

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 15th June, 2010**

There were no members of the public present

PRESENT	Mr. E. Clark	Mrs. S. Sawyer
	Mrs. K. Hayes	Mr. K. Jackson
	Mr. R. House	Mr. W. Jameson
	Mr. V. Bielecki	Mr. J. Willis
	Mr. T. Carbin	Ms. P. Turner
	Mr. B. Cullern	

Also in attendance: PCSO Neil Usborne

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mrs. J. Waring.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 18th May, 2010, and the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 1st June, 2010, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING (from the May PC meeting)

Minute 10 – Annual Parish Assembly: a) Litter Bins: The Clerk has ascertained that, because the proposed bin would be on private land (i.e. the Village Hall), it would have to be bought by the Parish Council, who would also have to pay for its emptying. The cost would be in the region of £500 for the bin and £150 a year to empty it once a week. It was therefore agreed that, for the time being, the Parish Council would not purchase a bin and the situation should be looked at again in about a year's time. As far as the Wyke Road area was concerned, the Clerk had been told that Wiltshire Council's maps did not show any bin in the position mentioned (i.e. near Compton Close) for the last few years at least. Officers from Wiltshire Council would monitor any issues being logged by members of the public for this area and also do some inspections to establish a need for a bin. This would be over the next few weeks on different days and times to get a better picture of the issue.

b) Fieldways roundabout: Both the Chairman and the Clerk had approached Wiltshire Council with a request to periodically cut back the shrubs on the roundabout.

Minute 10 – Roundabout sponsorship: The Clerk said that everything was going ahead with the sponsorship. Already an area on one of the roundabouts had been cleared and planted with summer bedding plants.

Minute 15b: Mr. Willis confirmed that he had teak-oiled the village seats/benches, for which he was thanked.

Minute 15c: The Clerk had reported the state of the gullies in Whaddon Lane to Wiltshire Council.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

a) The Chairman said that the environment theme group of TCAF would be taking on the lead for the project to reduce unnecessary street lighting in the county. The Parish Council had, of course, already sent its comments to the Chairman of the Trowbridge Area Board.

b) The Chairman said that a planning application had been received from Chris Kirk at Wiltshire Council to remove some hedging on land west of Outmarsh Farm. It appeared that this hedge was right on the parish boundary and the application came from Wessex Water, who would re-instate the hedge after completing necessary works in the area for the replacement of an existing water supply main between Holt and Semington.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Mr. Clark said that a communication had been received from the Secretary of State, Mr. Eric Pickles, stating that all regional spatial strategies were now 'defunct', with immediate effect. This was causing some uncertainty on a number of planning issues.

7. POLICE

PCSO Neil Osborne was welcomed to the meeting. He reported that, over the last month, there had been nine recorded crimes, two of which had been violent. There had been one burglary, two thefts, one incidence of criminal damage and one of harassment. In all there had been 139 calls, 53 of these coming from Hilperton. Anti-social behaviour was still a high priority in the region of Hackett Place/Paxcroft Mead Community Centre and Navigator Close/Towpath Road. The recent Tasking Group meeting centred on the anti-social behaviour problem, and the fact that youths from other areas were coming to Paxcroft Mead, which was causing some concern.

Parking was an ongoing issue, and PCSO Osborne said he would send an information sheet to the Clerk containing advice with regard to certain myths about parking and what powers the police now had following its decriminalisation.

The problem with rogue traders was mentioned, something which the Parish Councils' Liaison Group had been discussing. It was agreed that Trading Standards should be encouraged to get information leaflets out to the public showing the parameters within which traders must work.

In conclusion, Mr. Cullern mentioned problems with speeding along Hilperton Drive, mostly on Saturdays and Sundays, which PCSO Osborne said he would look into.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Allotments

The Chairman said that a member of the Parish Council had been invited to attend the Trowbridge Area Board meeting on the 9th September and give a short presentation about the allotments and how the Parish Council had gone about setting them up. Mr. Bielecki volunteered to represent the Parish Council.

Mr. Bielecki reported that the portaloo was now in place and paid for (initially) by the Parish Council. Members of the allotment group were now trying to open a bank account and membership application forms would be issued shortly. So things were progressing in that area.

Parish Steward

The Clerk said that the Parish Steward would next be in Hilperton on the 23rd June, for one day.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group

Mr. Jackson said that he had been advised that the annual general meeting of TCAF would be on Monday, 21st June. He said that the next meeting of the Liaison Group would be on the 8th July, in Southwick Village Hall.

Village Policy Limits/Local Development Framework

The Chairman said he had attended a useful meeting at County Hall the previous week, where it had been intimated by officers that the Village Policy Limit would be retained. In the meantime, the Clerk had written to Wiltshire Council's head of spatial strategy, voicing the Parish Council's concerns over the issue.

The Future of Trowbridge Library

The Clerk had been informed by the head of the library and information services that the proposal to relocate the current library into a purpose designed area of County Hall was part of a wider refurbishment programme for the building. The library service had also recently conducted an extensive survey on the services their customers and potential customers would like to see in the new library, and the results would be presented to the Trowbridge Area Board at its meeting on the 1st July.

Mrs. Hayes read out a communication from Andy Milroy which appeared to suggest that the move to county hall was a 'fait accompli'. It was felt, however, that pressure should be put on Wiltshire Council to preserve the book stock. The Chairman asked if anyone could attend the Area Board meeting on the 1st July. Mrs. Hayes said she would like to go but might be taking a holiday during that week, so the Chairman said he would make representations from the chair.

Wiltshire Council: Potential Kissing Gates, Hilperton Marsh

The Clerk had received a letter from Paul Millard, the rights of way warden, to say that Wiltshire Council proposed to replace all the stiles between Horse Road and Trowbridge Road (nine in all) with kissing gates, making a stile-free route to Trowbridge and a general improvement to people's access to the countryside. The cost would be just over £2,000 and he wondered if the Parish Council might consider helping to fund £1,000 of this. The kissing gates would be installed by West Wiltshire Ramblers free of charge and the works would be done on weekday mornings.

The Clerk had contacted him to say that if the Parish Council agreed to assist by putting some funding towards the cost this would, in effect, be helping to sponsor the gates and could this sponsorship be shown in some way. Mr. Millard had said there was no problem at all with signs saying 'sponsored by Hilperton Parish Council'. Similarly, if anyone wanted to contribute by sponsoring a gate for £100 they could have it named after themselves and could choose which location they would like on a first come, first served basis.

A short discussion followed, with a number of members expressing their dislike of the galvanised-type kissing gates and the fact that, whilst they might be more accessible, they were not as aesthetically pleasing as the stiles. It was agreed that the Clerk should go back to the rights of way warden to ask if the kissing gates could a) either be wooden or b) at least be painted. He should also be asked if permission had been obtained from the landowners to change the stiles to kissing gates. The idea of asking potential sponsors to come forward should be included in the next issue of the parish news.

Newleaze – Request for a Dropped Kerb

A communication had been received from a Mr. Tony Brewer, saying that his elderly mother lived at 73 Newleaze next to the school in a group of Selwood old people's bungalows. She had, on the advice of her doctor, recently purchased an electric scooter. Mr. Brewer had thought it would be straightforward to arrange for a dropped kerb to be installed but had been told that the housing association only had funds to do two this year. This meant that the only way his mother could use her scooter was to struggle with a wooden ramp made by Mr. Brewer, which was not ideal. He therefore wondered if the Parish Council could do anything to help, as his mother was very independent and not a drain on Social Services.

The Chairman said that it cost in the region of £2,000 to install a dropped kerb. The Area Board had funded quite a few in the town but would probably not be prepared to fund one dropped kerb in a 'dead-end' area of a village. After a short discussion it was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should go to look at the site in question, and Ms. Turner said she would mention it to the school, as the house was right next door and a dropped kerb might benefit visiting mothers with pushchairs. Mr. Brewer should be kept informed of what action the Parish Council was taking at the present time.

Planter for Hilperton Road

The Clerk said that the planter had now been planted up for the summer and the question of signage now needed to be addressed. It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should obtain quotes from a few sign companies and bring these back to the next meeting.

H.M. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee – 2012

The Chairman said he had included this on the agenda as he wondered if the Parish Council should consider celebrating the Queen's diamond jubilee in some way/s. For instance, the play equipment at the Village Hall badly needed replacing, and it might be appropriate to celebrate the opening of the village allotments as the 'Queen Elizabeth' scheme.

It was generally agreed that it would be very worthwhile to put a scheme or schemes in place, starting sooner rather than later.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

10/01714/FUL: Mr. and Mrs. J. Shipton, 190 Devizes Road

Single storey rear extension and alterations

It was agreed that the Parish Council should support this application

10/01719/FUL: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, 191 Devizes Road

Single storey extension and alterations

It was agreed that the Parish Council should support this application

10/01612/ADV: Marston's plc. Land adjacent to Hackett Place

Advertisement signs

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

10/01621/CLE: Mr. A. Kapan, Paxcroft Café, Paxcroft

Certificate of lawfulness for a roadside café

It was agreed that the Parish Council should support this application

Decisions

10/00527/REM: Taylor Wimpey (Bristol), land off Hackett Place, Paxcroft Mead

Application for reserved matters relating to 25 dwellings, garages, roads and associated engineering works – Approval. The Chairman thanked Mr. Carbin for representing the Parish Council at the planning meeting.

Other Planning Matters

Planning application 10/00954/FUL: Land adjoining 16a Horse Road

Subdivision of an existing plot, construction of a separate single detached dwelling with attached single garage, parking spaces and new vehicular access – application withdrawn

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter from the Village Hall with details of the committee's plans to improve relations between them and the football teams.
- b) Letter of thanks from Youth Action Wiltshire for their grant.

11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) Corsham Festival programme – 19th to 26th June, 2010
- b) First News – Spring, 2010
- c) Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust News, 2010
- d) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Management Committee – Minutes of meeting held on the 5th May, 2010, and agenda for meeting on the 2nd June, 2010
- e) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Newsletter – May, 2010
- f) Local Council Review – Summer, 2010
- g) Minutes of the Paxcroft Mead Community Forum Committee meeting held on the 6th May, 2010

12. ACCOUNTS**a) Adoption of the Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2010**

The Clerk tabled copies of the Income and Expenditure Accounts, Cash Statements and Balance Sheet, and it was agreed that the accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2010, should be adopted (proposed by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, all in favour).

b) Payments authorised

Since the last meeting:-

Hilperton Home and Garden Maintenance – delivering and siting new planter	£210.00
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Ab-Fab Loos Limited – supply of portable toilet for allotments (including £68.26 VAT)	£458.26
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Wessex Water – standing charge for water supply at allotments	£2.82
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This meeting:-

Clerk's salary and expenses for June, 2010	£552.31
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Futurform Limited - stationery (including £2.32 VAT)	£15.57
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R. A. Book Keeping – compilation of accounts	£62.00
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Mr. E. Clark – purchase of teak oil for seats/benches	£8.65
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13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- a) Mr. Cullern thanked the Parish Council for the new bus shelter on Paxcroft Mead.
- b) Mr. Cullern had heard rumours that a skate park was planned for the area at the back of the community centre on Paxcroft Mead. The Chairman said he knew a BMX track had been suggested. He added that some people on the estate were endeavouring to get allotments on land alongside the brook. He felt that the use of Wiltshire Council land for this purpose, within the parish of Hilperton, would be opposed by the Parish Council, as it had already fulfilled its obligation to provide allotments.
- c) Mrs. Sawyer, in her capacity as a member of the Trowbridge Guild of Community Service, said that the 'Wright Fund' had given a 'one-off' grant of £100 to The Giffords day centre.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- a) Car parking information sheet
- b) Sponsorship of proposed kissing gates, Hilperton Marsh
- c) Ideas for H. M. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, 2012
- d) Allotments update

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 20th July, 2010, with a possible meeting of the Planning Committee on either **Tuesday, 29th June**, or **Tuesday, 6th July, 2010**.

The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.

Signed Date