

## **Hardwicke Parish Council**

Minutes of A Meeting of the Parish Council held at Hardwicke Village Hall on Monday October 7th 2024

### **Present**

Cllr John Perkin (Chair)

Cllr Peter Rotherham

Cllr Denise Powell

Cllr Fran Welbourne

Cllr Graham Brearley

Cllr Jill Brearley

### **In attendance**

District Councillor Gill Oxley, and Kevin Lee, Clerk

### **69/24 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Hannah day and County Councillor Stephen Davies.

### **70/24 Declarations of Interest**

There no declarations

### **71/24 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**Resolved; to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024**

### **72/24 Sellars Road Footway**

The Clerk reported that the Area Highways Manager had informed The Council that it would not be possible to complete the footway in Sellars Road. The initial trial holes, dug by the contractor, had identified that the public utilities and cable installations had been placed too near to the surface of the verge. Western Utilities had advised that they would need to be on site throughout the proposed works to ensure the safety of the operatives and their services.

The Chair, Cllr John Perkin reported that he had received a complaint from a resident about the grass verge not being reinstated. The Clerk was asked to raise this with the highways Manager.

**Resolved; to note the report and follow up actions**

## **73/24 Councillor Reports**

District Councillor Gill Oxley informed the Council of a Crowd Funding Scheme launched by the district council. The fund was aimed at local groups and organisations to access financial support for community projects. Bids needed to be submitted by October 30<sup>th</sup>. Further details could be found on Stroud District Councils Website.

The Stroud Leisure Centre would now be managed by the district council; a formal opening would take place on November 21<sup>st</sup> 2024.

Cllr. Denise Powell proposed that a new notice board be purchased for the Village Hall. This would be shared with the Parish Council and would be placed in a prominent position at the front of the building. Members agreed to the purchase. The lines for parking spaces in the car park had faded over time and the accessible spaces for people with disabilities needed to be clearly marked. Members agreed to get the car spaces re-marked.

Cllr Denise Powell informed Members that a dedicated lap top within the village hall had now been set up to enable monitoring of CCTV covering the MUGA and the play areas.

Cllr. Peter Rotherham reported that the Advocacy Meeting with the Police would now be held in November. The issue of E Scooters would be an item for discussion.

Cllr Jill Brearley noted that public footpath leading from Church Lane had been cleared, although the bridge over the brook was in much need of repair. The Clerk agreed to report this to the County Council. It was also noted that the current Public Rights of Way Sign leading from the lane needed to be increased in height.

Cllr Graham Brearley reported that there were large amounts of litter in the ditches along Church Lane/Pound Lane. The Chair added that this would need to be done by the County Council, as traffic management would be needed to ensure safe working. The gulleys in Church Lane had also become blocked. The Clerk agreed to liaise with the Area Highways Manager.

It was also reported that the 30 mph sign on the B4008 was obscured by overhanging trees, this also be reported to the Highways Manager.

## **74/24 Planning Applications**

The Parish Council considered its response to the following planning applications;

S.24/1631/HHOLD The Firs Bristol Road- Rear Extension

**Resolved; to raise no objections**

S.24/1473/HHOLD

33 Westland Road; Single Storey Extension

**Resolved; to raise no objection**

S.24/0666/NEWTPO Permission Granted by SDC

### **75/24 Policy Review**

The Clerk presented the revised Finance Policy. The policy had been updated to reflect the changes recommended by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC)

**Resolved; to approve the policy as amended**

### **76/24 Financial Report**

The Clerk presented the finance report for the period ending September 30<sup>th</sup> 2024 and the audit report from the external auditors.

The auditor's report had confirmed that the council had met its duties, however, it had been noted that the Council had submitted its return four days after the deadline. The Clerk confirmed that he had advised the external auditors of the delay in sending

**Resolved; to approve the finance report and to accept the report from the external auditors**

### **77/24 Maintenance of MUGA**

The Clerk advised members that a quote had been received for the repainting of the lines on the MUGA; the cost would be around £1200. Members were disappointed that the marking had not lasted very long and agreed to defer the remarking until the Spring of 2025

**Resolved; to note the report**

**Meeting Close at 8.40**

**Signed**

**Chair**

**Date**