

**Harborough Magna Parish Council  
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting  
27 June 2016  
Early Birds Nursery School**

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**Present**

Cllr Ian Bentlett (IB)  
Cllr Elizabeth Biggs Poyner (EBP)  
Cllr Julia Antrobus (JA)  
Cllr John Brady  
(JB)  
Cllr Paul Skidmore (PS)

<p>These minutes were approved by the Parish Council on 18 August 2016</p>
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Leona Bendall (Clerk), Parish Clerk

Also in attendance were Cllr Morris Jones of Warwickshire County Council and Cllr T Gillias of Rugby Borough Council.

Parishioners in attendance: Sue Rogers, Barry Biggs, Mary Palmer, Brian Ingram, Fiona McMahan, John France,

		<b>Action</b>
<b>1:27.6.16</b>	IB welcomed all to the meeting.	
<b>2:27.6.16</b>	There were no apologies for absence	
<b>3: 27.6.16</b>	<p><b>Update from County and Borough Councillors</b></p> <p><b>a. Cllr Morris Jones</b> informed the meeting that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the County is now considering joining the combined authorities as some borough and district councils think this could be to their advantage.</li> <li>• The windfarm applications have been withdrawn but the County is seeing an increase in solar panel farms.</li> <li>• There will be a meeting at Bruntingthorpe on 13 July for Harborough’s Planning Committee to reconsider the application for the expansion of Magna Park. This is open to the public</li> <li>• The next Fosse forum meeting will be 14 July in Rugby and will be a joint event focused on flooding.</li> <li>• There is renewed interest in building a service station on the M6, near junction 1.</li> <li>• He repeated his advice that the parish council should make an application for either a transport or a community grant – which could pay for something like a defibrillator for the village.</li> </ul>	

Chairman’s initials:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> <li>b. <b>Cllr Gillias</b> spoke to the meeting about             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rugby’s emerging local plan – and the need for residents and parish councils to make their views known through the consultation period. The period itself is not long and so swift action will be necessary once the plan is published.</li> <li>• The Council approved the Rugby Town Action Plan which seeks to reinvigorate the town centre and create better links between the centre and Elliots Field.</li> <li>• The destruction of Malt Kiln farm shop which seems to be as a result of arson after a failed robbery,</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions to the councillors included:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can anything be done about the number of empty shops in the town centre. <i>Cllr Gillias explained that this was the purpose of the Town Action Plan. IB asked if anyone can attend the BID monthly meeting and make their views/ideas known to help the town centre. Cllr Gillias did not know so IB will enquire</i></li> <li>• Where was the proposed service station to be <i>Cllr Morris Jones replied that it would be on the edge of Harborough Magna</i></li> <li>• Can we put forward ideas for odd plots of land to the Local Plan. <i>Cllr Gillias replied yes it is essential to do this through the consultation process.</i></li> <li>• Is there any end in sight to the huge number of local road works. <i>Both councillors were not aware of end dates but the work is essential and there is still liaison between utility companies and the Highways team.,</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>IB</b></p>
<p><b>4: 27.6.16</b></p>	<p><b>Suspension of standing orders to allow parishioners of Harborough Magna to address the parish council.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. J France raised concern that there is a sign and cone left in the hedgerow just outside the village. It was agreed to report this as dumped rubbish and it would then be cleared.</li> <li>ii. Sue Rogers asked the meeting to explain the position re parking and signs at Meadow Way. She stressed that if everyone acted reasonably then there need not be a problem:</li> </ul> <p>IB explained the position going back to 2009 when the parish council had consulted with residents on providing extra parking for Meadow Way residents and in this way providing easier access for pedestrians in</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>

	<p>Meadow Way. Grant funding for this had been provided by RBC with Harborough Magna, paying 20% of the cost. As the original sign was not working, the PC had agreed with consent of the RBC's legal and housing departments to put up new signs. The view of the PC was that it could not get involved in a dispute between neighbours.</p> <p>It had considered putting in further parking but unfortunately there is a drain in the way. The PC would like the authorised signs to be reinstalled and the reserved signs removed. Sue agreed that it should all be easy to resolve with goodwill but IB advised that if things were still difficult they could ask Rugby's community liaison officer to help.</p>	
<b>5: 27.6.16</b>	<b>Standing orders were resumed</b>	
<b>6: 27.6.16</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest</b> None were made	
<b>7.27.6.16</b>	<b>Approval of minutes</b>  a. The minutes from the meeting held on 23 May 2016 were approved after corrections.	
<b>8: 27.6.16</b>	<b>Matters arising</b>  a. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the local MP making their concerns known on the traffic issues related to the expansion of Magna Park.	<b>All</b>
<b>9:27.6.16</b>	<b>New Village Issues</b>  a. PS spoke about the long grass in the play park but that this has now been cut both by a local resident and the Council Park Team. PS raised the idea of creating an area of hard standing to make the basketball area (existing) more useful to children. It was agreed that he should work with residents to provide ideas and costings to upgrade the park that would be discussed at the next PC meeting.  b. Mowing of verges etc within the village was a concern and it was agreed to see if we could get a copy of the contract to cut grass in the village and deal with concerns such as the triangle of grass in the road from Easenhall into the village and the area of grass by the bus stop in the centre of the village.  c. Fairly recently WCC contractors have cut out drainage scoops on all the verges but with the growth of grass this is	<b>PS</b>  <b>Clerk</b>  <b>Clerk</b>

	now presenting a hazard to pedestrians and horse riders. This is to be reported to the Highways Team.,	
<b>10: 27.6.16</b>	<p><b>Harborough Magna 2000 Group</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> IB congratulated the Group on the success of the village barn dance. JA advised that this had almost broken even, which was acceptable as the purpose was to provide a celebration event for the whole village.</p> <p><b>b.</b> The PC agreed that as there is no longer any direct link between the PC and the Group, the HM 2000 Group would no longer be a standing item on the agenda. But this could change if the Group was willing to provide a regular update.</p>	
<b>11: 27.6.16</b>	<p><b>Parish Plan/OSCR Project</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> Ib advised that work is proceeding on the revised submission to the Big Lottery and that a stand will be at the Village Fete to provide information to residents and seek pledges to buy bricks once funding is secured.</p>	
<b>12: 27.6.16</b>	<p><b>WALC and RBC/WCC Fosse Community Forum</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> Next meeting of the Forum is 14 July when the focus will be on flood defence.</p>	
<b>13. 27.6.16</b>	<p><b>Planning Applications &amp; Appeals.</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> No new applications to consider.</p>	
<b>14: 27.6.16</b>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Watch</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> Nothing to report.</p>	
<b>15: 27.6.16</b>	<p><b>Financial matters</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> Councillors noted the latest position and the Clerk advised that as of 20 June the council had over £12,800 of funds but this needs to cover future contingencies such as replacement lamp posts, which cost over £1700 each.</p> <p><b>b.</b> The Internal Audit was without issues although the auditor advised that the clerk should be provided with a contract. This will be addressed. It was agreed to ensure the clerks salary was at the correct level (Spinal point 20 – from 1 April 2016 ) which</p>	<b>EBP</b>

	<p>would be in the new contract</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. All the financial papers have now been submitted for External Audit and (with prior notice) any financial papers can be viewed by residents on application to the clerk - and residents can raise any concerns with the external auditors.</li> <li>d. Cheques signed at the meeting £8.00 for room hire, £458.40 for Clerk's salary, £114,60 for HMPC, £132 for internal audit, £45 for training of the new councillor.</li> <li>e. The costs of electricity to light the village street lights will increase but attempts by the clerk to secure a cheaper alternative supplier had not been successful and it was agreed that the addition of standing costs (unavoidable in any new contracts) would outweigh any savings and therefore the current agreement should remain in place.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>16: 27.6.16</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Only related electricity rise – discussed above.</li> </ul>	

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<b>17.27.6.16</b>	<b>Other items:</b>  a. It was agreed to discuss projects for grant funding at the next meeting. b. The council has previously discussed the advantages of having its own Lengthsman who would undertake various projects within the village (such as verge/footpath cutting etc) and to make this happen anyone volunteering for this needs to have relevant training and as there is now a volunteer, the PC needs to agree the level of remuneration.	<b>All</b>
<b>18.27.6.16</b>	<b>Items for next agenda</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lengthsman scheme</li><li>• Playpark upgrading</li><li>• Policies on funding and communications</li><li>• Village improvement project for grant funding</li></ul>	
<b>19.27.6.16</b>	<b>Agreed date of next meeting</b> - Revised date of 12 September 2015	
	<b>Meeting closed at 8.35pm</b>	

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**Ian Bentlett, Chairman**

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**Date**

Chairman's initials: