

HARTFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING held at
Hartford Village Hall on 14th November 2011 at 7.15pm

Attended by: Cllr Gibb (Chairman HPC) Cllr Winterbottom (Vice Chairman)
 Cllr Herbert Cllr Bowden
 Cllr Hollens Cllr Smith
 Cllr Evett Cllr Gibson
 Cllr Haffenden J O'Donoghue (Clerk)

Also attended by: Cllr Musgrave (CWAC)
 A Mee (Hartford Civic Society)
 K Parkington (Richborough Estates)
 53 members of the public

1. To receive Apologies

Noted: Cllr Bridge was unable to attend the meeting and sent his apologies which were accepted

2. Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda

To receive from members, disclosure of any (a) Personal, (b) Prejudicial Interests which they are required to disclose by section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Parish Council (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

Noted: No member, present at the meeting disclosed any (a) Personal, (b) Prejudicial Interests which they are required to disclose by section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Parish Council (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

(suspend Standing Orders)

3. Public Open Forum

Members of the public are invited to address Councillors and raise issues of concern. This session will last no longer than 15 minutes

Noted: 1 member of the public addressed the Council requesting support for Northwich Town Council's request to Cheshire West and Chester Council to extend the formal public consultation exercise on the possible closure of Hartford High School and the establishment of a new voluntary aided Church of England High School to 31st March 2012 to enable wider consultation. 1 member of the public addressed the Council with concerns relating to Hartford High School and the implications of the change in status which could affect staffing and admissions procedures in the future.

Karl Parkinson attended the meeting to discuss potential development off Northwich Road on former Brown Heath farmland which is classed as greenbelt and stated that negotiations with The Grange School were taking place to acquire further land. Simon Dorset (Estates Manager, The Grange School) refuted this and stated that no such negotiations were taking place. Members of the public present at the meeting strongly objected to any development on this land which was not included in the Strategic Housing Land Assessment carried out by Cheshire West and Chester Council. Cllr Musgrave (CWAC) noted that the local Planning Authority has agreed that there will be no development on greenbelt land unless there were exceptional circumstances and that there is a wide supply of brownfield land available. Cllr Hollens (Chairman of the Joint Action Group already considering opposition to development of both Grange and Hollies Farm) noted that any planning application for this site would be opposed in the same way.

1 member of the public raised the issue of blocked drains and missing street lights on the access road to Mid Cheshire College and it was agreed that the Clerk will pursue.

1 member of the public attended the meeting regarding access gates from Cloughwood School onto the campus, this having been raised at a previous meeting. Cllr Hollens reported that she had met with the headmaster who had explained that the fencing was

necessary to safeguard children and security and that the opening times should be sufficient to allow reasonable access. Cllr Haffenden (Governor Cloughwood School) and Cllr Hollens agreed to request that the opening times of the gates be extended to 5pm.

4. PCSO

To receive report from PCSO

Noted: PCSO Andy Taylor was unable to attend the meeting and sent the following report:

- There have been 2 burglaries since the last meeting, 1 to an outbuilding and the other to a house. CID are dealing with both these incidences.
- There have been 2 reports of anti social behaviour, 1 involving banging on an elderly person's door at 2.45am and 1 involving a youth tipping over bins on Chester Road
- A presentation has been given to the local Beaver Group about the role of the PCSO in Hartford which was most successful with the children given the opportunity to see inside a police van and experience being locked in a cell
- Hartford Village Hall will be monitored in the evenings following reports on youths congregating at the rear of the hall.

5. Cheshire West and Chester Council

To receive reports which are of relevance to **Hartford Parish Council**

Noted: Cllr Musgrave (CWAC) reported that Cheshire West Council's Executive last week gave approval for a state-of-the-art facility to be built on the site of the Memorial Hall. An outline design is expected to go before the Council and the Weaver Valley Partnership Board in the New Year. Subject to planning approval, construction is expected to be underway by the spring of 2013, with the facility opening to the public in 2014. The Council has earmarked £12.5m from its the capital programme for the centre, which will offer wet and dry sports including a pool, dance studios and a gym, as well as cultural facilities. A further £3m will be spent on Moss Farm and the development of a sports hall on Hartford Campus.

(reinstate Standing Orders)

6. Approval of Minutes

- a) To approve and sign Minutes of Full Council held on 10th October 2011

Resolved: The minutes were approved and signed

- b) To approve and sign Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting held on 1st November 2011

Resolved: The minutes were approved and signed

7. Finance and Administration

- a) Clerk's report

Noted: The Clerk reported that the majority of the actions from the October meeting had been met. The outstanding debt for hire of the Village Hall has now been settled although the keys to the front door and outside sheds have not been returned. Cllr Gibson agreed to address this with the owner of the play group. Ashley Services have not yet quoted for moving the BT phone box and the Clerk agreed to follow this up. FW Contracting have not yet started any work on the bank to the rear of the Village Hall and the Clerk agreed to follow this up.

- b) To approve and sign the accounts for payment November 2011

Resolved: The following accounts for payment were approved and signed:

A Aldcroft (grass and hedge cutting)	(Open Spaces Act 1906 s9, s10)	2,995.00
Thinkprint (Nov Hartford News)	(under LGA 1972 s142)	285.00
BT (Village Hall phone)	(under LG (FP) A 1963 s5)	15.50
Greenacre Landscaping Ltd (Grange Wood prune & fell)	(Open Spaces Act 1906 s9, s10)	1,680.00
Greenacre Landscaping Ltd (Grange Wood fencing)	(Open Spaces Act 1906 s9, s10)	1,620.00
SLCC membership	(under LGA 1972 s143)	147.00
J O'Donoghue (BT Office phone)	(under LG (FP) A 1963 s5)	56.02

BT (Internet VH 1/10/11 to 31/12/11)	(under LG (FP) A 1963 s5)	41.32
Office Depot (JAG clipboards)	(under LG (FP) A 1963 s5)	90.72
Denton Clark (Glebe Land Rent)	(Open Spaces Act 1906 s9, s10)	2.00
J O'Donoghue (expenses from October)	(under LG (FP) A 1963 s5)	13.35
J O'Donoghue (salary)	(under LGA 1972 s143)	1,074.16
J O'Donoghue (expenses November)	(under LG (FP) A 1963 s5)	14.99
Poppy Appeal	(under LGA 1972 s137)	38.00
HMRC	(under LGA 1972 s143)	312.47
SITA	(under LGA 1972 s133)	91.04
TOTAL £		8,476.57

- c) To approve and sign monthly bank reconciliation October 2011

Resolved: The bank reconciliation was approved and signed

- d) To consider the recommendations for the 2012 - 2013 budget from the Finance Committee

Resolved: To accept the recommendations of and set the budget at £101,769.00 for the 2012 to 2013 financial year

- e) To consider the recommendations for the 2012 - 2013 precept from the Finance Committee

Resolved: To accept the recommendations and set the precept at £85,000.00 representing a charge of £33.00 per Band D property

- f) To consider approval of a further £1,000 towards the budget for Christmas arrangements

Resolved: To add a further £1,000 to the budget for Christmas lighting

- g) To note contribution of £1,000 from Cllrs Herbert and Manley (CWAC) towards Christmas arrangements and £250 to pay for the Christmas tree in the centre of the Village

Resolved: Clerk to send letter of thanks

- h) To note contribution of £500 from The Co-Operative towards Christmas arrangements

Resolved: Clerk to send letter of thanks

8. Land to be leased from Cheshire West and Chester Council (Bradburns Lane/Chester Road junction and Chester Road/School Lane junction)

- a) To receive report from Cllr Hollens

Noted: Cllr Hollens reported that progress has been made with paving, cobbles, weeding and new bins having taken place. Replanting is expected within the next 2 weeks and the legal agreement is currently in the hands of CWAC legal department. It is anticipated that Hartford Parish Council will take over maintenance of this area from 1st April 2012.

- b) To discuss and agree proposals for land maintenance

Resolved: To set aside a budget of £2000 for maintenance of this area

- c) To discuss and agree proposals for tender process

Resolved: Clerk to work with Cllr Hollens to produce specification for the tender documents.

9. Village Inspection

- a) To receive report from Cllr Hollens

Noted: Cllr Hollens presented a thorough report on the inspection which was attended by Cllrs Hollens, Bowden, Herbert, Smith, Gibson, Haffenden and the Clerk and stressed the importance of the annual inspection which enables Councillor to be aware of the problems in the village and to enable them to productively contribute to future enhancements and in a position to recommend the finance requirements for the coming year

- b) To consider and agree action to be taken following the inspection

Resolved: It was agreed that: the shed at the Scouts hut be removed; consultation should take place with Mr Prue as to maintenance required on the cricket pavilion; to proceed with Cheshire Rights of Way with regards to a permissive path from The Grange to Grange Park; arrange for planting in Grange Wood; to carry out monthly play area inspections and install bird boxes in Grange Wood; to consider replacing the 1st half of the access road to the Green Field; Clerk to write to Leslie Martin Day Nursery to ask for the sign on the front railings of the building to be removed.

10. Leaflet distribution

To consider action to be taken following the failure of DPDS Ltd to fulfil contracted agreement

Resolved: Clerk to seek legal advice from ChALC prior to filing a claim in the Small Claims Court. Clerk to take further action with Cheshire Trading Standards.

11. Tennis Club Parking

- a) To receive report from Cllr Gibb regarding progress to date with AJK Plant Hire

Noted: Cllr Gibb reported that a meeting had taken place with representatives of AJK Plant Hire and that they had responded with a letter specifying the remedial work required on the car park. No costings were provided.

- b) To agree action to be taken

Resolved: Cllr Gibb to carry out further investigations and report to the December meeting

12. Consultation - Proposal for the closure of Hartford High School and the establishment of a new voluntary aided church of England school

To consider response from Hartford Parish Council

Resolved: Clerk to respond requesting that the date for consultation is extended to 31st March 2012 to enable effective consultation to take place. Cllr Bowden agreed to provide an article for Hartford News.

13. Joint Action Group

To receive update from Cllr Hollens

Noted: Cllr Hollens reported that collection of signatures for the petition was proceeding and that groups have now been set up. JAG are also working on a website to be used to communicate progress with residents and further information should be available by the December meeting. It was agreed that any future development on land formally belonging to Brown Heath Farm would be objected to in the same way as development to Grange Farm and Hollies Farm

14. Christmas Arrangements

To note final arrangements for Christmas celebrations

Noted: Cllr Gibson reported that the lighting will be installed in 3 or the large trees however CWAC and BAM Nuttall had, to date, been unable to create the permanent socket for the Christmas tree so there was unlikely to be an official lighting ceremony this year.

15. Communications

Clerk to update members on correspondence received

- Letter from Graham Evans (MP) requesting Network Rail to consider improvements to parking at Hartford Railway Station - noted

16. Planning

To agree response/comments to planning applications received:

- a) APPLICATION NUMBER: 11/03085/FUL DATE: 8 November 2011

PROPOSAL: Erection of fence to front and brick driveway entrance (retrospective)

LOCATION: The Mount 280 Chester Road Hartford Northwich

Resolved: No objection

- b) APPLICATION NUMBER: 11/05045/FUL DATE: 8 November 2011

PROPOSAL: Single storey side and first floor extension to side and rear

LOCATION: 6 Park Lane Hartford Northwich Cheshire

Resolved: No objection

- c) APPLICATION NUMBER: 11/05207/CAT DATE: 7 November 2011

PROPOSAL: Felling of 1 Sycamore and 1 Holly and crown reduction to 1 Yew

LOCATION: 1 Woodlands The Grange Hartford Northwich

Resolved: No objection

17. Village Working Group

To note progress with Ann Todd Garden and Grange Wood

Noted: Cllr Haffenden reported that the only outstanding works to be carried out in Grange Wood are installation of a path and tree planting and that these would be carried out as soon as practicable. Works are due to start on the Ann Todd Garden this month.

18. Boundary Commission

To consider a response to the current proposed boundary changes

Resolved: Clerk to write to CWAC objecting to the proposed boundary changes

19. Hartford Football Club

a) To receive report from Cllr Gibb

Noted: Cllr Gibb reported that he and Cllr Winterbottom had met with representatives of the Football Club and that considerable progress had taken place with the lease agreement although it would still need to be checked by a solicitor.

b) To discuss/approve lease agreement and grass cutting arrangements

Resolved: To defer to the December meeting to allow further consultation regarding grass cutting arrangements.

20. Any Other Business

No decisions can be made under this item

Noted: Cllr Hollens noted that the Councillor Training Pack needs updating

PART B - Exclusion of the Press and Public

The following item is subject to exclusion of press and public under LGA 1972 (section 100A)

21. Clerk's Salary

To approve Clerk's salary for the 2012 - 2013 financial year

Resolved: Clerk's salary to be increased by 1 spinal column point to scale 35 from April 2012 following a successful appraisal.

22. Close of Meeting

Noted: The meeting closed at 9.50pm