

Harborough Magna Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting
18 March 2019

Present

Cllr Ian Bentlett (IB) Chair
Cllr Paul Skidmore (PS) Vice Chair
Cllr Elizabeth Biggs Poyner (EBP)
Cllr John Brady (JB)

Parishioners: Barry Biggs, Fenella France, Lynne Peake, Brian Ingram

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| 1.18.3.19 | <p>Welcome</p> <p>IB welcomed all to the meeting that followed on from a drop-in session to explain aspects of the proposed plans to replace the current street lamps. Other than those attending the main meeting only three members of the Parish attended the drop in session and were satisfied with the responses we gave to their queries .</p> | |
| 2.18.3.19 | <p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Cllr Toby France, (JB)</p> | |
| 3.18.3.19 | <p>Update from Borough and County Councillors</p> <p>None received.</p> | |
| 4.18.3.19 | <p>Suspension of standing orders to allow parishioners of Harborough Magna to address the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A parishioner at the meeting queried the payment to the Church in the accounts of former years. The Chairman explained that this was to enable work in the church yard, including regrading/removal of a huge mound of earth. In 2018 the PC specifically asked that last year's donation be used to improve the slippery surface of the path from Main Street to the back of the church. No request for funds has been received for this year so far | |
| 5.18.3.19 | <p>Standing orders were resumed</p> | |
| 6.18.3.19 | <p>Declaration of Interest</p> <p>None made.</p> | |
| 7.18.3.19 | <p>Approval of minutes</p> <p>The minutes from 14 January 2019 meeting were approved.</p> | |

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| 8.18.3.19 | <p>Matters arising from the minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EBP advised that we cannot use our pink spray to highlight dog fouling in fields as it may be harmful for animals. • JB has now installed the new fence posts and will put the gate back as soon as he could. • Still no action from, WCC re damaged Footbridge no R186/5 crossing R89/A so clerk will report again. • The phone box restoration is now complete and the clerk was instructed to find funding sources (grants) to install a defibrillator and advise councillor on aspects of installation, maintenance and any ongoing costs. • The issue of the kerb on Rugby road is still not resolved and clerk to contact Rugby to see what is happening. | <p>JB</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| 9.18.3.19 | <p>New Village Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IB reported that Magna Park have advised all lorries working on the A5 improvements that they must not use any village roads. If they are sighted, they should be reported – IB to advise on the process of this. • The Village Litter Pick for Saturday 23rd March is confirmed and Clerk will pick up all the equipment and deliver to EBP – and collect from her on Monday morning to report. She gave her apologies as she is out of the village that weekend as did the chair due to his knee operation | <p>IB</p> <p>Clerk/EBP</p> |
| 10.18.3.19 | <p>Parish Plan/OSCR Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IB reported that the OSCR project is proceeding, tenders are out, project manager has been appointed. A target commencement date-of June 2019 is in place, however ,due to various challenges associated with receiving appropriate tenders and the ability of chosen builders to start within the time scale and undertaking some additional surveys it is possible this may be delayed. | <p>OSCR</p> |
| 11.18.3.19 | <p>RBC/WCC Fosse Community Forum and Walc update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing new to report from WALC but PS and EBP spoke about an interesting police meeting they attended that had useful information on a new ‘Meals on Wheels’ scheme and other community schemes. PS will copy useful posters that might interest residents to go in the noticeboards. | <p>PS/Clerk</p> |

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| 12.18.3.19 | <p>Planning applications and appeals</p> <p>Nothing new to report</p> | |
| 13.18.3.19 | <p>Neighbourhood Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IB advised that a suspicious vehicle with two occupants appeared to be ‘casing’ the village. This has been reported to the Police. - EBP advised the meeting that an attempted theft of lead from the church roof has been stopped or abandoned, but the lead had been removed and stacked. Again, police are involved - IB reminded the Council and asked them to talk to parishioners about talking to our Police Community Support Officer about any concerns they have. | |
| 18.34.1.19 | <p>Financial and Governance issues</p> <p>a. Following the previous meeting on the street lamps and the responses to the consultation. IB stated that every opportunity had been given to parishioners to respond and this was agreed by all present. We had responded to those that did ask questions and understand they are satisfied. With no distinct objections being raised IB asked the meeting if they wished to go ahead and apply for an interest free loan from Salix Finance to replace the street lamps. The motion to proceed was proposed by EBP and seconded by JB and approved by all councillor’s present. Clerk to submit application as soon as possible.</p> <p>b. The cash book estimated to the end of the year was noted ...and will be amended to show the revised payment to Round the Revel</p> <p>c. The schedule of cheques approved at the meeting included: £8 for Room Hire, £75 for Round the Revel; £132 to HMRC in respect of the clerk’s 4th Quarter tax; £528 for the clerk’s 4th Quarter salary; £395.58 for the street lamp maintenance and £48 to WS Gardens for an extra cut to the playpark.</p> <p>d. The meeting discussed the Risk Assessment and clerk reminded all of their own liabilities in respect of this. The meeting agreed that the biggest risk facing the council was ensuring succession and the PC would meet to discuss this further. This risk was highlighted because it was confirmed by</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/ALL</p> <p>Clerk</p> |

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| | <p>Leona Bendall, Elizabeth Biggs Poyner, and Ian Bentlett that they will be resigning from their positions on the council at the next election in 2020. The council therefore is losing a considerable amount of experience. It is also an opportunity to get others involved in the work of the parish council on behalf of the community .</p> <p>e. The Asset Register as at the 2018/19-year end was discussed and the clerk was instructed to take advice from our insurers that playpark equipment etc is insured on a 'new for old' basis and from our independent audit on the treatment of assets as the clerk has concerns that the assets are over-valued.</p> <p>f. The schedule of prices from WS Gardens in respect of the 2019 cutting season, previously circulated, was approved. PS to continue liaison with the company and WS Gardens to advise clerk when work is undertaken so we can tie up invoices more precisely.</p> | PS/clerk |
| 15.18.3.19 | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>There was only one letter received in respect of Cllr Anthony Gillias' appointment at the Rural Parish Champion.</p> | |
| 16.18.3.19 | <p>Other ongoing village matters</p> <p>.</p> <p>a. <u>Playpark monitoring and upgraded facilities</u> – No progress but this is still an on-going ambition for village improvement and will be discussed further. PS will keep council advised on progress</p> <p>b. <u>Speeding in the village</u> – Nothing new to report but PS will contact Sgt Ali Adnam to see if we can go ahead with to progress our community Speed Watch.</p> <p>c. <u>Establishment of 200 Club</u> Mrs F France gave meeting an update on her research and will come back with more details at next meeting. She was asked by the PC to look at governance issues, a specific community bank account etc. It was felt that ideally to ensure independence this excellent idea should be run without any link to the parish council.</p> | <p>PS</p> <p>PS</p> <p>Mrs France</p> |
| 17.18.3.19 | <p>Items for next agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on replacement street lamps • Establishing Village 200 Club • Playpark | All |

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| 18.18.3.19 | Dates of next meetings Provisional dates for next meetings –15 April 2019 with the Annual Meeting on 13 May. | All |
| | Meeting closed at 20.12 | |

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Ian Bentlett
Chair

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Date