

Harborough Magna Parish Council

Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council 29 March 2021

ONLINE

Cllr Toby France (Chairman or TF)
Cllr John Brady (JB)
Cllr Paul Skidmore (PS)
Cllr Rob Clarke (RC)
Cllr Harriet Hart (HH)

Cllr Adrian Warwick (WCC) – online until end of item 5
Cllr Tony Gillias (AG) – on line until end of item 5

In attendance: Clerk: Leona Bendall

Parishioners: Cath and Bob Bolton and David Dodds

Note of explanation: Cllr France (chairman) changed the order of business to facilitate input from Cllr Adrian Warwick and parishioners – items, 4, 16a and b were taken together.

1.29.3.21	Welcome - Cllr Toby France welcomed all to the meeting	
2.29.3.21	Apologies for absence There were no apologies for absence	
3.29.3.21	Declarations of Interest None made	
4.29.3.21	Update from County Councillors - Cllr Warwick: he continues to liaise between WCC Highways Team, Moto, Highways England, and MP Mark Pawsey to alleviate the intrusion of HGVs through the Revel villages which has increased significantly with night closures of the M6. He is advocating more signage and in addition international pictorial signage so that foreign drivers can understand that they must follow the diversion routes – not their satnavs. He is also meeting with Highways England representatives at a Magna Park Consultative Group to discuss further improvements to use of village roads and to get traffic flowing on the major A5/M6/M1 network which would help reduce traffic through the villages. (Cllr Gillias and the HMPC clerk will also be attending this meeting.) TF advised Cllr Warwick that he had received a negative response to his request that WCC's Executive Director Mark Ryder advise how the Parish can achieve an Environment Weight Restriction (EWR). TF pointed out that in just saying 'no' (albeit over two pages) Mr Ryder had failed to answer the Parish's one question which was for him to advise on the process to achieve an EWR, rather than Mr Ryder making a unilateral decision. Cllr Warwick said he continues to support	TF/Clerk

	<p>the village in this aim and asked TF if he could be included as a counter signatory to the Parishes next letter. <u>Cllr Warwick left the meeting at this point.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cllr Gillias repeated his own frustration at the intrusions in village roads which are not built to withstand such traffic and cottages and houses by the narrow roads are shaking from the HGVs. - He also said he'd come from an RBC meeting that agreed they were going to tackle the litter problem by a mix of technology on the bigger roads and school education so that pupils can teach their parents that it is wrong to throw their litter out of the windows. - He was twice specifically asked if RBC were going to support parishes with village litter picks and eventually replied 'of course'. However the clerk reported that emails to the Environmental Team asking for support are being ignored. <u>Cllr Gillias left the meeting at this point.</u> 	
<p>5.29.3.21</p> <p>And items 16a and 16b</p>	<p>Suspension of standing orders to allow parishioners of Harborough Magna to address the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Litter was raised again by Cath Bolton who has been in correspondence with Rugby and our MP but as yet had not received the detailed responses she had requested. She has previously and submitted a plan to the Parish Council for a longer term solution (attached to the minutes of 22 February meeting). It was agreed that TF would host a meeting with HH and Cath Bolton over the Easter Weekend to discuss this plan for longer term solutions to litter/environment improvement for the village. <p><u>The Boltons left the meeting at this point.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TF raised the issue of the Village Tidy scheduled for 24 April and it was agreed that rather than have duplication of tasks – a schedule of all the areas that need attention would be prepared. TF to draw this up – Clerk to populate it with offers of help she had received – and all councillors were to review this and suggest other areas that need attention. - David Dodds who had recently moved to the village said he was surprised by the lack of support at Borough and County level. On a recent walk he had met a villager picking up litters along Cathiron Lane who complained that Rugby would not collect it from her. He also mentioned that he had agreed to supply and fit a new kitchen for the Revel Primary School whose own kitchen was falling to pieces and they could not get support from the school's authority Warwickshire County Council. 	<p>TF/HH</p> <p>TF/All /Clerk</p>
6.29.3.21	Standing orders were resumed	
7.29.3.21	Approval of minutes and financial papers from last meeting	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The minutes and financial papers from 22 February 2021 were taken as read and approved and will be signed by TF after the meeting. 	
8.29.3.21	Matters arising from the minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There were no matters arising from the minutes 	
9.29.3.21	New Village Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Since the last meeting four issues had arisen – of which two (clearance of scrub land, known as ‘the Haven’ at the end of Church Close and blocked pavement by building works outside The Laurels) had been resolved. - A new issue raised by a resident was the repeated use of the ‘Green Lane – an unmetalled bridle way’ between Park Cottages on Harborough Road and Lime Farm Marina off Cathiron Lane. This has become something of a short cut/or experience track for drivers of four wheel cars. Cllr Brady, who owns the Marina said it was causing him expense and nuisance and it was a problem for residents of the cottage – and walkers, horse riders and cyclists who could use the bridle way. It was agreed to write to Legal Services at Rugby to seek advice on how usage could be limited to its original purpose. - There is a broken planter underneath the Harborough Parva sign in Easenhall Road and after discussion it was agreed that the planter should be removed and further bulbs planted around the sign in due course. HH was volunteered to suggest another planter and ideas for its position that could be placed elsewhere in the village with wildflowers/herbs. 	Clerk TF/HH
10.29.3.21	Parish Plan – Village Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No formal update PS advised that the Village is preparing plans for when it can open. 	
11.29.3.21	RBC/WCC Fosse Community Forum and Walc update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing new to report – although TF advised that other Parish Chairman were reporting greater support on litter from their principal authorities. 	TF
12.29.3.21	Planning applications and appeals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The meeting discussed the planning application by the owner of the Laurels to change the status of his paddock. He advised the meeting that he wanted this to become part of his curtilage of his property – so it could be used as a play area/garden for his children. The clerk suggested that the PC 	All/Clerk

	<p>should respond to Planning by saying ‘the Parish Council has no objections to this application as the land has had no agricultural use since January 2008.’ TF asked all councillors to read the application – and come back with any comments to the Clerk by 15 April.</p>	
13.29.3.21	<p>Neighbourhood Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing new to report. 	
14.29.3.21	<p>Financial and Governance issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The cashbook and bank reconciliation forecast were reviewed and approved. b. It was noted that payments of £644.16 and £161.14 had been paid as the Clerk’s Q4 salary and HMRC payment. The clerk sought permission to pay the WALC subscription of £191 before the next meeting - this was agreed. c. New season grass cutting – the clerk had circulated details of quotes from two companies. She reported that a third company had declined to bid and that no expressions of interest had been received from parishioners to supply this service. It was therefore agreed to accept Lakeside’s quotation as they were significantly cheaper and had provided a reasonable service last year. JB queries whether this would create problems of duplication with Rugby’s own grass cutting and the clerk replied no, this has now been resolved at we invoice RBS for this work and arrange our own service. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
15.29.3.21	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None received 	
16.29.3.21	<p>Ongoing village issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 16a and 16b were discussed as part of items 4 and 5 above. - 16c It was agreed to give some urgent thought to working up a scheme to replace the playpark equipment and a community timetable for consultation and ideas for new equipment should be ready for the new Council in May. PS said he would circulated details of his earlier questionnaire which could be a basis for a new consultation on which all councillors could comment. - 16.d. Work is continuing on policies most of which will be presented for review at April meeting and then formal approval at the May Annual Meeting. The clerk confirmed that all documents were backed up each month 	<p>PS/AII</p> <p>Clerk</p>

17.29.3.21	Items for next agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Litter and lorries - Playpark monitoring and upgrading - Review of financial regulations and draft revised asset register – pre audit sign off of accounts before the current PC is dissolved before the election on 6 May 2021. 	All
18.29.3.21	Date of next meetings 26 April 2021 and 17 May 2021	All
	Meeting closed at 21.36pm	

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Toby France
Chairman

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Date