

## HARTLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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### The Minutes of the Meeting of Hartlebury Parish Council held at 7pm on Tuesday 7 February 2012

**Present:** Cllrs Mrs J Jones (Chairman), P Holden, A Bishop, D Southall, Mrs C Boughton-Thomas, A Cupper, N Dowty, A Jones, G Howard, R Kirby

**In Attendance:** Mrs J Hyrons (Clerk)

**1. Apologies:** Apologies were accepted from Cllrs D Stocker, H J Webb, Mrs L Brookes

**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 <b>Public Question Time</b> – see notes appended at the end.
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**3. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2012 were approved as a true record and signed by the chairman.

**4. Reports:**

**a: Police:** CSO Leslie did not attend. She sent an updated report regarding parking issues at the school. The clerk was asked to contact Andrea to ask for updates about the Highways issues discussed in November (eg: speed monitoring).

**b: Clerk:**

Waste Collection: Peter Luff MP will clarify the Government's attitude to waste. A letter was sent to Wychavon requesting that the food waste service be improved to ensure that it is always recycled and that fortnightly bin collection remains to encourage recycling. A detailed response has been promised - the clerk was asked to follow this up.

Democracy and Elections: Wychavon has set up a team to identify why an unusually high number of district and parish councils were uncontested in 2011.

Broadband: A list of people interested in superfast broadband has been started.

Diamond Jubilee: A meeting of 15 organisations was held to discuss possible plans for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. To date it looks likely that a community event will take place on the afternoon of Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – a second meeting will be held end February.

Woodbury Close Flats/ Old Worcester Road (Allotment Site): 3 councillors met with representatives to discuss the current need for affordable housing in the village and looked at outline plans for the sites.

Network Rail: We have sent comments regarding improvement works at the level crossing. We have been informed, informally, that the signal box is to be removed, 2 tall poles are to be installed (flood light and CCTV) and the sirens will be at least 70Db at night and 80DB during the day – we have asked for a maximum of 35Db at 50m.

Post Office Noticeboard: Planning permission has been received and work started.

Rectory Road: The 30 MPH countdown markers have now been installed.

Church Lane: Highways have agreed to start the formal process to look into the feasibility of making the road one way from A449 to A4025. This will be an agenda item next month.

**c: County Councillor:** Cllr Broomfield did not attend and did not submit a report.

**d: District Councillor:** Cllr Dowty reported that once the comments from the SWDP consultation process were inputted then the issues raised would be looked at. He has attended a meeting on Neighbourhood Plans and urged the Parish Council to develop one – a training session will be held.

**5. Finance:** Payments totaling £1,070 were approved and passed for payment.

**6. Planning:** Councillors were informed that representatives had met with Wychavon and Festival Housing to look at the initial plans for the replacement development on Woodbury Close and the new development by the allotments on Old Worcester Road. A public consultation will be held for all residents to attend which will be communicated via the notice boards, websites and the parish magazine.

Councillors discussed the proposed development on Old Worcester Road next to Southall Drive. It was commented that it was “disgraceful” that the agent had cancelled his visit to show outline plans – Councillors were reminded that he was not obliged to make any contact with the Parish Council at all. Councillors were invited to see the plans at the agent’s office - this was set up at short notice but is the only way to ensure that the Parish Council is as well informed as possible in order to represent the electorate’s views.

Comment was made that the Parish Council has always said it will not support further developments within Hartlebury until the infrastructure issues had been addressed.

Councillors were reminded that they need to be specific on each issue of infrastructure rather than make a “blanket” statement. A public consultation will be held for all residents to attend which will be communicated via the notice boards, websites and the parish magazine.

**7. Diamond Jubilee:** Councillors heard about the initial plans for a garden party event to be held on Saturday 2 June 2012. It was unanimously agreed to provide the Jubilee Committee with a grant of £1,000 to cover costs (eg: insurance, entertainment, toilets etc).

**8. New Homes Bonus Allocations:** It was resolved that the Parish Council would “bank” this year’s £1500 funding until a suitable scheme required funding. This can be done for 6 years thus resulting in a larger pot of money. Unfortunately the funding cannot be used for jubilee celebrations – Wychavon are not providing any funding either unlike Wyre Forest.

**9. Chadwick Bank Land:** It was resolved that the Clerk will take steps to register the land (and all other Parish Council land) but the Council is not currently willing to sell off any of the land.

**10. Playing Fields Committee:** The minutes of the Playing Fields Meeting held on 23 January 2012 were received. It was reported that the Playing Fields Committee does want to improve play equipment within the village – this will be done in conjunction with the new houses at Woodbury Close and the Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillors were informed that the Tennis Club was in danger of folding – an article will be written for the parish magazine trying to recruit more members.

**11. Speed Initiatives:** It was resolved, by 8 votes to 2, that the Parish Council will fund the purchase of 50 wheelie bin stickers for renowned roads in the village reminding motorists of the 30MPH speed limit. A note in the Parish Magazine will inform residents of this initiative.

**12. Correspondence:** The correspondence issued with the agenda was noted. The clerk was asked to email Councillors a letter from Worcestershire County Council regarding the possibility of organizations taking on the running of some of the county estate.

**13. Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda:**

Signage at Countryside Nursery – the clerk was asked to contact them again requesting that notices be removed from the closed site.

Incinerator Public Inquiry – the Secretary of State now has the planning inspector's report. A decision is due 28<sup>th</sup> April.

**14. Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 6 March 2012 at 7pm at Hartlebury Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed .....(Chairman)      Dated .....

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**Notes from Public Question Time**

Prior to the meeting the architect of the proposed Affordable Homes development near to the allotments on Old Worcester Road showed Councillors the outline plans for the 10 units (mix of 2 and 3 bed semis and bungalows) with off road parking. Comment was made about access on to the road, the size of gardens proposed and the provision of play space. These will need to be addressed during the public consultation process. The architect promised to inform the Parish Council of the date of the public consultation so this could be communicated to residents.

5 residents attended.

3 were interested to hear about the plans for the affordable housing on Old Worcester Road. They cited concerns about whether additional land would be made available in the future for more properties and also whether the fields and allotments behind would become an unofficial "play space". The land in question is covenanted so no more than 10 units can be put on it – play provision will be raised in the public consultation.

1 resident attended to discuss the planning application for Rich Products on the trading estate. He asked if the Parish Council would comment about noise issue at the site (although it hadn't been so bad recently) when discussing the location and height of the proposed silos.

1 resident provided a breakdown of costs to implement broadband in the village hall – he was invited to address the Parish Hall Management Committee directly.