

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 19th September, 2006**

There was one member of the public present.

PRESENT Mr. E. Clark (in the Chair)
 Mrs. S. Sawyer
 Mr. R. House
 Mrs. K. Hayes
 Mrs. M. Keates
 Mr. D. Tucker
 Dr. C. Beckett
 Mr. D. Drewett
 Mr. B. Cullern

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr. Sarah Content

At the open forum Mr. Durbridge addressed the Parish Council.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr. K. Jackson, Mr. M. Duff, Mr. V. Bielecki and Mr. J. Willis

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

Planning application 06/02735/TCA: The Chairman, Mr. House and Mr. Drewett – personal interest, the applicant being an acquaintance of theirs.

Planning application 06/02679/FUL: Mrs. Keates, personal interest, the applicant being an acquaintance of hers.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 22nd August, 2006, and the Planning Committee meeting held on the 5th September, 2006, had been circulated. Mrs. Hayes said that in Minute 12e of the August PC meeting, Marsh Road should read Marshmead. Subject to this amendment the Minutes were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING (from the August PC meeting)

Minute 6 – District Report: The Chairman said that the industrial dispute between Cleanaway and their workers had not in fact been resolved.

Minute 7 – Affordable housing development in Hilperton: The Clerk had e-mailed and also written to WWDC's Housing PFI Project Manager and had received an acknowledgement from him.

Minute 7 – WWDC Town and Parish Play Area Grant Scheme: The Clerk had circulated notes to all parish councillors on the current position regarding play area grants and the Hammond Way play area.

Minute 7 – Fly tipping at the cemetery: The Clerk had spoken to an officer at WWDC's Commercial Services section and he said he would talk to English Landscapes about the problem. Since that time other materials had been dumped, so the situation would need to be monitored.

Minute 12a – Broken manhole cover adjacent to the Cradock's field, Whaddon Lane, caused by the recent resurfacing team: This had been reported by the Clerk but was not yet repaired.

Minute 12b – Drain cover in the pavement outside 73/74 Hill Street lifting badly: This had been reported by the Clerk but was not yet repaired.

Minute 12c – Manhole cover in the middle of the road outside 59 Hill Street on a tilt: This had been reported by the Clerk but was not yet repaired.

Minute 12d – Drain outside the old Methodist chapel full of grass: This had been reported by the Clerk but no-one was sure whether or not it had been cleared.

Minute 12e – Overgrown hedge at the cul-de-sac where Marshmead comes into Hill Street (opposite the farm entrance): This had been reported by the Clerk but the hedge had not been cut back.

Minute 12f – Fly tipping by the canal: This had been reported by the Clerk but WWDC are unable to assist when fly tipping is on private property.

Minute 12g – The kerb by the Lion and Fiddle had been repaired again but not replaced, as the Clerk had requested.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

a) Proposed pedestrian refuge at Horse Road/Marsh Road: The Chairman said that the WCC officer dealing with this was awaiting the results of a road survey, which she was expecting at the end of September.

b) The Chairman had received an invitation to attend the AGM of Victim Support Wiltshire on the 19th October. Unfortunately he was unable to attend, due to a prior engagement.

c) Following the last meeting, the Chairman had authorised a cheque in the sum of £320, payable to Paul Stadden, in respect of emergency safety work he had carried out on rubber flooring etc. around the junior swings at the Village Hall play area. Mrs. Sawyer confirmed that the work was essential and Mr. Stadden had done a very good job.

d) The Chairman informed members that a written complaint about a parish councillor had been received since the last meeting. The complaint was that the parish councillor had declared a personal interest in a planning application but had gone on to take part in the debate and had also voted on it. In accordance with the code of practice the Clerk, following consultation with the Chairman, had replied to the complainants informing them that the Parish Council did not need to take any corrective action as the parish councillor in question was entitled to take part in both the discussion of their planning application and the resulting vote, as a personal – not a prejudicial - interest had been declared.

6. COUNTY COUNCILLOR, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE

County Report

Councillor Content said she was sorry she had been unable to attend the special August PC meeting.

WCC was in the process of bringing out an emergency action plan in respect of its financial affairs. Several corporate directors had left the authority and new incumbents included Sue Redmond as Director of the Department of Adult and Social Care, and Caroline Godfrey as the new Director of Education. Shortly Kennet and North Wiltshire, West Wiltshire and South Wiltshire Primary Care Trusts would be merging to form one Wiltshire PCT which would have to make tough decisions in respect of hospital closures.

The threat to completely withdraw transport for pupils attending denominational schools had been averted but this would be phased in over a period.

Councillor Content gave details of the Local Area Seminar at WWDC on the 2nd October and Wiltshire Strategic Board Conference on the 18th October.

The Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Committee were grateful to the Parish Council for supporting them in their efforts to resolve the problem over drains and sewers at Hackett Place. They now wished to have a detailed survey of the drains carried out but this could prove to be expensive.

Finally, Councillor Content said that the Community Centre would welcome any member/s of the Parish Council onto their management committee.

District Report

Apart from the ongoing industrial dispute between Cleanaway and their workers, the only thing the Chairman had to report was that a Warminster member had resigned from the District Council.

Police

No offer was in attendance and the Clerk was asked to contact APs Sandy Ralph about this.

7. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

War Memorial

a) Update on Essential Works

The Chairman reported that work would commence on Thursday, 21st September, and would be completed before the end of the month.

b) Removal of Wreaths

The Chairman said that wreaths were always removed from the War Memorial three weeks after Remembrance Sunday and he wondered if they should be left there a little longer. After a short discussion it was agreed that they should stay in place until one week before Christmas (i.e. the 18th December).

Paxcroft Mead Community Centre

The Chairman informed members that the transfer document and trust deed in respect of the Community Centre had not yet been registered at Land Registry. He and the Clerk had recently met with the solicitor at Wither King who had taken over from the previous solicitor dealing with the case and it was hoped that the transfer could now be completed relatively quickly.

The Clerk had written to the Managing Director of Marshgate Developments about the sewer problem at the Community Centre. No response had yet been received so she had written again asking for the courtesy of a reply.

The Gambling Act 2005 – Second Draft Statement of Principles

The second draft statement of principles for the development of a policy under the Gambling Act 2005 had been received from WWDC and the Clerk was asked to write to the licensing officer to thank her for sending it.

Local Area Agreements – a West Wiltshire Perspective

The Parish Council was invited to send a representative along to take part in a seminar regarding the formation of local area agreements for Wiltshire. The seminar would be taking place on the 2nd October from 7pm to 9pm at the District Council offices. The Chairman said he would be attending as a District Councillor but there were no volunteers from the Parish Council.

Parish Forum – 18th October, Civic Hall, Trowbridge

Mrs. Hayes said she would endeavour to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

West Wilts. Police Community Consultative Group

As Mr. Willis had already said he would be unable to attend the next meeting on the 3rd October at The Laverton, Westbury, Mrs. Hayes said she might be able to go in his place.

West Wilts. Central Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group

The next meeting was on the 3rd October and the Clerk said that Mr. Jackson would give a report at the next PC meeting.

Parish Steward Scheme

The Clerk had contacted Denise Bunce at WCC because she should have received, towards the end of August, a letter with an introductory document describing the Parish Steward who would be taking on work in Hilperton. She was informed that things were a little behind schedule but as soon as the Parish Steward was in place he would contact the Clerk. Visits in Hilperton this year would be on the 19th October, 21st and 22nd November and the 18th December.

Local Authorities and Empty Houses

Mr. Willis had asked for this matter to be put on the agenda for discussion but, as he was not present at the meeting, it was agreed that this should be deferred until October.

Horse Road (works by Persimmon)

The Clerk had written to Persimmon Homes asking them to secure the site in question against trespass by erecting a fence around it. No reply had been received and she said she would chase them up.

Occasional Employment of Contractors

This had been discussed briefly at the July meeting and, after another short discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council could consider, when the need arose, the employment of a contractor to carry out works which, for whatever reason, could not be undertaken by local authority staff.

Future Electoral Arrangements

The Chairman said that the Boundary Committee for England had now published its report to the Electoral Commission setting out its final recommendations for electoral arrangements in West Wiltshire. This publication had been received and had been placed on the addendum to the agenda. As far as Hilperton was concerned, the recommendation was for it to be included with Holt, Broughton Gifford and Staverton in a three-member ward and the suggestion was that this should be called 'Holt and Hilperton'.

There was general agreement that this was an inappropriate name for the new ward as it did not represent every village in it, and a non-specific name should be given. After a short discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Electoral Commission suggesting that the new ward should be called the 'Avonside' ward.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

06/02679/FUL: Mrs. J. Roberts, 26 Horse Road

Replacement dwelling and garage

It was agreed that an objection should be made to this application unless the following conditions were imposed:-

- a) In the interests of road safety, no access or egress should be allowed to and from the site during demolition or reconstruction work between the hours of 8.30 am and 9.15 am and between 2.45 pm and 4 pm. This is because the lane is used by children and parents going to and from Hilperton school during term time.
- b) All vehicles should be parked on site and should not at any time block the lane.
- c) No surface water should be permitted to drain into the lane

01/01971/OUT: J. J. Gallagher Ltd. And Heron Land Developments Ltd.

Land at Hackett Place – Residential development and associated roads

The District Council had recently received a revised plan to indicate that the land surrounding the site, previously indicated as being within the applicants' ownership, had now been transferred to different developers or to the Council as part of the area of public open space.

It was agreed that the objections the Parish Council had made previously should remain, i.e.:-

The developer gave an undertaking to the Parish Council that there would be no development on this site for a period of five years and specifically it was understood that any development would be for community purposes and not residential. On the 30th May, 2002, the then Central Area Committee of the District Council, under agenda item 13, deferred consideration of amending the Section 106 agreement on the local centre surplus land until further consultation. The Parish Council had not yet been consulted either by the District Council or by the developer.

It was agreed that it should also be pointed out that, whilst the Parish Council was not in favour of housing on this site, the applicant had made no provision for affordable housing. In addition, this part of Hackett Place leading to the school was unsuitable for residential development due to the already high volume of traffic.

06/02112/FUL: M. Fallas and P. Shepstone, 258 Hill Street

Erection of timber shed in garden for storage

It was agreed that no objection would be made to this application

06/02735/TCA: Mr. I. Greatwood, The Old Corner Store, 87 Hill Street

To fell Leylandii tree

It was agreed that no objection would be made to this application

06/02761/FUL: Hilperton Parish Council, Hilperton Village Hall, Whaddon Lane

Two single storey extensions to provide disabled access plus extra toilet and changing rooms plus an extra hall and extra parking area

For information only - no comment to be made

Decisions

06/02236/FUL: Mr. and Mrs. Scott, 16 Cresswell Drive

Conservatory - permission

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter from WWDC re. Leisure and Recreation Development Plan Document
- b) Letter from WCC/Swindon Borough Council re. Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office move
- c) Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service – briefing sessions around Wiltshire, including one at Trowbridge on the 21st September
- d) Community First – notice of AGM on the 27th September, 2006
- e) Society of Local Council Clerks – notice of AGM on the 21st October, 2006
- f) WALC County Newsletter for September, 2006 (already circulated)

10. PUBLICATIONS

- a) Trowbridge Community Area Future – community plan leaflets
- b) Clerks and Councils Direct – September, 2006
- c) Local Councils Update – September, 2006
- d) The Clerk – September, 2006
- e) The Arc Theatre – programme September to December, 2006

- f) Paws – programme October, 2006, to March, 2007
- g) Local Council Review – September, 2006
- h) Rural Services Review, 2006
- i) The Boundary Committee – final recommendations on the future electoral arrangements for West Wiltshire

11. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised:-

- | | | |
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| a) since the last meeting: | | |
| Cloth Road Arts Week (Chairman's Allowance) | | £25.00 |
| P. Staddon (emergency safety work on rubber flooring etc. around the junior swings, Village Hall play area) | | £320.00 |
| b) This meeting: | | |
| Clerk's Salary for September | £411.63) | |
| Clerk's Expenses | £109.86) | £521.49 |
| Mrs. L. House – compost and plants | | £19.96 |

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- a) Mrs. Sawyer reported cars still parking by the bus stop at the alleyway to Hilperton Primary School.
- b) Mr. House reported cars parking half on the pavement in Church Street and Whaddon Lane and also a car continually being parked outside the Lion and Fiddle (not in the car park)
- c) Mr. Cullern reported that he understood someone was interested in starting a doctors' surgery at Paxcroft Mead.
- d) Summer Maintenance Work: Mr. House had teak-oiled the bench by the bus stop along Trowbridge Road, for which he was thanked. The Chairman had carried out work at the Blind House but had not yet seen to the bench in the Knap.

13. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

The Clerk had submitted some pre-meeting notes for the parish magazine, owing to time constraints for the parish news. Items included were:-

- a) the PC's comments on affordable housing development at Marsh Road
- b) grant given to Wiltshire Search and Rescue
- c) problems concerning fly tipping
- d) parking on verges at The Mead School
- e) problems with sewers at Paxcroft Mead Community Centre

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, 17th October, 2006.

The meeting ended at 8.58 p.m.

Signed Date