

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,  
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2010**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Mr. R. House (in the Chair)	Mrs. S. Sawyer
	Mrs. K. Hayes	Mr. K. Jackson
	Mrs. J. Waring	Ms. P. Turner
	Mr. V. Bielecki	Mr. J. Willis

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Mr. E. Clark, Mr. W. Jameson, Mr. D. Tucker, Mr. T. Carbin, PC M. Hough and PCSO Ellen Wickenden

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICIAL INTEREST**

Agenda Item 8 – Grant request from the Village Hall: Mrs. S. Sawyer, personal, being a member of the committee.

### **3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2009, and the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2010, were approved and signed.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING (from the December PC meeting)**

Minute 8 – Parish Steward: The Clerk had asked for the Parish Steward to fill in some of the pot holes along the lane from St. Michael's Church to St. Thomas's Road. She had also contacted the footpath warden, Paul Millard, but had yet to hear from him.

Minute 8 – Wiltshire Local Development Framework: The Parish Council's response had been sent to Wiltshire Council and acknowledged. All the responses received would be processed and a report presented to full cabinet on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Minute 8 – Grant Requests: All the cheques had been sent out and the Clerk had invited representatives from the Paxcroft Mead Community Forum to the next Annual Parish Assembly, which would take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> May. She had also given details of the Trowbridge Guild of Community Service's Wright Fund to the Treasurer of the Giffords Day Centre.

Minute 9 – Planning Enforcement Seminar: The questionnaire had been completed and sent back to the Salisbury planning office.

Minute 13a – New bus shelter, Leap Gate: The Clerk said that the shelter would be erected at the end of January/beginning of February.

Minute 13c – Hole in the road along Hilperton Drive: The Clerk had contacted Andy Cadwallader about this but had not as yet received a response.

Minute 13d: The Clerk had e-mailed the Royal Mail about the refilling of the holes in the walls where the burnt-out post boxes were, but had yet to receive a response.

Minute 13e: The Parish Steward had been asked to cut back the stinging nettles and remove the rusty pipes along the alleyway leading to Newleaze but as all parish stewards were concentrating on filling-in of pot holes after the snowy weather, this probably had not been done.

### **5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

There were none.

## **6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Clark had recently been corresponding with Andy Cadwallader about the possibility of providing grit bins in a) Birch Gardens, Paxcroft Mead, (half way up the hill by Horseshoe Close), and b) Helpswell Road, Paxcroft Mead. Ideally a bin in both locations would be preferable but he said he would leave it to Mr. Cawallader to decide the 'better' location, if only one could be supplied.

The Clerk had also received a letter from WC requesting assistance from Parish and Town Councils in the management of their local grit bins. According to their records, there was no grit bin in Hilperton parish. In addition to the above, it was felt that Painters Mead should be provided with a grit bin, as should Cresswell Drive and Wyke Road (the Horse Road end).

## **7. POLICE**

PC Mark Hough and PCSO Ellen Wickenden had sent their apologies, as well as a short report. During the past month Hilperton had suffered from some anti-social behaviour, mainly to do with the snow and the throwing of snowballs at windows. A house in Hill Street had had a window broken and there had been a couple of dwelling burglaries, more towards Paxcroft. The police were again urging people to be more security aware. There had been some fence and hedge damage around Foxglove Drive and Stuart Close, the suspects possibly being the youths who had caused damage with the snowballs.

Mr. Jackson again made the point that the Parish Council had had no feedback from PC Mark Hough regarding speeding along Devizes Road, and the Clerk said she would contact him.

### Community Speed Watch

The Clerk had now heard from Sgt. Colin Davies in response to her e-mail to Lucy Deakin. She had said that, before going down the route of community speed watch, the Parish Council wondered – if it could get permission from the house owner – if a police officer on a speed motorbike might be deployed from time to time at the entrance to Palmers Close. Sgt. Davies had looked at the site and he felt that, as long as permission was given to park in the entrance to Palmers Close, he could look at setting up a site for the police enforcement motorcycle. He went on to say that as only 15% of the police's time could be spent on carrying out enforcement at a community concern site, and with the number of sites that met this criteria, the result was that they could only visit each site about two or three times a year.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should pursue this course of action, and the Clerk said she would contact Mrs. Whitfield.

## **8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Planter for Trowbridge Road**

The Clerk had not yet made any enquiries about a planter but said she would do so by the next meeting.

### **Parish Newsletter**

Councillor Clark was in the process of preparing a draft and he wondered if parish councillors could come up with an idea regarding distribution. A number of parish councillors said they would assist in their own immediate areas but it would still require someone to do the bulk of the distribution and it was agreed that he/she would need to be paid for this.

### **Wiltshire Council Speed Limit Review**

The Clerk informed members that local highway authorities had been requested by the department of Transport to undertake a review of existing speed limits on A and B roads in their area.

As far as Hilperton was concerned, it had been suggested that that part of Hilperton Drive which currently had a 40mph speed limit should be increased to 50 mph. This was because it was felt that the visibility splay was sufficient and this speed would cut down journey times.

After a short discussion, it was agreed that an increase would not be in the interests of public safety and that the current speed limits should remain.

### **Allotments**

Mr. Bielecki was pleased to report that the purchase had been completed and that the Parish Council was now the owner of the allotment land.

The allotment working group had met recently and had appointed the fencing contractor. A draft Tenancy Agreement had been prepared and it was agreed that the Clerk should send this out to every parish councillor with a request for immediate feedback. It was agreed that when the Tenancy Agreement had the full support of the Parish Council it could be sent to each potential allotment-holder, and this needed to be done as soon as possible.

Mr. Jackson had prepared an outline feasibility study, copies of which were tabled.

The Clerk said she would contact the footpath warden and get him to liaise with the fencing contractor so that the kissing gate could be moved to the correct spot. Wessex Water should also be given notice to do the work required to bring water to the site.

### **Trowbridge Community Area Parish Council's Liaison Group**

Mr. Jackson reminded members that the next meeting would be the AGM, to take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2010, at Southwick Village Hall, and he would attend on behalf of the Parish Council. At the meeting which would follow the AGM, the question of future funding for the group would be discussed. It was likely that parishes could be asked to give support to keep the group going to the tune of between £100 and £200 a year.

### **Parish Steward**

Due to the very cold weather in January, the programmed visits for parish stewards had been cancelled so that they could concentrate on filling potholes. It was pointed out that potholes were bad at the following locations:- the top end of Horse Road; Trowbridge Road on the westbound carriageway; in The Knap, opposite the War Memorial. These all needed urgent attention.

Future visits by the Parish Steward would be on the 17<sup>th</sup> February and the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Tree Planting**

Due to the very bad weather, the planting of the sixteen trees along Trowbridge Road had had to be deferred. Weather permitting, the Clerk said she would arrange for this to be done in February.

### **Roundabout Sponsorship**

The Clerk had written to the Grangeside Business Support Centre to say that, before a decision was reached on whether or not to go forward with the scheme, the Parish Council would need their assurance that they would be actively involved in the planting and upkeep of plants and not just donate an amount of money to the Parish Council and then expect members to 'get on with the job'. This assurance had been given but the Clerk had not as yet been able to arrange a meeting with a representative of Trowbridge Town Council to seek guidance on the sponsorship of roundabouts. It was agreed that this should be discussed further when the meeting had taken place.

### **Approval of the Budget and Setting of the Precept for 2010/11**

The Clerk tabled copies of the proposed budget for 2010/11 and said that the estimated number of band D properties in the parish was now 1,852.09. If the levy remained at £10.99 this would produce a precept of £20,354.47.

Discussion took place on the budget and it was agreed that the levy should remain at £10.99. Some adjustments should be made in respect of projected allotment income and expenditure and, subject to these adjustments, it was agreed that the budget should be adopted and the precept set at £20,354.47.

### **Section 19 Grant Request from Hilperton Village Hall**

A request had been received from the Treasurer of Hilperton Village Hall, asking for funding to help with the maintenance of the playing field. The Clerk reminded members of the background to what had become an annual request. After a short discussion it was agreed that a Section 19 grant of £1,992.56 should be made to the Village Hall, made up as follows:-

Grounds maintenance	£2,643.75
Public liability insurance (25%)	<u>£303.81</u>
	£2,947.56
Less football income	<u>£955.00</u>
	<u>£1,992.56</u>

### **South West in Bloom**

Councillor Clark had attended the first part of the presentation at the Civic Hall earlier in the day but had felt that the emphasis was entirely on Trowbridge and could find nothing of interest to report to the Parish Council.

### **Link to Parish Council Website**

The assistant campaign manager to Wilfred Emmanuel-Jones, the local Conservative candidate for the Chippenham constituency, had written to Councillor Clark requesting the Parish Council to link to his site. It was agreed that this request should be refused.

## **9. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **Applications**

There were none.

### **Decisions**

There were none.

### **Wiltshire Council - Interim Change to the Planning Scheme of Delegation to Officers**

The Clerk had received notification that the service review would result in a number of improvements to the way the service was delivered in the new year. In the meantime, it was clear that there was a strong and immediate desire on the part of some town and parish councils to remove some of the restrictions on the types of planning application that Wiltshire Council division members could call in for committee determination. At the present time section 'b' of the previously circulated Development Control Scheme of Delegation precluded Listed Building, Conservation Area and Advertisement consent applications from being called in but it had been decided that, until at least the end of the review, planning officers should decline to determine these categories under their delegated powers where division members had expressed a desire for an application to be determined by committee.

## **10. CORRESPONDENCE**

a) E-mail from Mr. A. Pike and reply from the Chairman, copies of which were tabled.

- b) More letters of thanks from Coal Charity recipients.
- c) Letter of thanks from Paxcroft Mead Community Forum re. grant given by the Parish Council.
- d) Notice of change of date of the Trowbridge Area Board meeting (now to take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2010).
- e) Letter from Trowbridge Community Area Future re. a culture event at the Civic Hall on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2010, details of which were read out by the Clerk.

## 11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) West Wilts. In Focus – Winter, 2009
- b) Minutes of the Trowbridge Area Board meeting of the 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2009
- c) Agenda for the Trowbridge Area Board meeting to take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.
- d) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre: Minutes of the meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2009, and the 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.
- e) Wiltshire Council Town and Parish Newsletter – January, 2010.
- f) Wiltshire Music Centre Spring/Summer, 2010, programme.
- g) The Clerk – January, 2010.
- h) Wiltshire Magazine – January, 2010.
- i) Clerk and Councils Direct – January, 2010.

## 12. ACCOUNTS

### Payments authorised:

#### a) since the last meeting –

Hilperton Village Hall – Christmas drinks (Chairman’s Allowance)	£31.40
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#### b) this meeting –

Clerk’s salary and expenses for January, 2010	£531.37
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Hilperton Village Hall – Section 19 grant approved earlier	£1,992.56
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## 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- a) Mr. Jackson wondered if consideration could be given at the next meeting to an approach to the Trowbridge Area Board to secure some funding to assist with the second batch of allotment holdings.
- b) Mrs. Sawyer was concerned that the glass in the bus shelter at the Church Street end of Hill Street had not been replaced and said she would contact Paul Stadden.
- c) Mrs. Sawyer reported a hole in the grass verge in Greenhill Gardens, opposite the telephone box. She thought it might have been dug up by a badger.
- d) Mrs. Hayes expressed concern from a number of residents about the routes through the village that some Apetito lorry drivers were going and the fact that there was no weight limit along Horse Road. She said she would keep an eye on the situation for the time being.
- e) Mrs. Waring asked for a ‘Clean up in the Village’ to be discussed at the February meeting.
- g) Mrs. Waring drew members’ attention to an article which had appeared in the latest issue of the Wiltshire Times concerning rubbish collection. The task group of Wiltshire Council planned to introduce fortnightly rubbish collections across Wiltshire and launch kerbside collections of both cardboard and plastics within the next five years and also run a chargeable green waste collection. It was suggested that this could be brought up at the next meeting of the Parish Councils’ Liaison Group and brought to the attention of the Wiltshire Council division member.

**14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS**

Some pre-meeting notes for the parish magazine had been submitted by the Clerk, owing to time constraints for the parish news.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.** Mr. Willis gave his early apologies.

**The meeting ended at 9.05 p.m.**

Signed ..... Date .....