

Minutes of the meeting of Hilperton Parish Council, held at Hilperton Village Hall on Tuesday August 6th 2024 at 7.45pm.

Councillors present. Clark, Hayes, Uncles, Bayley, Allan, Prett, Robinson, Sawyer, Turner, House.

Clerk and 1 member of the public were present.

7.45pm Public Question Time.

There were no questions.

AGENDA.

24/166. Acceptance of apologies for absence.

Cllrs Linham and Woodard. Accepted.

24/167. Declarations of interest.

None.

24/168. To receive and sign the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 18th June 2024.

The minutes were approved and signed as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Uncles. All agreed

24/169. Chairman's announcements.

None

24/170 Report from Wiltshire Councillor.

None

24/171. Report from Police.

None received.

The Clerk reminded Councillors that Jack Thomas said he would be attending the September meeting.

24/172. Planning applications.

PL/2024/02230 – Trowbridge Rugby Football Club – Standalone office building

It was resolved that the parish Council OBJECT to this application on the grounds that it was originally agreed that this area was to be used for Sports and Social activities and this application would mean the loss of much needed car parking spaces associated with the Rugby Club. This was proposed by Cllr Bayley and seconded by Cllr Sawyer. Agreed with 3 abstentions including the Chairman.

PL/2024/05991 – 49 Hill Street – Single story extension. No comment

PL/2024/06898 – Wharf Cottage, 1 Marsh Road – rebuilding of boundary wall. No comment

PL/2024/07023 - Wharf Cottage, 1 Marsh Road – rebuilding of boundary wall (listed building).

No comment.

24/173. Planning decisions.

PL/2023/08729 – Removal of variation of a condition – Fields west of Whaddon Farm. Approved with conditions

PL/2024/02246 – Trowbridge RFC – change of use, car park area. Approved with conditions

PL/2024/04151 – 301 Marsh Road – use of mobile home – Approved

24/173. Report of Planning Town and Parish Council Forum, June 25th 2024

The Clerk gave a short report on the Forum which was well attended at County Hall

24/174. Land off Ashton Road/Hilperton Drive roundabout

After a Land Registry search which did not produce any relevant information it was discovered that the land is owned by a local building company for use of storage of their plant. The owner is intending to apply to Wiltshire Council for access on to the highway.

24/175. HAAG/flood-warden scheme.

Celia Beckett explained that she should have been joined by Liz Gwinnell but she had developed covid19. She explained that a local barrister had offered his help. A meeting was arranged. His advice was that the Council should consider a Judicial Review after the Wiltshire Local Plan is published in October. This would challenge the way decisions had been made. This has to be done within 3 months of publication. This could be done in several ways. She cited an example in that local bat strategy had not been taken into account.

A Councillor brought up the question as to whether the new NPPF would affect the Local Plan? The Clerk was instructed to write to Trowbridge Town Council asking their views of views of 'Green Belt' to the west of Trowbridge.

Cllr Clark brought up the thought of costs under the Aarhus agreement which limited them if environmental grounds were used.

The Council agreed that this should proceed further.

24/176 Possible use of CIL money

Cllr Clark explained that the Parish Council get CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money for the houses being built off Elizabeth Way. The Parish Council gets 25% of the money paid to Wiltshire Council as there is an adopted Neighbourhood Plan in place. In addition the Village Hall will be getting section 106 money direct from Wiltshire Council. The Clerk already had made contact with agent representing owners of land by Church Farm. Discussion arose. It was agreed that the Clerk get back in touch with the agent.

Cllr Turner asked about time frames for spending money and Cllr Clark replied that CIL money has to be spent within 5 years but provided, at the moment, if a decision is made and in the minutes then there is no time frame for completion.

It was suggested that the Parishioners be asked what they thought the money should be used for. Cllr Clark said he would put it in his next e-newsletter.

24/177. Grant Applications.

The Clerk reported that the Trowbridge Area Board had matched the Parish Council grant for repairs to village hall. However original contractor has health problems there might be a change of contractor but should the price increase the village hall would absorb that.

With regard to the grant application from Equinox Explorer Scout unit, as this was a substantial amount it was suggested to come to September meeting to explain exactly what funding they has actually received.

24/178. Inspection of Village Hall playground area

The Clerk reported that the inspection will take place in September/October but suppliers had been changed because the original supplier (Playdale) said they could not do the inspection until November. The new supplier (Playsafety) is also cheaper.

24/179. Rural Play Area Funding

Cllr Clark outlined in the past that the Parish Council resolved not to take the Parish play areas over from Wiltshire Council. Wiltshire Council will now gift play areas to the Parish Councils, but all future costs (i.e. grass cutting, maintenance, repairs/replacement of equipment, insurance) will be born by the Parish Council. To offset this, Wiltshire Council will be allocating various amounts of money. If Parish Council do not take play areas on, once the money Wiltshire has for those areas they would then return to open spaces. Cllr Clark read out the various amounts. Cllr Turner suggested that a sub- committee be set up. A condition survey should be given by

Wiltshire Council. It was agreed the Clerk go back to Wiltshire Council to get some idea of what the maintenance costs are now but also say that the Parish Council are interested.

24/180. Parish Steward.

It was noted that any suggestions for work should be now be forwarded to the Clerk.

24/181. Allotments/Community Orchard.

Cllr House reported that there had been little activity and there were 9 on the waiting list. The Orchard was looking good with fruit.

SSE are going to trim various hedges/trees back from their electricity lines.

24/182. Speed Indicator Devices.

Cllr. Clark reported that Westcotec had promised that they were ready to install the two SIDs.

24/183. Marsh Road/parking

The TRO was approved to be published.

24/184. Church Farm/War memorial.

As Cllr Linham was absent it was agreed to hold this over to September meeting.

24/185. 'Clerk's report.'

The Clerk reported that the bank balance in the Treasurer's account was £119,477.52. The increase over last report was because of CIL money of £68,000 and payment of solar farm invoice of £9617. BUS instant account is £851.62 and CCLA account £116,522.28. The Clerk suggested that all CIL money be deposited in a savings account. The Clerk read out various deposit rates/terms. It was agreed to source exact figure for CIL money already received to bring back to September meeting.

Cllr Turner suggested she visit various local banks/building societies to see what they could offer, meanwhile the Clerk will get more information regarding Redwood Bank.

It was also suggested that an extraordinary meeting be called if the need arose.

The Clerk reported that he has to become a full signatory to be able to set up payments by two signatories. All agreed.

The Clerk gave a short report on Wiltshire Council/Clerks meeting on June 28th and the WALC meeting on July 29th which outlined training and Community grants and there was also going to be a WALC conference on November 5th in Devizes which would cover such items as flooding and neighbourhood plans.

24/186. Approval of invoice for payment.

Payments made since last meeting

1851 R A.Books - £287.50

1852 Rob House - £94.83

Payments for this meeting

1853 Cloudy IT. July invoice. £157.56 including £26.26 VAT

1854 Idverde June invoice £121.60 including £20.27 VAT

1855 Idverde July invoice £121.60 including £20.27 VAT

1856 Renewal Open Spaces subscription £45.00

1857 Clerk's salary (June) £499.63

1858 HMRC £124.80

1859 Clark's salary (July) £249.82

1860 HMRC £62.40

Proposed Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Uncles. All agreed

24/187. Meetings for councillors to consider attending.

LHFIG meeting on September 19th

Trowbridge Area Board on October 3rd

Sustainability Exhibition at County Hall on August 7th (11-3)

24/188. Correspondence received.

Wiltshire Bobby Van – Asking for donations

Trowbridge Sea cadets – Asking for volunteers

Disabled parking at St. Mary Magdallen Church. The Clerk explained the history of this. The Clerk had contacted Michael Gamble who had questioned who might use this. There was no support from the Parish Council.

Street names for Elizabeth Way. Developer had made contact and reported they had lost Form A. The Clerk agreed to produce another form.

Correspondence had been received from Wiltshire Council over planters in Devizes Road. Trees will be planted in the autumn. A couple of Councillors are willing to look after planters at the moment.

24/189 Possible co-option after resignation of Cllr Carbin

It would be good to co-opt somebody especially from Paxcroft Mead or Hilperton Marsh areas.

It was suggested something be placed on the Notice Boards and in the Chairman's e-newsletter.

24/190. Items for future meetings.

Cllr Hayes brought up the question of signage in Devizes Road (both ends). Seat in Trowbridge Road is due to be replaced.

24/191. Items for notice board or publication.

None.

24/192. Date, time, and venue for the next parish council meeting.

Tuesday September 17th 2024 starting at 7.45pm at Hilperton Village Hall, Whaddon Lane.

Meeting closed at 21.35

Signed

Dated 17th September 2024.