

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.45 pm on Tuesday, 21st March, 2023**

Fifteen members of the public attended the meeting.

PRESENT	Cllr. P. Turner	Cllr. R. House
	Cllr. S. Sawyer	Cllr. T. Carbin
	Cllr. K. Hayes	Cllr. C. Prevett

Also in attendance: PCSO Jack Thomas

Before the meeting started, five members of the public addressed the Parish Council concerning Agenda Item 8: Consideration of housing to the rear of Church Farm - most against but one asking for an open-minded approach, especially when considering the possibility of bungalows being built. Acting Chairman Cllr. Turner declared the meeting open at 7.55 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Clark, Fisher, Smokcum and Uncles.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 21st February, 2023, were approved and signed.

4. CLERK'S REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minute 8 – Westbury Incinerator: The Clerk said she had sent a cheque for £250 to Westbury Town Council and this had been gratefully received.

Minute 8 – Horse Road Name Signs – The Chairman had let Kirsty Rose of Wiltshire Council know that the Parish Council would pay in full for new signs.

Minute 8 – Street Naming: The Clerk confirmed that, after liaising with Cllrs. Turner and Sawyer, street names had been chosen for the two new developments concerned.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Clerk said that the Chairman had recently contacted Staverton Parish Council to find out how much money they had put by to fight the Local Plan. He was awaiting their response.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

In the absence of Cllr. Clark, there was nothing to report.

7. POLICE

PCSO Jack Thomas gave a short report on local crimes and said it had been a reasonably quiet month, apart from a few problems with burglaries on canal boats. He thought it would be helpful if signs could be put up in Whaddon Lane, telling vehicles to slow down on approaching St. Michael's pre-school. The Clerk had received details on how to contact Inspector Andrew Lemon and said she would put a note on the notice boards. (Inspector 1654 Andrew Lemon, Trowbridge Neighbourhood Policing Team, Andy.Lemon@Wiltshire.Police.uk)

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Wiltshire Council Local Plan – Adoption of the Hilperton Conservation Area '23 Character Appraisal, provided by HAAG

All members had received a copy of the character appraisal and felt it was a very good document. There were just a few minor errors to be corrected, and Cllr. Carbin suggested a final proof-reading would be a good idea. Subject to this, it was agreed that the Character Appraisal should be adopted by the Parish Council for onward submission by HAAG to Wiltshire Council. (Proposed by Cllr. Turner, seconded by Cllr. Sawyer, all in favour).

The Clerk reminded members that in October, 2022, the Parish Council had agreed to fund up to five days for the professional services of Gerald Kells, at £350 a day. Recently Dr. Beckett had told her that his daily rate was in fact £390. It was therefore agreed that the increased daily rate would be accepted by the Parish Council (proposed by Cllr. Turner, seconded by Cllr. Hayes, all in favour). Dr. Beckett added that Mr. Kells had spent a few days in the area, working for the CPRE, and he had also carried out an extensive report on traffic.

Allotments/Community Orchard

The Clerk confirmed that rental monies for the next financial year were coming in, and Cllr. House said there were still quite a few names on the waiting list. Bee boxes for solitary bees had been put up recently and the main beehive had survived the winter.

Works for the Parish Steward on his next visit

Cllr. Turner said that new contractors were starting on the 1st April but it was likely that the current parish steward would be kept on. No new schedules of visits had yet been received.

SIDS Update

Cllr. Turner said that the Chairman had still not received any response from Atkins Global about the mounting of one of the SIDS on a particular street lamp, and so he had referred this back to Kirsty Rose and Jamie Mundy at Wiltshire Council, for them to deal with.

WALC Zoom Meeting on the 9th March

Cllr. Hayes said that there had been ten people -including herself - representing six councils, at the meeting. The budget was voted through – the subscription to NALC would be increased by 2.94% but the WALC sub. would remain the same. Cllr. Hayes asked about newsletters being sent out electronically and was informed that they already were. She said there were training courses available on finance to give councillors a better understanding of their own council's finance - details could be found on the WALC website. In conclusion, Cllr. Hayes learnt that the WALC constitution stated that only councils with over 8,000 on the electoral register could be represented on their executive committee, so that ruled out Hilperton. As she understood it, Hilperton Parish Council's representation would be through the Area Board, if indeed they sent a representative. Cllr. Hayes was thanked for taking part in the meeting.

Village Hall Play Area Annual Inspections – to consider a quote for the inspection due in May

The Clerk had endeavoured to find a new inspection team, following Playdale's apparent unwillingness to continue annual inspections. She had contacted Sutcliffe Play, who had given her contact details of their recommended inspector, but she had been unable to get in touch with him. The Chairman of the Village Hall committee, Tim Davies, had therefore, upon Cllr. Turner's request, obtained a quote from a local company, 'Four Aces of Play', for an annual inspection at a price of £180 plus VAT. This inspection would be carried out by an independent play inspector, John Beford Clark, who had a wealth of knowledge, a common-sense approach and he also trained other inspectors in current health and

safety legislation across the UK. After a short discussion, it was agreed that this quote should be accepted. (Proposed by Cllr. Sawyer, seconded by Cllr. Hayes, all in favour).

Consideration of Housing to the rear of Church Farm, Church Street

Cllr. Turner said that members of the Parish Council had recently been invited to a presentation by Ashford Homes concerning housing to the rear of Church Farm. Following representations from several members of the public before the start of the meeting, a detailed discussion took place about the proposed development and it was agreed that any decision by the Parish Council should be deferred until the Local Plan Public Inquiry was concluded, so that it could not be used by any party during the Public Inquiry into the plan. (Proposed by Cllr. Carbin, seconded by Cllr. House, all in favour).

CPRE – Best Kept Village Competition 2023

The Clerk had received details of this year's competition, and it was agreed that Hilperton Parish should again take part. Members spoke about the roadside litter problems experienced across the country and Cllr. Carbin said he had a few litter pickers available for volunteers. Cllr. Turner suggested that the Parish Council should try harder with its summer village maintenance.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PL/2022/07977 – Land north of Devizes Road

Demolition of existing building (residential/stable block) and the erection of 36 dwellings, formation of new vehicular access from A361 and Devizes Road roundabout, landscaping, drainage and other associated infrastructure works (amended details).

It was agreed that the Parish Council's previous objections should be re-iterated.

PL/2023/01344 – Moxhams, 1 Horse Road

Reserved matters application following outline application PL/2022/08233 for one new dwelling, relating to scale, layout, external appearance and landscaping.

It was agreed that a 'no comment' response should be made.

PL/2023/01795 – 10 Newleaze:

Two-storey side extension with single storey to rear elevation comprising two bedrooms, garage, WC and office space. It was agreed that a 'no comment' response should be made.

PL/2023/01269 – The Old Rectory, Church Street

Replacement of guttering and rainwater systems with cast iron effect PVC system.

It was agreed that a 'no comment' response should be made.

Decisions

PL/2021/03253 – Land to the south of the Lion and Fiddle, Trowbridge Road

Erection of two detached dwellings, garages and associated works – approval given.

PL/2023/01099 – 259a Ashton House, Hill Street

Works to trees in a conservation area – no objections.

PL/2022/01810 – The Nursery, Marsh Road

Two new polytunnels in plant growing area with hard standing for delivery vehicles and staff parking (retrospective) – Approval given.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter of thanks from Westbury Town Council for the Parish Council's contribution to their fighting fund in respect of the proposed incinerator.

11. PUBLICATIONS

Clerks and Councils Direct – March, 2023.

12. ACCOUNTS**Payments authorised since the last meeting**

Id Verde – Planters and maintenance for February (including £20.27 VAT)	£121.60
Westbury Town Council – contribution towards the incinerator fighting fund	£250.00

Payments authorised this meeting

Clerk's Salary for March, 2023	£533.00)	
Clerk's Expenses	£275.20)	£808.20

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a) Cllr. Sawyer -Bus shelters – maintenance/painting
- b) Cllr. Carbin - No speeding sign on approach to St. Michael's Pre-School.
- c) Cllr. Carbin - Bid by Wiltshire Council for £320,000 of funding for walking/cycle routes – Devizes Road
- d) Cllr. Prevett – Problems with dog bins not being emptied regularly by Wiltshire Council.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 18th April, 2023.

Also: Annual Parish Assembly on Tuesday, 16th May, 2023, commencing at 7pm, immediately followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

The meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.

Signed Date

