



## HARTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Hartwell Parish Council's meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 7.30pm at The Lounge, Hartwell Community Centre, School Lane, Hartwell.

Present: Parish Councillors: Deborah Barker (Chairman), Scott Turner (Vice Chairman), Graham Harris, John Budden, George Jones, David Heron (8.05pm), Hester Gallen (7.35pm).

Also present: Sarah Fuller (Parish Clerk)  
Vivian Blyth and Jane Austin (Representatives from the Friends of Roade Library)

225/2017	To receive apologies for absence. <b>Resolved:</b> Councillor Dawson (work)
226/2017	To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. (Members should disclose any interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business). <b>Resolved:</b> Councillor Turner – item 230/2017 c
227/2017	To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the full Parish Council meeting dated 09/11/17 and the extraordinary meeting minutes dated 30/11/17. <b>Resolved:</b> The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting dated 30/11/17 were accepted as drafted and signed by the Chairman. The minutes of the full Parish Council meeting dated 09/11/17 were accepted and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments to the invoice numbers only (amounts paid remain the same): 1042 RTM Landscapes Ltd amended to 1090 12673 Rialtas Business Solutions amended to 18352 9625 AH Contracts amended to 9684
228/2017	<b>Public participation session will take place at 7.35pm</b>
a)	Jane Austin would like to have her own key for the noticeboard. <b>Resolved:</b> as this was not an item on the agenda, council was unable to make a decision and therefore this was deferred to the January meeting.
b)	Vivian Blyth and Jane Austin wanted to update council regarding the closure of Roade Library:- Friends of Library and Roade Parish Council intend to put forward a formal expression of interest to take over the running of the library. In the meantime, they will need to put together a business plan. On 22/12/17 they should received details of how much it will cost to rent the library from Northamptonshire County Council. One way to increase income from the library was to alter the building to make it more usable ie offer conference facilities and the like. They have set up a working group which two councillors from Roade will attend. Currently the library is open

	for 12 hours per week but they want to open it for 16 hours per week i.e. 4 days with 4 volunteers each day.
229/2017	<b>Reports from outside bodies:</b>
a)	<p>To receive an update from County Councillor Michael Clarke on matters relating to Northamptonshire County Council (NCC):-</p> <p><b>Flooding</b> – This is not an issue which NCC can resolve. It is the responsibility of Highways England (HE) and South Northamptonshire Council (SNC). It appears the cause of the flooding is from two underground attenuation tanks on the other side of the road. HE are in talks with SNC planning department to obtain details of the planning permission given for the properties and tanks. Cllr Budden informed council he had contacted the affected residents and emailed Highways England. The houses were built 30+ years ago. There were ditches there but they appear to have been filled in. The tanks were put in 4 or 5 years ago at the insistence of HE to divert water seeping onto the M1. Cllr Budden will continue to support the residents.</p> <p><b>NCC Budget</b> – news of what central government are doing will be on the NCC website on Monday. Runaway expenditure in Adult Social Care, Childrens services which are statutory services. Discretionary services are environment, highways, buses, libraries, trading standards etc. Cllr Clarke is not hopeful of bringing good news at the next meeting regarding the library and buses because they are discretionary services. NCC notified a large number of stakeholders about the loss of the buses and library and it is regrettable that information did not filter down to members of this community. NCC are currently looking to SNC to ascertain whether or not money to keep the bus service running could be utilised from the S106 money which is held by SNC. Cllr Budden had already made enquiries with SNC grants panel and at this present time legislation does not allow for the money to be used for this purpose. Cllr Clarke will ascertain the exact cost to the parish after taking off the monies used to transport children which is a legal requirement of the county council and will also ascertain where the bus legally has to run from and to for school age children and provide it to the parish council as soon as possible.</p> <p>NCC has overspent £9.8m this year and it has to make additional savings of £27m. Therefore they need to cut costs by approx £36m in 2018-19. NCC net budget is £400m. Statutory services take up approximately 70% of the budget. NCC receives a Revenue Support Grant from central government, council tax element ceiling of 3% increase on council tax unless a referendum is held. If a referendum was held, the costs would be somewhere in the region of a 6 figure sum. NCC capital sales will be used to prop up the budget. NCC have already sold one of their properties Dryden House for approx £9/10m.</p> <p>Cllr Gallen added that the extraordinary response NCC have received to the budget cuts in particular the bus subsidy is because of the work of the people of Hartwell and not because of NCC advertising. Mr Steve Vansitart (parishioner) still awaits a response regarding equality.</p> <p>Cllr Clarke is happy for his email to the parish council regarding equality assessment which was undertaken to be shared but would like the names of the county councillors involved to be redacted. Cllr Gallen noted the assessment had not included Oakleaf Care.</p> <p>Phase 1 of NCC's budget consultation had been completed and Phase 2 was still ongoing however Cllr Clarke was unsure of the dates and would need to look it up</p>

	<p>and get back to council.</p> <p>The counties MP's have been enlisted to lobby government ministers to increase revenue support grant and to change the formula for funding county councils.</p>
b)	<p>To receive an update from District Councillor John Budden on matters relating to South Northants Council:-</p> <p>The consultation for Roxhill terminal junction 15 which cost approx £575m has now ended and the findings will go to central government for a decision.</p> <p>There is a new CEO at SNC namely Mrs Yvonne Reece who is changing things. They have put in place 3 new directors albeit they were already employees of SNC. SNC's new development company is up and running. In 2 years time, SNC will be facing a huge budget deficit from central government. That is part of the reason SNC took the decision to form the development company which will hopefully generate income. SNC's waste management is one of the top 10 in the county.</p> <p>Grit bins are empty have been reported on street doctor</p>
c)	<p>To receive an update from Mrs Carol Buck relating to St John the Baptist Church. Unfortunately Mrs Buck was unable to attend but had provided the following update:-</p> <p>Carols by Candlelight this coming Sunday at 6pm. We have just had our Parish Share Notification come and between all five churches in the Benefice we have got to find £68,021.00 for 2018. Hartwell alone could not meet their share for 2017 by £5,500.00.</p>
d)	<p>To receive an update from Mr George Jones relating to highways and footpaths around the village.</p> <p><b>Footpaths</b> - Finger posts signs have been renewed and reinstated but unfortunately one was vandalised but this has been re-sited.</p> <p>He had received emails regarding the stiles at Forest View and Church Close which he will forward onto council.</p> <p>Works to the vegetation around lamp 102 on Forest Road was carried out earlier than reported at the last meeting.</p> <p><b>Highways</b> - The potholes repairs along Blacksmith's way have been done very badly. The state of repair is horrendous. Cllr Clarke asked if photographs could be taken and sent onto Helen Howard at NCC Highways which Mr Jones is happy to do.</p> <p>Police speed cameras have been in the village two or three times in the past month.</p> <p>Street light 88 at the end of Salcey Close not working (clerk to report).</p>
230/2017	<p><b>Correspondence/communication</b> – to consider any received as listed below and/or prior to meeting.</p>
a)	<p>Draft letter from Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity regarding the Housing needs survey they intend to send out to all households in January. The parish council have been asked to consider the letter which will be printed on Grand Union Housing headed paper. Emailed to councillors 20/11.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> accepted with the following amendments (in bold) "this is an important opportunity to tell us what type of housing (<b>if any</b>).....</p> <p>Both the parish and district councils are aware that the survey is taking place. <b>The parish council will receive a copy of the survey results.</b></p>
b)	<p>SNC New Homes Bonus Grant has offered HPC £27,676.89 to assist with the renewal</p>

	<p>of the village's street lights. Councillors to consider whether or not to accept the offer. Emailed to councillors 08/12.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> Accepted. Clerk to accept the offer and sign the terms and conditions.</p>
c)	<p>Email from Group Scout Leader at 1<sup>st</sup> Hartwell Scout Group asking if the parish council will support their application to SNC New Homes Bonus Grant. They would like to apply for £2,100 to assist with taking the scout troop on a trip to Ypres in Belgium to the WW1 trenches and memorial. Emailed to councillors 30/11.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> Support.</p>
d)	<p><b>Emails from Castlethorpe Parish Council</b></p> <p>Milton Keynes Council had sent out a consultation to their parishes regarding the withdrawal of the bus subsidy from NCC. CPC have unanimously voted for option 1 which was for the bus to go as far as Roade as there are children within those parishes who attend the school there. It is likely the bus would stop at Hartwell and go straight onto Roade rather than continuing on the current route.</p> <p>District Councillor Budden will speak with SNC to see if any assistance can be provided and update council at the next meeting.</p>
<b>231/2017</b>	<b>Updates</b>
a)	<p>Councillors Heron and Jones to report on SID data.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> duly noted. The SID data had been emailed to councillors. The SID has captured data of vehicles continually breaking the speed limit especially when travelling into the village via the M1 bridge. The SID will next be placed on Park Rd.</p>
b)	<p>Clerk - Phase 1 Northamptonshire County Council's proposed budget 2018/19.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> no further information to report.</p>
c)	<p>Councillor Gallen - Save the Bus campaign.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> duly noted. This coming Tuesday at 10am, there is going to be a protest at County Hall to oppose the budget cuts prior to the committee meeting at 11am. Prior to the finalisation of the budget, it is intended a group of volunteers will go door to door to obtain signatures for the petition and also to ensure parishioners are aware of the cuts to the bus subsidy.</p>
d)	<p>Councillors Harris and Budden – SNC Community Safety Workshop 23/11/17.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> duly noted. SNC are hoping to open a refuge for male victims of domestic violence and abuse. SMART water is no longer available as there are not enough police to implement it. The police demonstrated security locks for sheds. The Chairman at SNC does not believe the Towcester bypass will go ahead before 2020. There is information available on the SNC website regarding flooding and emergency planning.</p>
e)	<p>Councillor Jones - meeting with Mr Stephen Mold 15/11/17.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> unfortunately Cllr Jones was unable to attend.</p>
f)	<p>Executive Planning Committee meeting 14/12/17</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> The decisions made at that meeting were duly noted.</p>
<b>232/2017</b>	<b>Finances</b> (previously scrutinised by Cllr. Dawson, internal financial controller)
a)	<p>Councillor Dawson to provide summary of Council's finances.</p> <p>Unity Trust Bank £33,960.46 - Santander £62,979.44 = £96,939.90</p> <p>Earmarked funds total £50,218.59.</p> <p>Income - £700 (memorial, Hartbeat ads, interments).</p>
b)	<p>Council to nominate who will approve this month's bank transfers.</p>

	<b>Resolved:</b> Councillors Heron and Barker			
c)	To consider invoices for payment (as set out below & any rec'd prior to the meeting) <b>Resolved:</b> approved.			
<u>Reference</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Power to Pay</u>	<u>Amount (inc vat)</u>
Nov	M Fuller	Parish Clerk	LGA 1972 s112	£744.21
Nov	M Fuller	Hartbeat postage	LGA 1972 s112	£42.70
Nov	R Wain	Litter Officer	LGA 1972 s112	£96
1120	RTM Landscapes Ltd	Extra cut to village	Open Spaces Act 1906 s9&10	£414 (£69)
17771	Aylesbury Mains	Street lighting repairs	Highways Act	£144 (£24)
689102	Viking	Stationary	LGA 1972 s112	£201.91 (£32.53)
1003263	Kalkwik	Printing Hartbeat	LGA 1972 s112	£1,239
9743	A H Contracts	Emptying dog bins	Open Spaces Act 1906 s9&10	£84 (£14)
d)	Council to consider quotes for the cemetery noticeboard £749.79 ex vat. Installation will be approximately £100 plus materials approx £15. <b>Resolved:</b> Quote accepted. Councillors would like Clerk to order the dark Oak.			
e)	Councillors to consider their donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. As Council does not have the power to make this donation, they will need to consider using S137. <b>Resolved:</b> Councillors would like to donate £100.			
<b>233/2017</b>	<b>Libraries</b>			
a)	Councillors to consider their response to NCC Library Services Review Consultation. Deadline 13/01/18. <b>Resolved:</b> council deferred this item to the January meeting.			
b)	Councillors to consider what assistance they can give to the Friends of Roade Library to keep the service open. Emailed to councillors 21/11. <b>Resolved:</b> council deferred this item to the January meeting.			
<b>234/2017</b>	Milton Keynes Council (MKC) is inviting representations on its proposed Submission Plan: MK October 2017, which sets out the planning strategy for Milton Keynes until 2031 together with site allocations and development management policies. Councillors to consider making representations. Deadline for responses 20/12/17. <b>Resolved:</b> Council does not wish to participate.			
<b>235/2017</b>	Councillors Turner and Harris to provide information/ideas relating to adult gym equipment. Councillors to discuss next steps. <b>Resolved:</b> Information was provided to Cllr Gallen who will draft a proposal for council's consideration at the January meeting.			
<b>236/2017</b>	This part of the meeting will be closed to the public and press despite the general duty to conduct meetings in public, it will be necessary on this occasion to exclude the public and press as provided in Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies Act 1960. This private session will be held to discuss clerk's appraisal. <b>Resolved:</b> with the agreement of the clerk, council deferred this item to the January			

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<u>Items for next agenda</u>	
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Noticeboard key for Jane Austin	
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MKC would Hartwell be able to contribute towards the bus service?	
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Cllr Gallen Hartbeat printing	
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Cllr Gallen adult gym equipment	
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Clerk's appraisal	
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As there were no further items for consideration, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10pm.	
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