

**MINUTES OF HARDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD 12th NOVEMBER 2009 AT 7.30PM IN HARDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Present

Councillors – Mike Andrews, Alan Sykes, Kay Kirkham, Colin Booth, Sarah Bladen, John Bagnall

Clerk - Jessica Mathews

District Cllr - Simon Cooke

1. Apologies

Cllr Hannah Cummins

District Cllr Michael Ellis

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Public Question Time

None

4. To confirm minutes of meetings held 8th October 2009

Resolved. The minutes, of the meeting held on 8th October, are a true and accurate record. Cllr Andrews signed a copy of them.

5. Pedestrian Refuge

An email from Craig Williams, Senior Engineer at BMDC, has stated that after investigation a pedestrian refuge in front of the cottages on Wilsden Road is not possible, due to problems with uneven gradient of the road and the removal of vital parking for the housing there. Questions were asked as to whether the refuge could be sited further down the road or whether the road could be raised. The email will be forwarded by the clerk to the District Councillors so to ensure the matter has been properly dealt with and all options have been explored.

6. Remembrance Service

The Chairman laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. There was a good turnout and Cllr Robert Owens attended from BMDC. Some Cllrs commented that it was a shame that there was so much traffic passing during the minute silence.

7. Youth Club

Cllr Bladen and Cummins expressed an interest in starting up a youth club in the Memorial Hall for young people to provide somewhere for them to meet and chat. Vending machines could be provided. This could be supervised by Cllrs, parents and the detached youth workers already meeting young people in the village. It was suggested that Cllr Bladen get in touch with Cllr David Mullen, the Chair of Steeton and Eastburn PC who is involved in a similar project.

The Chairman is trying to organise a meeting with local young people and their youth workers to discuss their ideas about improving services for young people in the village, including a youth shelter.

Suggested date is Tuesday 1st December at 7.30pm in the church. The Chairman will arrange the meeting.

8. Room Charges

The School Board has changed its hire costs to £25 per hour after 6pm. The PC feels this cost to be an unreasonable use of public money and is therefore seeking an alternative public venue to hold its meetings.

The Clerk will explore hiring the newly heated Memorial Hall and the Congregational Church, subject to it being heated and access being straight forward.

9. NPT Meeting

Latest crime figures show almost no crime in Harden.

Cllr Booth will raise the recent St Ives fireworks event at the next meeting which resulted in complete gridlock on the roads leading to the estate.

10. Parish Plan

A meeting will take place with Ali Mantle from the Shipley Area Co-ordinator's office to progress the production of the plan.

11. Harden Park

The shrubs need to be cut back further, awaiting a response from the Parks and Landscape Manager.

The proposed drinking ban is being progressed by District Cllr Ellis.

12. Newsletter

Cllr Kirkham is editing a final version. The newsletter will include a thank you to Valley for the new notice boards. The PC is very grateful to Mr Towler in the Post Office and Mr Snowden in the Butcher's for continuing to allow the boards to be situated on their walls.

The PC would also like to thank Mr Towler and Mr Snowden for their kindness and support whilst the spring bulbs were being planted.

13. Flowerbeds and Planting

Streetscene will work in partnership with the PC to share the planting and maintenance of the flowerbeds. They will plant spring bulbs, the PC will put in bedding plants for the summer. The cherry trees lining the main road into the village will also be replaced where appropriate. The PC extends its thanks to Cllr Andrews, his wife and Cllr Booth for their continuing efforts.

14. Memorial Hall

Three areas of development: potential youth club; potential new meeting venue; new boiler.

Cllr Cooke talked about LEADER funding, a European fund to encourage diversity in rural areas with an output for community halls. A funding proposal is currently being looked at which would create a post to run a project looking into developing the 5 local halls, including the Memorial Hall.

15. Speedwatch

The PC is waiting for new dates to be agreed.

16. Website

The clerk has been trialling a website and will show this at the next meeting where the Cllrs hope to agree to go ahead. Costs and company information will be looked at before the next meeting by the Cllrs.

17. Parish Liaison meeting

No change to report on the development of electronic planning. This issue began in July 2008. The PC is frustrated at the lack of progress.

Advice was issued to remind all Cllrs to declare any interest in any items on their agendas.

18. Voluntary Driver scheme

A new driver has come forward in Harden. Denholme is now trying to recruit volunteers.

19. Payments for Approval

Cllr Bagnall presented the cashbook for Cllrs to inspect.

20. Correspondence

New ESBD school; ISO Group Directory of Voluntary Services; Standards Committee meeting minutes; Waste Management Development Plan consultation;

21. Planning Applications

09/02547/FUL Goit Stock caravan site Goit Stock Lane, Harden – **NO OBJECTIONS**

09/04980/HOU 9 Harbeck Drive, Harden – **NO OBJECTIONS**

09/05123/FUL Widening of highway Harden Road on the east side – **NO OBJECTIONS**

The meeting was closed at 9.20 pm

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held
on 10th December at 7.30pm in Harden Primary School**