

**Harborough Magna Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
20 March 2017
Early Birds Nursery School**

Present

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Cllr Ian Bentlett (IB)
Cllr Elizabeth Biggs Poyner (EBP)
Cllr Julia Antrobus (JA)
Cllr John Brady (JB)
Paul Skidmore (PS)
Leona Bendall (Clerk), Parish Clerk

In attendance: Cllr Philip Morris Jones - WCC

Parishioners: Barry Biggs, Fenella France, Mark Brazier

		Action
1.20.3.17	IB welcomed all to the meeting.	
2.20.3.17	Apologies for absence No apologies had been received	
3.20.3.17	Update from County and Borough Councillors Cllr Morris Jones explained he will be stepping down in the May County elections and gave his view that their needed to be legislation to stop HGVs using village roads, apart from direct deliveries. JB replied that he thought simple and direct road signs would alleviate the problem without legislation, however Cllr MJ said this would be inconsistent with the national policy on road signage. IB responded for the PC and thanked the Cllr for his great support for the village over many years, in particular with grant support for the OSCR project, the new bus stop bench and the new noticeboards.	
4.20.3.17	Suspension of standing orders to allow parishioners of Harborough Magna to address the parish council. IB agreed to move agenda item 16c – improvement of the playpark forward on the agenda. PS introduced Mark Brazier who wanted to ask the Parish Council for support in improving facilities in the play park	

Chairman's initials:

	<p>and the adjoining field, which the meeting agreed was unusable for much of the time. IB thanked MB for his helpful comments.</p> <p>IB said that the appointment of a lengthsman service to provide interim cuts should resolve the problem with the length of the grass, which prevents the children from using the grass for ball games. He also clarified that the PC only leases the actual playpark area, within the fenced area – and the grass outside is owned and should be maintained by RBC.</p> <p>PS was keen to work with Mr Brazier to secure support from residents to update the grassy area and see what funding may be available to provide equipment.</p> <p>IB and JA explained <u>how essential it was that members of the Harborough Magna 2000 Group be consulted very early on the new ideas.</u> Members of the Group have worked very hard in the past to fund and create the existing very good playpark. While the equipment is now owned and maintained by the PC – without the 2000 Group the village would have nothing.</p> <p>IB agreed - once a viable plan is developed - that the PC may approach RBC to see if we could lease – or take the whole area from RBC, a possible cost saving option for them. The clerk had provided PS with emails from companies that were willing to provide design ideas – hoping to win eventual business. She also advised PS to contact Colin Horton at RBC (play park officer) who was willing to provide advice.</p> <p>PS agreed to bring ideas back to the next meeting of the PC.</p>	PS
5.20.3.17	Standing orders were resumed	
6.20.3.17	<p>Declaration of Interest</p> <p>Cllr Brady declared a personal interest in the WCC's plans to impose a permanent weight limit on the bridge on Tuckey's bridge in Cathiron Lane .</p>	
7.20.3.17	<p>Approval of minutes</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 6 February 2017 were approved.</p>	

8.20.3.16	<p>Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>a. Adopt a spot – EBP has produced a flyer to be handed out at the litter pick on Saturday 25 March, promoting a resident's idea that villagers should 'adopt' an area or street sign etc, and maintain that to help improve the village. EBP will circulate this to all councillor and distribute at the meeting. Clerk will put also put a copy in the notice board.</p> <p>b. Phone Box restoration – PS reported that two residents had contacted him to say that would like to get involved in restoring the box. IB added that another resident had also expressed an interest and that this could be taken forward, once residents respond to the 'adopt a spot' campaign.</p> <p>c. RBC Grant meeting – IB attended and reported that while there was nothing that could directly help the village at this time (but might once a plan had been agreed for the playpark field) there were some interesting items, including low cost solution for CCTV in rural villages and a new bus service to bring rural residents in the town centre.</p>	EBP/Clerk
9.20.3.17	<p>New Village Issues.</p> <p>a. A resident at the meeting asked if the Parochial Church Council could provide a ramp for the Old School Room to improve accessibility. The meeting agreed that the clerk should ask the PCC if their ramp held in the church could be used for functions, until the new building is provided.</p> <p>b. JB raised his concerns (both personal and for other bridge users) that the WCC's plan to impose a 10 ton weight limit would hamper his business and seriously disrupt farmers who have land on both sides of the bridge. He also asked it be noted that drivers accessing the rail yard on the south side of the bridge are still using the bridge with extremely heavy vehicles. The meeting agreed that the clerk should write to WCC to register concerns on behalf of the parish council, residents and local businesses, and that the bridge is still being used by HGVs. JB to provide clerk with a copy of the letter from WCC.</p>	Clerk Clerk/JB
10.20.3.17	<p>Parish Plan/OSCR Project</p> <p>a. IB reported that they were now ready to submit the new application to the National Lottery for funding to provide the new community building to replace the OSCR. He</p>	IB/EBP

	wanted to record thanks to Barry and Kevin for their help with this complex document.	
11.20.3.17	<p>RBC/WCC Fosse Community Forum and Walc update</p> <p>a. IB attended that Community Forum and found it help with items on cyber security. He also reported that in future if anyone wants Police support on a community campaign, they need to send an email before the meeting.</p> <p>b. No WALC meetings</p>	
12.20.3.17	<p>Planning Applications & Appeals.</p> <p>a. Nothing to report and a request to meet with RBC's head of Planning (although agreed by him) was proving impossible to arrange as Rob Back will not provide dates for a meeting. Clerk to pursue.</p>	Clerk
13.20.3.17	<p>Neighbourhood Watch</p> <p>a. Nothing to report.</p>	
14.20.3.17	<p>Financial matters</p> <p>a. Councillors noted the latest strong position – which includes earmarked reserves for elections and new/repair lamp posts and the estimated year end position of funds of £8300 to be carried forward to the next financial year.</p> <p>b. Cheques signed at the meeting: £8.00 for room hire, £600 for clerk's salary and tax.</p> <p>c. The clerk circulated the Asset Register – which links to the items covered in our insurance, which was reviewed, discussed and approved.</p> <p>d. The clerk confirmed that the PC is now registered with the Pension Authority and has met all its obligations. There is no financial implication for the PC at this time – but could change when a new clerk is appointed.</p> <p>e. IB proposed that the clerk's salary be increased in line with the national pay scale and that she should in line with the pay scale receive an annual increase of £79.92 which will be rounded up to £80 a year – making the clerk's annual salary £2480. This was proposed by IB and seconded by EBP and agreed by all.</p>	Clerk
15.20.3.17	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a. Nothing to report</p>	

<p>16.20.3.17</p>	<p>Other items:</p> <p>a. Playpark monitoring Cllr Brady (JB) is inspecting the park and replaced a further bolt and confirmed he is keeping monthly records. LB advised that we need to provide a sign saying the park is leased and maintained by the PC and anyone with any concerns should notify the PC.</p> <p>b. Expansion of Magna Park IB reported that he had attended the latest consultation group meeting and that the developers Gazeley were working to resolve traffic concerns. Including the development of a satnav that would direct traffic to and from the park away from rural villages. The next meeting of the Group is on 20 May but he is unable to attend and asked for a volunteer to go in his place.</p> <p>c. Lengthsman – WS Gardens PS reported that RBC had undertaken a first grass cut in the village. It was agreed the clerk would ask Chris Worman for the cutting schedule, so that JB could request an interim cut from WS Gardens</p> <p>d. Dog fouling – Targeting owners It was agreed that this is a growing problem but that additional refuse bins is not the solution, as evidenced by the un-bagged dog mess left adjacent to the existing bins. EBP will produce a poster for the notice boards and IB will speak to anyone who is suspected (or seen) leaving dog mess.</p>	<p>JB/Clerk</p> <p>Clerk JB</p> <p>EBP</p>
<p>17.20.3.17</p>	<p>Items for next agenda</p> <p>a. Lengthsman scheme</p> <p>b. Magna Park redevelopment</p> <p>c. Playpark – monitoring and improvement plans</p> <p>d. Village Newsletter</p> <p>e. Annual Meeting</p> <p>f. Approval of accounts for the year to enable internal and then external audit to be undertaken.</p>	
<p>18.20.3.17</p>	<p>Agreed date of next meetings</p> <p>- Date of next meeting Monday 8 May 2017.</p>	

	Meeting closed at 8.56pm	

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Ian Bentlett, Chairman

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Date

Chairman's initials: