

Hawkesbury Parish Council



**Minutes of Hawkesbury Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 17th January 2011 at 7.30pm
in the upstairs meeting room at the Parish Hall, Hawkesbury Upton**

Present:

H Bleaken (Chair), J Otley, S Hope, A Musty, D Higgs, C May and H Jones (Parish Clerk) Cllr Roberts arrived late.

Apologies

P Isaac and C Dixon

Public Participation

Action

- 1 To accept apologies for absence**
Cllr Isaac and Cllr Dixon
- 2 Declaration of Interest**
None
- 3 Public Participation**
None
- 4. Digital Exclusion** People who choose not use or have a computer or even know how to use one.

The Parish Council need to be aware of more and more Parishioners being Digitally excluded and what they can do to help.

Areas where they can receive help; the library is a good place although living in a rural area, residents does not have access to libraries. Ideas need to be bought forward so that these can be put in operation. There are free training courses available but the timing of these courses is not always suitable.

Cllr Hope mentioned that the village hall has Wi-Fi and therefore would be an ideal place to hold free training courses. Need to check if there is any funding, and to discuss again in May after the Local Elections. It was agreed to keep this as an item on the Agenda every quarter.

This was noted

- 5 Cemetery Committee Meeting – The meeting was held on 29th November 2010 Cllr Hope.

Bench and Plaques

The new bench is now in place, the committee discussed a charge of £100 per plaque to go on the bench and the price includes engraving. This was put to the Parish Council and everyone agreed.

Resolved

Field Drain

This is causing problems during the wet weather and Cllr Isaac will speak to Sir John Jenkinson regarding the work on the drain.

This was noted

Lych Gate

To be discussed later in the meeting when Cllr Roberts attends the meeting.

Lavatory

There had been no further requests from the PCC.

This was noted

Tree Cutting

One of the main trees had been removed, however it was agreed to leave the cemetery trees at the moment and monitor the situation.

This was noted

Repair of Gardiner Monument

A verbal estimate of £50 had been received and a request has been made for this to be confirmed in writing.

This was noted.

Ashes Plots

It was agreed to have 3 Ashes plots instead of 4 in a row after the current purchased ones. There was also the possibility of increasing Ashes Plot space alongside row T.

This was noted

Repair to Dry Stone Wall

The wall between the Churchyard and Cemetery to the right of the Lych gate (behind the Yew) was falling down. The Committee agreed to obtain three quotes from R Chancellor, Tim Watts and Mike Wollen. Cllr Hope will contact PCC to share the costs.

This was noted

Earth in Closed Church Yard

Over the years a large mound of earth had appeared in the Closed Church Yard. The Closed Church Yard is not the responsibility of the Parish Council, however there was concern that the Grave Digger might be using this mound for depositing the earth spoil. The Cemetery Committee agreed that the Cemetery Soil should be gathered on the Cemetery Side of the wall and monitored regularly. PCC will be informed and the Grave Digger.

This was noted

Review of fees

The Cemetery Committee agreed to look at average cemetery fees for non

parishioners and make recommendations in the April Parish Council meeting. Terms and Conditions and fees to be displayed in the cemetery notice board.

This was noted

Leaking Tap

The tap in the Cemetery has been switched off because it had been leaking. Mr Blakney replaced the tap recently. A decision was made to replace the broken tap and see if it was faulty in any way. Cllr Higgs is happy to look at it.

This was noted

To confirm the Parish Council agreed to £100 per plaque, which will be self financing, Cllr Isaac to chase Sir John Jenkinson. The Drystone; wall to obtain 3 quotes to come back to the Parish Council and finally Mr Blakney to replace the tap.

This was noted.

The Ivy growing on the wall

If the ivy was to be removed then this could cause the wall to collapse. A professional hedge cutter would need to have a look at it.

Overhanging tree

Following last week's meeting Monday 10th January 2010 due to health and safety it will require more than 2 people to cut the bow down.

Barbed Wire

Concerns raised by Mrs Tizzard regarding the Barbe wire, Cllr Hope could not see any on the side of the path; it was however by the sheds to keep the cattle in.

This has been inspected and noted; Resolved

Cllr Higgs "thank you"

Cllr Higgs would like a thank you note put in the Parish News for everyone who have been cutting the grass.

6 Lee Lights – Cllr Musty

2010 was the last year for Lee Lights. There are now discussions going on with the Hall committee to take the lights on for 2011. The lights bring value to the Village and Cllr Musty would like the Parish Council to support Lee lights being donated to the Village Hall committee. To be referred to Cllr Roberts later in the meeting.

7 Parish Council taking over the Play Area

To be discussed when Cllr Roberts arrives at the meeting. A discussion took place to have a full report to see exactly what equipment is failing, also to consider fund raising, and what insurance will be required.

8 The Pool – Cllr Hope update

Cllr Hope read out her notes to the Parish Council.

The Parish Council would like to see a Pool clear of non indigenous plants and containing some wildlife.

Cllr Hope asked if there were any problems or issues missed.

It was noted that people will have different memories of what the Pool was like originally;

Request a site meeting with Cllr Otley and Streetcare (as per Monday 10th January meeting).

Cllr Musty arranged to view on Saturday 22nd the Barton side of the Greenary to check to see if the Pipe is sound.

The Parish Council agreed to obtain 3 quotes, to request Streetcare to investigate the settlement tank.

9 Lych Gate Paint-Cllr Roberts

To be discussed later

10 Parish Plan and Affordable Housing – Cllr Hope

& The Localism Bill, extra powers will be given to local governments although there is confusion over planning. Town and Parish Councils are not sure who will be paying for all of this and it was not clear what the responsibilities were.

12 Moving the Parish Plan forward; obtaining a village design statement; what can the Parish Council do to help; What resources can they give; work places; demands in the village; low cost affordable housing. The Parish Council can make preparations prior to the localism bill being agreed.

Cllr Musty heard a radio article regarding rural low cost/self build housing. It discussed subsidising rural areas with oil prices. Because living in a rural areas means the transport poor, householders would normally require a car each. Self build housing incorporating eco ideas.

Advertise “There is a meeting” to encourage parishioners to attend and get involved in the design statement.

Cllr May asked what was happening in respect of the “Affordable housing survey”. The Parish clerk is waiting for funding costs, it could be there are no funds available and therefore the Parish Council would need to fund the survey.

Discussion took place regarding the building line, lack of housing, houses for young people, social housing. Low cost housing has minimum building specification, for example knight Stone housing heating system is very expensive.

The way forward; item to remain on the agenda; await the cost for a survey to prepare for a proper consultation

This was noted.

11 Precept Calculation form

Parish Clerk completed the form that shows how the Parish Council calculated the precept for 2010/2011;

It would appear that the Parish Council has more money in the bank than originally expected using the figures from the Clerk. After a full discussion with the Councillors and Clerk, the Clerk requested further training as the figures she used did not follow 2009/2010 form and therefore feels that to complete the form the Clerk needed a better understanding how this is calculated. The Parish Clerk requested this training to be arranged as soon as possible.

Cllr Hope will arrange training.

To be actioned

Cllr Hope

13 Allotment Rent

The Councillor's discussed the above and agreed in full not to increase the rent and therefore will remain at £20.00 per plot.

Plot number 15 Parish Clerk to write to advise them that the allotment will be reissued this spring.

Parish Clerk to write to the next person on the allotment waiting list.

Cllr Roberts joined the meeting

14 Planning applications received

PK10/3581 /F	France Lane Farm Hawkesbury Upton Badminton South Glos	Change of use of land from agricultural to land for the stationing of a mobile home for a temporary period of 3 years.	The Parish Council has no Objection to the Planning Application.
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Planning Decisions received

PK10/2947 /LB	The Manor House Petty France Badminton South Glos	Installation of ground to first floor staircase	Decision Consent subject to conditions
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Emergency Planning

A planning application PK11/0070/CLE has been received and put to the Parish Council. A decision was made that the Parish Clerk places a note on the notice board advertising this planning application. Any comments to be received by the 31st January 2011 to enable the clerk to email the Planning Department at South Glos within the timescale of 21 days.

Cllr Bleaken will be looking into this application regarding the certificate of lawfulness. Any issues to be emailed to the Clerk before the 31st January 2011.

15 Emergency Council item – Cllr Musty

Following the power cut on Tuesday 11th January 2011, the Parish experienced a low voltage supply. Due to the low voltage it was advisable to switch everything with a motor off to prevent motors being burnt out or even catching fire. Not everyone would be aware of this.

Central networks should not have allowed this to happen; in view of the seriousness of it. If anyone has any items in their home damaged as a result of the low voltage or their boiler was locked out and an engineer had to be called, they will need to make a claim against Central networks. A note will be in the Parish News and also placed in the local shop and post office.

Please note that if this happens again to switch off all electrical appliances with a motor and boilers, to prevent a possible fire or damage.

Cllr Roberts

Item 9 Cllr Roberts has not had time to speak to Catriona Tyson, to place this item on next month's meeting.

Item 7 To be discussed re support of Play area.

Lee Lights Parish Mag will be helping to the costs relating to putting on the lights.

16 Date of next meeting

Monday 7th February 2011 in the upstairs meeting room, Parish Hall, Hawkesbury Upton at 7.30pm