

Meeting of Harborough Magna Parish Council
7.30pm on 26 July 2021

Cllr Toby France (Chairman or TF)
Cllr Paul Skidmore (PS)
Cllr Harriet Hart (HH)
Cllr Rob Clark (RC)

In attendance: Clerk: Leona Bendall

Parishioners: Mary Palmer, Lynne Peake, Kerrie-Anne and Ian Canning, David Dodd, Rachel Thorpe, Laura Menaud, Jacqui Matthew, Pavel Janick

County and District Councillors: Adrian Warwick and Tony Gillias

1.26.7.21	Welcome - Cllr Toby France welcomed all to the meeting	
2.26.7.21	Apologies for absence - None received	
3.26.7.21	Declarations of Interest None made	
4.26.7.21	Update from District and County Councillors Cllr Warwick updated the meeting on the following points <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Urged everyone to contribute to the WCC Bus Survey which is underway – you can link to it from the WCC website• County has a new fire chief• The verge hardening scheme for the new village hall is approved and a date for its installation is awaited.• S106 money from Gazeley is available to alleviate traffic in the villages feeling the impact of HGVs and other traffic to and from the Magna Park sites – which together are the largest logistics and distribution centre in Europe. Items that can be considered include new signage, environmental weight limits, changes to sat navs and an ambition to have multi lingual signs to direct Cllr Gillias advised the meeting on the following points <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RBC will be undertaking Gypsy and Traveller Plan survey and count.• He has been appointed to the A5 Partnership Group with Highways England and will continue to press for dualling of the A5 and improvements to Leicester Road which are key to reducing the impact of HGVs in the town and villages.• High rise flats in Rugby are being decanted and demolished with residents offered other accommodation. This will be completed in 2022 and the sites redeveloped	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like County, RBS has now set up an Enterprise Company to better utilise resources to generate an income. • Rugby has a new head of Planning – Stephanie Gibrat • A luxury development of new flats will be built in Regent Street to help revitalise the town centre <p>The chairman then invited parishioners to ask questions of the County and District councillors – these focused on the traffic issues arising from the HGVs going through the village</p>	
5.26.7.21	<p>Approval of minutes and financial papers from last meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The minutes and financial papers from 14 June 2021 were taken as read, approved and were signed by the chairman. 	
6.26.7.21	<p>Matters arising from the minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The residents of the Old Village Hall have replanted the planter/sign on the verge outside their house and a volunteer has come forward paint the planter with creosote. - Cllr Hart confirmed she had now undertaken the Walc training course on the fundamentals of parish councils. 	
7.26.7.21	<p>Suspension of standing orders to allow parishioners of Harborough Magna to address the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No matters were raised. 	
8.26.7.21	<p>Standing orders were resumed</p>	

9.26.7.2	<p>New Village Issues</p> <p>The chairman noted the following issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A parishioner had written to complain that the footpath/bridge on Back Lane which was moved to accommodate the residents was very overgrown and a safety hazard. A volunteer has now cleared this but the residents do have a responsibility to keep the path clear and the chairman will pop around and make sure they are aware of this. - A resident questioned ownership of two trees that were overhanging and obscuring visibility from their drive to Easenhall Road. Councillor Clarke undertook to inform the landowner and cut back the overhanging trees. - Elizabeth Biggs-Poyner had written to ask if any councillor was willing to represent the Parish on the Revel Surgery's Patient Participate Group. Because of full time working commitments no one could take this on. Clerk to suggest the EBP seeks volunteers through the Revel. - The handle on the Telephone Box housing the Defibrillator has broken and as the frame is rotting in places it cannot be replaced in situ. Cost of a new door is £1000 plus, or £500 for a wooden frame. Because of the costs it was agreed just to buy a new handle and a volunteer from parishioners attending, Ian Canning, offered to cut out the rotted wood and install a new handle. Clerk to order handle. - The chairman also raised the subject of the S106 money to help reduce traffic and the Clerk raised the idea of moving the speed limits further along the road towards Pailton. At present the 50mph sign is attracting motorists to speed up towards this sign well within the 30mph zone. - A resident raised concerns about speeding traffic in Easenhall Road and whether anything could be done to lower the speed limit. After discussion the meeting agreed to write to WCC on this and also to see if it can be incorporated into any Magna Park relief scheme. 	<p>TF</p> <p>RJC</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/Ian Canning</p> <p>All/Clerk</p>
10.26.7.21	<p>Planning applications and appeals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Council discussed the new application for a retrospective consent for a new boundary wall for the Laurels. After discussion the Councillors agreed to write of their disappointment that this was after the event, with concerns on apparently contradictory information given to the property owner. - At this point a parishioner raised concerns about the safety of the external walls of the Old Rectory that looks in imminent danger of collapse. It was agreed to write to the residents because a collapse, either partial or total would cause significant problems for the village and users of Main Street. - The clerk advised the meeting that the owners of the Laurels had submitted an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness to 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	incorporate their field within the curtilage of their property. It was agreed to respond, repeating the Council's previous supportive comments on use of this land.	
11.26.7.21	<p>Financial and Governance issues</p> <p>a. The meeting considered the clerk's financial reports (cashbook, reconciliation, budget) to the end of July 2021 which showed that the Council's finances remained in a strong position.</p> <p>b. Cheques approved before this meeting were £43 for the first hire of the village hall in May and a breakage deposit. Cheques approved at the meeting were £79.95 for the Council's annual virus protection, £49.68 for the annual fee for the clerk@harboroughmagna.org – a google work space address, required for the annual audit submissions, and £25 for HH's WALC training.</p> <p>c. The clerk presented the new banking mandate and after discussion it was agreed that the Clerk and PS would continue as signatories to be joined by the chairman and Cllr Brady would step down. This was proposed by PS and approved by all councillors present.</p>	Clerk
12.26.7.21	<p>Ongoing village matters</p> <p>a. Playpark Work on a survey to garner support for upgrading the playpark is nearing completion.</p> <p>The clerk has requested a safety inspection of the play park and this is due in August.</p> <p>b. Volunteers PS continued the discussion from the last meeting that it would be a good idea if all new members of the community received a welcome card and a follow up visit by councillors. It was also agreed to look further at the use of the Village Hall for Parish Council events to support a strong community inclusion.</p> <p>c. Governance The clerk had previously circulated a Health & Safety policy and it was agreed that all councillors would give this further review (eg has anything been missed?). Framework and its policies, these were all approved. Subject to revision it will be approved at the September meeting of Council.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>HH/PS</p> <p>All /Clerk</p>
13.26.7.21	<p>External Organisations Update</p> <p>a. Walc/Fosse Community Forums Nothing new to report</p> <p>b. Village Hall PS reported that bookings are beginning to build up and</p>	All

	<p>attention is being given to generating events for the village.</p> <p>c. Environmental Improvement Group Nothing new to report</p> <p>d. Neighbourhood Watch PS is continuing to set up a scheme for a village Neighbourhood Watch – he hopes to give an update at the next meeting</p>	PS
14.26.7.21	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a. The clerk raised a request for a donation towards support for victims of crime in Warwickshire. This met the Council's Charitable Giving Policy and it was decided to make a donation of £50 towards this event.</p> <p>b. A parishioner suggested at the meeting making a donation to an event to raise funds for Kidney Research. This was approved. After the meeting the clerk advised the chairman that this needed to be handled in line with our policy and process and has therefore asked for a written request for funds so she can progress the donation.</p>	
17.26.7.21	<p>Provisional dates of next meetings 13 September, 1 November 2021</p>	All
	Meeting closed at 20.40	

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Toby France
Chairman

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Date