

HARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Harlton Parish Council held on Tuesday 12 January 2016 starting at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Harlton

Present:

Councillor: Ben Banks (Chairman)

Councillor: Peter di Mambro

Councillor: Richard Benson

Councillor: Chris Coleridge

In attendance: Members of the Public and Development Officer, SCDC

1. Apologies for absences

Apologies were received from District Cllr Robin Page County Cllr Sebastian Kindersley who both had prior meetings to attend on the same evening. Apologies were received from Cllr Benson and Cllr Coleridge who were held up, which delayed the start of the meeting by 15 minutes. Cllr Coleridge had to leave the meeting early and left the meeting after item 7.1

2. Vacancy - resignation of Cllr member

The Chairman had received resignation from Cllr Anthony Titley who had reluctantly had to step down due to ill-health. The Parish Council were grateful for all his efforts during his six year term of Office and wished him well.

3. To receive Members' declaration of interest and dispensations

None received

4. Public Participation – see agenda item 6

5. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24 November 2015 and minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 5th January 2016

The minutes for the meeting of the 24 November 2015 were approved and duly signed as correct by the Chairman. It was noted that the minutes of the October meeting had been circulated and approved by members but not signed. The Clerk will bring a hard copy along to the next meeting for signing. The minutes of the Planning Meeting of 5th January 2016 were approved and duly signed as correct by the Acting Chairman for the meeting, Cllr Peter di Mambro.

6. Assets of Community Value (ACV) – Presentation by South Cambs District Council

Development Officer, Clare Gibbons from SCDC gave a presentation on Assets of Community Value (ACV) and addressed questions from Councillors and members of the public. Concerns were expressed by members of the public with regards to the impact of listing the public houses as ACVs. A query was also raised by a member of the public as to whether compensation was payable in the event of a loss by the owner of an ACV-listed asset. Clare Gibbons advised that under current legislation, the District Council could compensate asset-holders for up to £20,000 of actual losses proven, and that central government could compensate for proven losses above that amount; however, she advised that such claims were very rare nationally and to her knowledge had never been paid in South Cambs.

7. To receive reports and report on business actions from the previous meeting to include:

7.1 To consider Assets of Community Value (ACV) – and expression of interest to list Hare & Hounds and The Wheatsheaf

Members voted unanimously to nominate both the Wheatsheaf and Hare and Hounds for listing as Assets of Community Value (ACV) on the register held by South Cambridgeshire District Council. The Parish Council acknowledged the views expressed during the public forum session, however on balance the benefits of listing the public houses would best protect the interests of the community and the future of the pubs as a local amenity. The council were advised by Clare Gibbons, Development Officer at South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) that the owner's permitted development rights were removed at the point of entry onto the registry and for 5 years, and they would need to apply for planning permission for a change of use or for demolition. The fact that the property had been nominated would be taken as a 'material planning consideration'. The Parish Council were concerned that with the majority of the pubs in the locality already listed as ACVs, not listing the pubs could send out the wrong message to potential developers and planners. The council noted that while listing also gives local people an opportunity to bid for the asset, this does not apply if the owner is selling as a going concern (in this case pubs fall in the category of exempt disposal – and the property can be sold with no delay/moratorium process and therefore will not affect the sale). Assurances were given by SCDC, Development Officer that Parish Councils were not taking on any liabilities for compensation due to an ACV listing.

There was also a discussion on the merits of listing other land and building in the village. It was agreed further information was needed, regarding feasibility and details about the current status and ownership, before a decision could be made. **ACTION:** The Clerk will undertake initial investigations and circulate her findings for discussion at the next meeting.

7.2 Replacement bench on the Glebe

The bench had been purchased and delivered. It was currently sitting in the Chairman's barn. The Chairman would give it a coat of teak preservative and make arrangements to secure in place on the Glebe.

7.3 Update - actions from previous meeting regarding observations relating to the village (Cambs Highways & Balfour Beatty follow up)

Cllr di Mambro reported that he was still in the process of making investigations with the problems with the drains in the village. It was noted that SCDC are responsible for the gutters and CCC for the drainage. Street lights are now CCC responsibility. There is a telephone number and lamp number on each street light. The lights not working had been reported and should be repaired within a fortnight.

8. To receive report from Cambridgeshire County and District Councillors

Apologies for absence and emailed reports received.

9. Finance:-

9.1 Bank reconciliation for business Current and Savings accounts – noted these would be presented at the next meeting. Despite several requests to the bank by the out-going Chairman, the clerk is still not receiving bank statements. He had tried to set up internet banking, but was advised that access to print bank statements was not possible because of the signatory

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mandate of two members to sign on the accounts. The current Chairman will again make enquiries with Barclays Bank to find out why the Clerk is no longer receiving bank statements.

9.2 To agree the precept requirement of £8,500 for 2016-17 – the council formally approved the precept requirement of £8,500 for 2016-7 as outlined in the budget/ precept report. The Clerk will write to confirm with South Cambs District Council.

9.3 To approve invoices and order of payments:-

Cyan.co.uk – RBS Invoice Finance Ltd, £570.53 (inclusive of £95.08 Vat) for purchase of 2.4 metre Balmoral Bench – payment approved retrospectively

LAW FARMS LTD - £444 (inclusive of £74 Vat) for the restoration of village pump – payment approved as per quotation received.

10. Monthly children’s playground inspection – inspection carried over. The Chairman agreed to undertake the inspection and report at the next meeting.

11. Reports and consideration for ongoing business:-

11.1 Report on Village Hall Management/ Village Hall Trustees – The clerk will circulate the VHT minutes from the last meeting in November. Cllr Benson had no further matters to report

11.2 Parking improvements on the Glebe – ongoing

11.3 South Cambridgeshire Local Plan – ongoing with SCDC

11.4 Management of Clunch Pit

The Clerk reported that Anthony had handed over the file notes /papers and electronic files for his work to date. It was agreed as a first step, the clerk would make contact with Greenwillows Associates for a quote to mark the trees deemed of high and medium risk; and as a priority seek a quotation from Richardson Tree Surgery to carry out remedial works to address the tree considered at high risk.

11.5 Health & Safety – Village Risk assessments /Emergency Plan

ACTION: The clerk will review the risk assessment file notes and use the current template to draft the Parish Council risk assessments for the village, and forward any notes/ templates for the village Emergency Plan to Cllr Benson, who had agreed to review and draft an action plan.

12. Incident reports and observations relating to the village

It was noted that there had been a house burglary reported; the blocked drains outside 63 High Street had been reported to CCC; the telephone box was full with no capacity to receive any more books

13. Parish Elections 2016

The Parish is scheduled for elections in May this year; the SCDC election cycle will change with all out elections in 2018 and every four years thereafter. Cllr di Mambro reported that he would not be standing for election in 2016. The Clerk will advertise the Parish Councillor role in C&V.

14. Newsletter – the clerk will issue a Parish Council newsletter next month to report on activities and advertise the elections to seek new councillor interest.

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15. To discuss and consider correspondence for December – circulated and noted.

2016-01-08	CCC	Planning Policy Monthly update January 2016
2015-12-21	SCDC	Parish Council Elections from 2018
2015-12-21	SCDC	Consultation on the Strategic Policies identified for Neighbourhood for Planning purposes
2015-12-18	CAPALC	Referendum Principle for the Parish Sector 2016 -17
2015-12-15	SCDC	Minutes of Cabinet and Parish Councils Liaison Meeting
2015-12-02	SCDC	Parish Precept Consultation Letter

16. Matters for consideration at the next meeting

Update on actions from previous meeting and ongoing business: Speedwatch equipment for the village.

17. To approve date and time of next meeting and Parish Council meetings 2016

February meeting date to be confirmed. Clerk to circulate meeting dates for 2016

Signed.....Dated

Chairman Harlton Parish Council