

Harborough Magna Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting 14 January 2019

Present

Cllr Ian Bentlett (IB) Chair
Cllr Paul Skidmore (PS) Vice Chair
Cllr Elizabeth Biggs Poyner (EBP)
Cllr Toby France (TF)

Cllr Adrian Warwick – Warwickshire County Councillor
Cllr Anthony Gillias – Rugby Borough Councillor

Leona Bendall (Clerk)

Parishioners: Barry Biggs, Fenella France,

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| 1.14.1.19 | IB welcomed all to the meeting | |
| 2.14.1.19 | Apologies for absence Cllr John Brady (JB) | |
| 3.14.1.19 | <p>Update from Borough and County Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Gillias – advised the meeting that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RBC is still waiting to hear decision on Local Plan. It is due by the end of January . - RBC agreed today that any properties within the Borough that are empty for more than six months will attract a Council Tax at double the standard rate – and the existing discount for empty properties will be stopped. - RBC have raised a fund of £12.9m to buy existing houses or flats that could be used for social housing. Clerk asked if RBC would consider a pair of semi detached houses in Easenhall Road and have been empty for years and are believed to be rat infested. AG asked the clerk to write to RBC Housing about this. - A new application for 10 houses at Montilo Lane Radio Station is out for consultation and he encouraged the Parish to contribute to the consultation, although this is just outside our boundaries. Our councillors were concerned that we had not been advised of this by planners so the clerk is to get details for our consideration. The concern was that this road is recognised for its traffic problems and accidents. - A new application is shortly to be put forward for a 40acre PV array (solar panels) site on Streetfield Farm, off Montilo Lane. LB to write to RBC for details on both applications. <p>Cllr Warwick – advised the meeting that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WCC have been advised that their budget will rise by 2.5% from central government. Which they will have to work within. | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The current Warwickshire Police and West Midlands Police Partnership has been unilaterally and suddenly terminated by West Midlands. This will have cost implications for Warwickshire Police and is deeply regretted by Warwickshire who considered the partnership to be working well operationally and achieving costs savings for both Police forces - In the meantime Warwickshire Police are committed to maintaining the Safer Neighbourhood (PCSO) team in place as this vital for rural communities. - Wolvey are going ahead to replace all of their street lamps and he advised that another contractor might provide a cheaper priced option to WCC's price. LB shared with him a copy of the communication that the PC will be sending to residents, advising of our plans to replace all our street lamps using interest free funding from Salix Energy. AW asked for a copy of details of Salix Energy. LB to supply. | Clerk |
| 4.14.1.19 | Suspension of standing orders to allow parishioners of Harborough Magna to address the meeting | Clerk |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At the Rugby end of the chicane the reflector arrow is broken. LB to report again. - IB want to minute the thanks of the Parish Council for the way that Fenella and John France regularly clear litter from around the village. | |
| 5.14.1.19 | Standing orders were resumed | |
| 6.14.1.19 | Declaration of Interest | |
| | None made. | |
| 7.14.1.19 | Approval of minutes | |
| | The minutes from 10 December 2018 meeting were approved. | |
| 8.14.1.19 | Matters arising from the minutes | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IB still to visit residents of Old Village Hall to thank them for adopting the planter adjacent to their home – will undertake asap. • EBP will speak to the local farmer to ensure they are happy if we spray dog mess in their fields as part of a plan to make owners pick up their dog mess. • JB has now installed the new fence posts and will put the gate back as soon as he could. • Footbridge no R186/5 crossing R89/A has been reported as dangerous and WCC Footbridge Officer will contact EBP | IB EBP JB |

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| | <p>to show her exactly where the problem is as the officer had failed to identify any concerns on a recent visit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The phone box restoration is now complete but the light in the box is not working - PS agreed to check on its status. | <p>EBP</p> <p>PS</p> |
| 9.14.1.19 | <p>New Village Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident has raised concerns that a householder at the end of Meadow Way is now driving up the kerb and across the verge to access a new parking place in his house. This is damaging the Council verge and is unsightly. As the kerb has not been dropped the PC were not sure if he had permission to do this and will seek information from RBC about this. It was agreed to plan the Village Litter Pick for Saturday 23rd March – to be booked with Rugby Refuse Team. | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| 10.14.1.19 | <p>Parish Plan/OSCR Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IB reported that the OSCR project submission is now before the Final Decision Committee, from whom a hopefully minor clarification has just been received, after which it is hoped that we receive full approval. | |
| 11.14.1.19 | <p>RBC/WCC Fosse Community Forum and Walc update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing new to report. | <p>All</p> |
| 12.14.1.19 | <p>Planning applications and appeals</p> <p>Clerk reported that a new barn has been approved at Lilac Cottage but in line with the view from the Parish Council, the new barn will require the demolition of two existing barns before commencement on the same footprint.</p> | |
| 13.14.1.19 | <p>Neighbourhood Watch</p> <p>No current concerns on crime etc in the village.</p> | |
| 14.14.1.19 | <p>Financial and Governance issues</p> <p>a. The clerk took the meeting through the details in the Financial Plan she has prepared - which covered both income and expenditure for 2018/19 with a budget for 2019. Based on the figures presented the clerk (in her role as Responsible Financial Officer) recommended asking for an increase to take in the precept to meet increasing budget pressures and ambitions to improve facilities for parishioners. The increase would provide funding £8865 which equates to a £7.89 a year increase in Council Tax for band D properties. This was</p> | |

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| | <p>proposed by EBP and seconded by PS – and approved by all councillors. *</p> <p>b. The schedule of cheques approved at the meeting included: £8 for Room Hire and £15 for WALC in respect of chairman’s training for PS.</p> <p>c. Clerk advised that at the next meeting the Council would be asked to consider its Risk Assessment and Asset Register in preparation for the 2018/19-year end</p> <p>*Post Meeting note The clerk advised the chairman that she had made an error in the calculation for the Precept. The overall amount was correct, but the percentage increase was in fact 19.32% increase – and the charge for Band 4 properties would equate to £7.89 All councillors were notified and confirmed they still wanted to go ahead with the increase as it was essential to ensure adequate funding for future community needs and responsibilities .</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
| 15.14.1.19 | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>None</p> | |
| 16.14.1.19 | <p>Other ongoing village matters</p> <p>a. <u>Replacement Street Lamps</u> - IB thanked the clerk for the update paper and the meeting agreed to go out to consultation with parishioners on how this could be achieved. Clerk to circulate revised letter to parishioners. In the meantime, the clerk is to progress the grant application with Salix Energy, as there is no commitment on this. EBP confirmed that provided it is received in time we can put the letter in the Revel magazine for the next circulation Chair asked that all councillors respond to the final draft by return so that matters can be put in hand.</p> <p>b. <u>School Bus Chaperones</u> The parents have been advised by the headteacher that in light of a new safety inspection, the bus chaperones will not be removed.</p> <p>c. <u>Magna Park</u> – nothing new to report, we will continue attend Liaison Group and report back, but the item can be removed as a regular agenda item. IB to attend next meeting on 22nd January</p> <p>d. <u>Lengthsman scheme</u> – PS to arrange to walk around the village with WS Garden to discuss schedule of work and prices for the 2019 season.</p> <p>e. <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>Clerk.</p> <p>All councillors</p> <p>IB</p> <p>PS</p> <p>PS</p> |

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| | <p>f. <u>Speeding in the village</u> – Nothing new to report and this now will be removed as a regular agenda item but in the meantime, PS will contact Sgt Ali Adnam to see if we can go ahead with the community Speed Watch.</p> <p>g. <u>Establishment of 200 Club</u> Mrs F France gave meeting an update on her research and will come back with more details at</p> | <p>PS</p> <p>Mrs France</p> |
| 17.14.1.19 | <p>Items for next agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on replacement street lamps • Establishing Village 200 Club • Playpark | All |
| 18.14.1.19 | <p>Dates of next meetings</p> <p>Revised provisional dates for next meetings – 18 March and 15 April 2019.</p> | All |
| | Meeting closed at 20.44 | |

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Ian Bentlett
Chair

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Date