: Police: CSO Leslie did not attend and did not submit a report.

b: Clerk:

Woodbury Close Flats: Plans have been communicated to demolish the flats and replace them with a mix of houses and apartments for affordable rent. Spa Housing will be looking to work with the local community to ensure that the replacements are appropriate.

Network Rail: A response will be sent to Wychavon regarding the proposed improvement works at the railway crossing stressing that residents need to be kept updated with dates of work and that disruption must be kept to a minimum.

Post Office Noticeboard: The Planning Application has been submitted and the funding received from Cllr Broomfield.

Waresley Park: Councillors discussed a complaint regarding horse fouling on Waresley Park – whilst the Parish Council sympathises with the resident it was stressed that we live in a rural village.

Trading Estate North Gate petition: A copy of the petition has been forwarded to those residents / councillors who expressed an interest in action being taken. This will be an agenda item in March.

Village Website: More information has been uploaded – visit www.hartleburyparish.org.uk.

Community Energy Saving Consortium: The clerk will send details to the few who expressed an interest in forming a consortium.

c: County Councillor: Cllr Broomfield reported that the Planning Inspector was due to present his findings from the Incinerator Public Inquiry to the Secretary of State at the beginning of February with a decision anticipated by end April (as reported in the press). The Chairman thanked Cllr Broomfield for funding the proposed notice board at the post office.

d: District Councillor: Cllr Dowty reported that a new survey will be undertaken by Wychavon on village facilities following concerns raised during the consultation for the South Worcestershire Development Plan.

He also reported that Wychavon is currently developing its strategy to deal with waste collection – he has suggested that they look to increase commercial and industrial recycling, consider reward vouchers etc to increase the recycling rate. Wychavon has no plans to return to weekly collection.

e: Friends of Hartlebury Castle and Hurd Library: It was reported that permission has been extended for the castle to be used for events until September.

5. Finance: Payments totaling £1,158 were approved and passed for payment.

6. Wychavon Bursary: It was resolved to nominate the Torton Turds for the Bursary recognising Community Service. Two councillors were asked to draft a supporting statement.

7. Worcestershire Broadband Plan: Further to the information provided at Public Question Time it was resolved that the clerk will put an article in the parish magazine asking if any residents would form a working party to apply to funds to improve superfast broadband access for Hartlebury residents. Comment was made that the parish hall would benefit from having internet access – this will be raised by the representatives at their next meeting.

8. New Homes Bonus Allocations: Councillors agreed to bring ideas on how best to use the funding available to the next meeting. Initial ideas included play equipment, further improvements to the parish hall and vehicle activated speed signs.

9. Waste Collection: Further to the information provided by the District Councillor it was resolved that the clerk will write to Wychavon supporting the current service they offer but requesting that food waste be collected weekly for recycling. She will also write to Peter Luff MP to ask for clarification on the government's thinking on this issue (ie: whether funding will be allocated to weekly collections or increasing recycling initiatives).

10. Chadwick Bank Land: The councillors considered a request from a resident to purchase a strip of land from our holding on Chadwick Bank. Cllr Dowty agreed to ask the planning department about future uses of the land before a decision in principle would be made. This will be an agenda item next month.

11. Queen Elizabeth Trust: Two councillors offered to stand as the representative on the trust. Following a vote Cllr Kirby was appointed the representative (5 votes to 4).

12. 2012 Plans: It was agreed that the Parish Council will contact local groups with a view to initiating a working party to co-ordinate Jubilee celebrations in Hartlebury. This could then become a platform for future developments in Hartlebury (eg: Neighbourhood Planning).

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

14. Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda:

Countdown Markers on Rectory Lane – the clerk to chase with Highways.

Fly tipping on Chadwick Lane – clerk to contact Wychavon D.C

Highways – Cllr Dowty will be attending the Highways forum and will raise specific problems. It was noted that no action has been taken by Highways to address the issues raised at the site meeting in November.

White Hart – Councillors were informed that the pub has introduced parking charges for parents picking up from the primary school. Concern was raised about the knock on effect of illegal parking issues around the school - the clerk was asked to contact the police.

Building waste on Old Worcester Rd – the clerk was asked to write to the occupier.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 7 February 2012 at 7pm at Hartlebury Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed(Chairman) Dated

Notes from Public Question Time

Three residents attended.

The issue of broadband improvements was raised with a resident providing information about funding to be made available to Worcestershire County Council to improve broadband speeds. Hartlebury is not currently included in the plans for faster broadband due to perceived lack of demand – it was suggested that like minded individuals should get together to form a working party to access funding specifically for Hartlebury.