

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 17th July, 2012**

There were four members of the public present.

PRESENT	Mr. E. Clark	Mrs. S. Sawyer
	Mr. T. Carbin	Ms. S. Carleton
	Mr. S. Uncles	Ms. P. Turner
	Mr. J. Willis	Mr. K. Jackson
	Mr. V. Bielecki	Mrs. K. Hayes
	Mr. W. Jameson	

Before the start of the meeting, Jayne Funnel, Special Projects Manager for Age UK Wiltshire, gave an update on the situation at the The Giffords Community Day Centre, informing the Parish Council that a volunteer treasurer had been found.

Mr. Mike James of Trowbridge Rugby Football Club, and Mr. Christopher Beaver of GL Hearn, spoke about the new plans for the Club, including the reduction in the size of the clubhouse and the number of parking spaces, improvements to the footpath and cycle path from Green Lane through Paxcroft, and a new traffic survey in respect of access to the club from the Semington side.

Mrs. Ruth Dawe spoke against planning application 12/01107/FUL: 115a Hilperton Road. Proposed extension and change of use of existing garage to residential bungalow.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.40 pm.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. Robert House and PC Mark Hough.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 19th June, 2012, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 6 – Tremans Redevelopment, Court Street: The Chairman confirmed that no listed buildings would be demolished. Mr. Willis said that the old horse stables building had definitely gone, and the Chairman said that it could not, therefore, have been listed.

Minute 8 – Diamond Jubilee celebrations: The Clerk confirmed that she had sent a letter of thanks to the chairman of the organising committee. She had also e-mailed the secretary of the Village Hall committee concerning the state of the grass.

Minute 8 – Neighbourhood Plans: the Chairman had e-mailed the spatial planning team on this issue but had not received a reply to date. He said he would chase them up.

Minute 8 – Dropped Kerbs: The Clerk had contacted pat Whyte at Highways with a view to arranging a site meeting.

Minute 9 – Viewing Planning Application Plans: The thoughts of the Parish Council had been sent to Wiltshire Council.

Minute 13a) The overhanging hedge outside 18 St. Mary's Close had been reported to Wiltshire Council.

Minutes 13c and e) The footpath warden, Paul Millard, had been contacted about the footpath by St. Michael's Church and the footpaths across Mr. Cradock's fields (nos. 10a, 5, 6 and 54). He had replied to say that his team had laid some stone down on the footpath by the church, as a start, and had cut the vegetation back. He was working with the West Wilts. Ramblers working party and would continue with it for the next couple of weeks on Tuesday mornings. He had also had the hedge cut back on the cemetery side and had passed this on to English Landscapes so that they could be responsible for the hedge in future, as it belongs to the cemetery. He had also spoken to Mr. Cradock about spraying out the paths and Mr. Millard said he would carry out an inspection within the next few weeks to see if they had been cleared.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

a) The Chairman said that Hilperton had come equal first in the Large Village category of the West Wiltshire round of the Best Kept Village competition. The village had received considerable praise from the judges, in all categories, and would now go through to the County Round.

b) The Chairman said that the new regulations regarding members' interests were causing Wiltshire Council a lot of problems, and the feeling was that this new piece of legislature had been hurriedly put through by the Government, without enough thought of the consequences.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

a) Mr. Clark said that the Wiltshire Core Strategy Local Development Framework had been formally adopted at the end of June, with a last-minute alteration regarding wind turbines. The document would now go out for public consultation.

b) The on-going saga of the Cleveland Bridge closure for heavy goods vehicles had unearthed a situation which BANES had overlooked and which could add to the pollution problem.

7. POLICE

In the absence of PC Hough, the Clerk informed members that there had been 44 crimes rurally over the past month, 18 of which were in Hilperton:-

Four incidents of anti-social behaviour: a lady driver was dealt with for throwing rubbish out of a car window; there had been a report of nuisance text messages; a report of a minor neighbour dispute in relation to parking in Church Street; and youths harassing a resident of Compton Close.

Two Burglaries: A shed on Horse Road had been attacked and a mower stolen; and unknown persons had kicked open the vestry door of St. Mary's – nothing was taken.

One incident of criminal damage where a rear kitchen window was broken, probably by a stone.

Three thefts: Offenders stole two kayaks from the rear yard of a unit on the Marsh Road estate; an insecure bike stolen from outside Budgens; and shoplifting at Budgens.

Three incidents of violence: Threats to kill (domestic); a female punched a male and another female at an address on Towpath Road.

One fraud: a Western Union internet scam.

One arrest for drink-driving.

Two child welfare concerns, with no community impact.

One failure to stop accident on Hackett Place where a driver had reversed into another car before driving off.

There had been no more building site break-ins or thefts from cars.

Mrs. Hayes said that there would be an NPT tasking group meeting on the 18th July at Southwick Village Hall.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

The Giffords Community Day Centre

The Chairman reminded members of the update Jayne Funnell had given before the meeting commenced. She hoped to have more feedback by the next meeting in September.

Repairs to the War Memorial

The Clerk had now received a quote from Nimbus Conservation, with regard to the re-pointing work which urgently needed doing on the wall. They had stressed that this would be a temporary measure and would probably only last around five or six years, and they recommended that the wall should be taken down and rebuilt, with ties securing the two skins of masonry together.

The quote for the repointing work amounted to £1,232.25 (excluding VAT) but this included an amount for a portable site hut and/or designated messing facilities for the workers. The Chairman had therefore contacted Mr. Chris Brown of Hilperton House, and had asked if he would allow the workmen to use his outdoor toilet and any water needed for their lime mortar, etc., and Mr. Brown had kindly agreed to this. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the quote for the remedial works, rather than the total re-building of the wall, should be accepted, bearing in mind the money the Parish Council had spent this year on play equipment etc. (Proposed by Ms. Turner, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, all in favour). The Clerk was asked to formally write to Mr. Brown.

Parish Steward

The Clerk said that the Parish Steward's next visit would be on the 26th and 30th July. She had already reported the problem with overhanging branches along the footpath from Hill Street to the school.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Council's Liaison Group

Mr. Jackson reminded members that the next meeting of the Group would be on the 25th July.

Newsletter

Mr. Uncles had prepared a draft, copies of which were tabled. Subject to a few minor amendments, it was agreed that 2,000 copies should be made and distributed throughout the parish, as before.

Requests for Grants

- a) The Giffords and Greenhill Gardens Tenants' Association and Social Club. A letter had now been received from Mrs. Bet Harvey, asking for assistance in helping them with a contribution of £200 towards the club they had recently set up for the residents of the bungalows in Greenhill Gardens and The Giffords. Discussion took place on the fact that any grant given would be towards start-up costs and not for anything specific, but it was agreed, in this instance, that a Section 137 Grant of £200 should be made (Proposed by Mr. Jameson, seconded by Mr. Willis, seven in favour, three against with one abstention. It was further agreed that Mrs. Harvey should be asked to let the Parish Council know how the grant had been spent.
- b) Youth Action Wiltshire: The last grant the Parish Council had given had been in May, 2010, for £300. Over the past year the organisation had been working with four young carers in Hilperton and had worked with five other 16-18 year-olds who were not in education, employment or training, and who had participated in their six-month programme to get accreditation and support. It was agreed that a Section 137 grant of £300 should be given (proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Willis, ten in favour with one abstention).

Localism Act – New Standards Proposals

The Clerk tabled copies of a letter received recently from Wiltshire Council concerning members' register of interests. Discussion took place on the proposals and the problems which could be

encountered regarding the disclosure of interests, not only of members, but their spouses/partners. Details would need to appear on both the Wiltshire Council and Parish Council websites.

Allotment Issues

- a) Mr. Bielecki said there had been some issues raised by plot holders about how the current association committee operated, which had resulted in the Clerk sending letters to every allotment-holder, informing them that the AGM would be held on the 11th September, 2012.
- b) There was also an issue concerning rabbits, and it was agreed that plot-holders should look for some humane way of getting rid of them.
- c) Mr. Bielecki said it appeared that a few plot holders were either sub-letting their plots or letting members of their family (not necessarily residents of Hilperston) work them. It was agreed that this should be investigated and, if anyone was contravening the terms of their Tenancy, they should, if necessary, be asked to give up their plots.

Use of Parish Council Notice Board by the Village Hall

The Chairman said that the Village Hall wished to raise their profile and wondered if they could use some space on the big notice board in Hill Street. This was agreed.

They had also printed 2,000 fliers and it was agreed that these could go out with the latest Newsletter.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

12/01169/FUL: Trowbridge Rugby Football Club, land opposite Paxcroft Farm

Proposed rugby ground including clubhouse, store, sports pitches with floodlighting and associated landscape bunding, access and parking.

Discussion took place on the amended plans, with the Chairman giving details of the thirty conditions attached to the original application (05/00822/FUL).

It was agreed that the Parish Council should support this application, subject to the following conditions:-

- a) No sound reproduction or amplification equipment (including public address systems and loudspeakers) which is audible at the site boundary shall be installed or operated on the site without the prior written approval of the local planning authority (condition 21).
- b) Notwithstanding the submitted details of floodlighting, prior to the commencement of any development on the site, details of all external lighting within the site, including playing pitches, road areas etc. shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The lighting shall be provided in accordance with the approved plans (condition 22).
- c) The floodlighting shall only be used between the hours of 15.00 and 22.00 (condition 23).
- d) The land in question should remain in perpetuity for recreational use only.

It should also be pointed out to the planning authority that the Parish Council supported the concept of a 'no right turn' notice from the Semington end, so that traffic coming to the club from that side should carry on to the roundabout and come back to enter the club entrance to the left. (Proposed by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, ten in favour, with one abstention from the Chairman).

12/01173/FUL: Mr. Snart, 344 Horse Road

Erection of white pvc conservatory to rear of property

It was agreed that no objection should be made to this application.

12/01178/FUL: Mrs. C. Howden, 342 Horse Road

Single storey rear extension to provide open-plan family living room

It was agreed that no objection should be made to this application.

12/01107/FUL: Mr. R. Hibbard, Jasmine House, 115a Hilperton Road

Proposed extension and change of use of existing garage to residential bungalow

It was agreed that an objection should be made to this application, on the following grounds:-

- a) The proposal would not be compatible with existing planning permission.
- b) The proposal would conflict with the pattern of development in the area.
- c) The proposal would be visually damaging in the landscape and setting.

The LPA should also be reminded that there had been another application for residential use on this area of land which had been refused and which had been turned down on appeal, and there was no change in the situation. (Proposed by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Ms. Turner, ten in favour with one abstention from the Chairman).

12/01094/FUL: Ashford Homes (SW) Limited, land at former Nursery Site, Marsh Road

Continued change of use for the storage of building materials and plant (class B8) for a three-year period.

It was agreed that an objection should be made on the basis that the proposal was not in keeping with anything else in the area, bearing in mind that the site could only be used for 100% affordable housing. If, however, the planning authority was minded to grant permission, the Parish Council would wish a condition to be imposed concerning access and egress, i.e. Sundays and Bank Holidays, no access or egress, Saturdays only between the hours of 8am and 1pm, and Mondays to Fridays restricted to the hours of 8am to 6pm. (Proposed by Mr. Bielecki, seconded by Mr. Jackson, eight in favour, two against with one abstention from the Chairman).

12/01068/FUL: Mr. D. Morgan-Richards, 16a Horse Road

Raising of existing roof to create a new floor level to existing bungalow

Mrs. Hayes said that she believed this application had now been withdrawn so it was agreed that consideration should be deferred.

Decisions

12/00668/FUL: Mr. J. Hiscocks, 62 Paxcroft

Demolition of detached garage, replacement with attached garage and rear extension. Formation of a new driveway and associated works – permission with conditions

12/00805/REG3: Hilperton Primary School, Newleaze

Removal of existing single storey mobile with toilets and replacement with double mobile with toilets – permission with conditions.

12/00894/TEL: BT Group plc, land east of 114 Trowbridge Road

One x BT DSLAM cabinet – Telecom determination

11/01373/FUL: Mr. R. Pike, Church Farm, Church Street

Residential development of 20 units including conversion of existing buildings, new build and associated works – permission with conditions.

Planning Enforcement - 10/01920/FUL: 202a Devizes Road

Possible breach of planning permission with regard to roof tiles and windows

Mr. Jackson gave a detailed account of what appeared to be a breach of planning permission relating to two aspects of this development, over which the LPA seemed reluctant to take any action. The point was made that surely any planning permission related to the detailed plans submitted, so how could an applicant submit detailed plans, showing materials to be used, if he/she then ignored them, without any action being taken? Surely a permission specified the plan/drawing numbers (as submitted by the

applicant). It was agreed that this matter should be taken to the Chief Planning officer for his consideration.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter of thanks from the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust for the grant given to them.

11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) Clerks and Councils Direct – July, 2012
 b) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre: Minutes of a meeting held on the 13th June, 2012, and Agenda for a meeting on the 3rd July, 2012.
 c) Wiltshire Music Centre programme for Autumn/Winter, 2012.
 d) The Clerk magazine – July, 2012

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised:-

Since the last meeting:

Help Counselling Services – Section 137 Grant	£100.00
Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust – Section 137 Grant	£300.00

This meeting:

Clerk's Salary for July, 2012	£464.00)	
Clerk's Expenses (including use of computer)	£162.40)	£626.40
Metrosigns 2000 Ltd. – New notice board with posts (including £128 VAT)		£768.00
The Landscape Group Ltd. – Bedding plants for planters (including £82.30 VAT)		£493.80

The Clerk informed members that she had been in touch with David Cowie from English Landscapes to complain about the state of the flowers in the planters, and he had agreed that they should be replaced)

Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club Transport (including £3.80 VAT)	£22.80
---	--------

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- a) Ms. Turner told members about the efforts the Village Hall committee were attempting to make to encourage people in the village to use the facilities in the bar etc.
 b) Mrs. Hayes asked when the Oak sapling would be planted, and the Clerk said it would be soon.
 c) Mr. Jackson referred to the two roundabouts either end of Hilperton Drive which still had signs on the beds promoting the Grangeside Business Centre. These beds were now full of poppies and weeds. The Clerk said she had been in touch with Hans Tober and suggested he should make arrangements to have the sponsorship signs removed.
 d) Mr. Jackson voiced his concern that some of the houses on the Blue Hills development were very close to the hedgerow, and he asked members to have a look when they were passing by. It was agreed that this should be discussed further at the October PC meeting.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

The Clerk had not yet been informed of the date for 'pasting up' for the August parish news.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 18th September, 2012, with probable Planning Committee meetings before this date. (Apologies for the September meeting were given by Ms. Turner, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Willis).

The meeting ended at 9.38 p.m.

Signed Date