

Minutes of the meeting of Hilperton Parish Council held at Hilperton Village Hall on Tuesday, 17th December, 2024, at 7.45 p.m.

Councillors present: Clark (Chairman), Linham, Bayley, Turner, Sawyer, House, Uncles and Hayes.

Also present: Marylyn Timms

AGENDA

24/273. Acceptance of apologies for absence. Councillors Robinson and Prevett.

24/274. Declarations of Interest. There were none.

24/275. To receive the Minutes of the full Council meeting held on the 19th November, 2024.

The Minutes were approved and signed as an accurate record of the meeting by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr. Clark, seconded by Cllr. Sawyer. All agreed.

24/276. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman had nothing to report.

24/277. Report from the Wiltshire Councillor

Cllr. Clark brought to the attention of parish councillors the recent press coverage over the future of some smaller district councils, and the possible creation of mayors for councils covering larger areas. If Wiltshire Council was in the first tranche, this could mean that there would be no local elections until 2026.

24/278. Report from the Police.

No report.

24/279. Planning applications

PL/2024/10649: 109 Church Street – tree works. It was resolved to agree with the decision of the tree officer.

PL/2024/10898: Trowbridge Rugby Football Club – installation of LED lighting. After a short discussion, it was agreed that a 'no comment' response should be made.

24/280. Planning decisions

PL/2024/08801: Manor House, Hill Street – single storey garden room – approved with conditions.

PL/2024/02230: Trowbridge Rugby Football Club - retrospective planning permission for standalone office in car park – approved with conditions.

PL/24/09964: The Grange – tree work – no objection.

24/281. HAAG/flood warden scheme

Dr. Beckett and Baz Sullivan were not present at the meeting. The Chairman said that a meeting of HAAG had been held the previous Thursday.

24/282. Rural Play Area Funding

Further to discussions taken under Minute 24/233, it was agreed that the Parish Council should take over the four play areas in question, subject to conditions agreed with Wiltshire Council. (Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Sawyer, all in favour).

24/283. Parish Steward

The Chairman asked members to forward to the Clerk any suggestions for work for the Parish Steward to carry out on his next visit.

24/284. Allotments/Community Orchard

Cllr. House said that nineteen allotment plots had been let during the year, and there was still a waiting list. A couple of elm trees had fallen during the latest gale, but the debris had been cleared away.

24/285. Church Farm/War Memorial

Cllr. Linham said the drains needed continuous unblocking and a few houses in the area were having problems with flooding.

24/286. Clerk's Report

Financial Report:-

Bank Balances: Treasurer's Account: £106,484.43 (as at 18/12)

Business Instant Access Account: £855.31 (as at 8/12)

CCLA: £118,512.96 (as at 30/11)

The Clerk had e-mailed Redwood Bank and had now received application forms for 35 days (currently 4.1%) and 95 days (currently 4.6%). These were variable interest accounts, aimed at businesses, so no section for Parish Councils. This could, however, be filled in under 'Association'. After a discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council should open a 35 day account with Redwood (proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Uncles, all in favour). The Clerk had also spoken to Lloyds Bank, who said they did not have a record of any application to change the bank mandate. All they could suggest was that the Parish Council should start again, which the Clerk would endeavour to do as soon as possible. He had heard nothing from the CCLA so would chase them up.

Section 106 Payments: An amount of £68,322.25 had come from Wiltshire Council on the 1st July, and the Clerk had suggested this should be transferred. On the 16th June, 2023, £58,561.92 was received from Wiltshire Council, a cheque was drawn for this amount and he assumed this went to the CCLA.

Street Names: It was agreed that the four streets should be named: Windmill Way Back Lane, Pine Close and Long Ground. (Proposed by Cllr. House, seconded by Cllr. Uncles, all in favour).

24/287. Approval of Invoices for Payment

Since the last meeting:-

1888 PKF Littlejohn (external auditor) £504.00 including £84.00 VAT.

1889 Hilperton Village Hall (remainder of grant) £2,250.00.

1890 R. House, flowers for Remembrance Sunday £88.72. (not £79.00 as indicated on the agenda).

Payments for this meeting:-

1892 Core Clean, £250.00.

1893 Cloudy IT £73.50 including £12.25 VAT.

1894 Parish Online £291.60 including £48.60 VAT.

1895 Idverde, November invoice £121.60 including £20.27 VAT.

24/288. Meetings for Councillors to consider attending

LHFIG, 6th February, 2025, County Hall, 10-12 (Hybrid)

Trowbridge Area Board, 20th February, 2025, 6.30, County Hall

24/289. Correspondence received

There was none.

24/290. Exclusion of Press and Public

Under standing order 68, the following item was classified as confidential .

Sir William Roger Brown's (Coal) Charity donations

After a short discussion, it was agreed that no donations would be given this year.

(Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. House, all in favour).

24/291. Items for future Meetings

Budget/precept for 2025/2026, with special consideration to be given in respect of the probable taking over of play areas in the parish.

24/292. Items for Notice Boards or Publication

There were none.

24/292. Date, time and place for the next Parish Council meeting

Tuesday, 21st January, 2025, commencing 7.45 pm at Hilperton Village Hall, Whaddon Lane.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Signed Dated