

**Minutes of the meeting of Hilperton Parish Council, held at Hilperton Village Hall on Tuesday July 15<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 7.45pm.**

Councillors present. Clark (Chairman), Linham, Bayley, Prevett, Robinson, Sawyer, Hayes, House Uncles and Jamieson.

Clerk and one member of the public.

**7.45pm Public Question Time.**

There were no questions.

**AGENDA.**

**25/144. Acceptance of apologies for absence.**

None

**25/145. Declarations of interest.**

None.

**25/146. To receive and sign the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025 and Full Council meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup> 2025.**

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

**25/147. Chairman's announcements.**

None

**25/148 Report from Wiltshire Councillor.**

Cllr Clark reported that Local Plan got through it's first initial Inspection and will therefore be going to first official Inspection at Civic Hall during September/October this year.

**24/149. Report from Police.**

No report as such but more local information can be found at

<https://wiltshire.police.uk/trowbridge-rural>

There is a new inspector at Trowbridge, Ho Tsang who had attended and spoke at Trowbridge Area Board on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**25/150. Planning applications.**

**PL/2025/05027** – Pound Farmhouse, Horse Road – Listed building consent – Reconstruction of Buttress Wall, Repairs to cracking inside and out, stitching masonry and new rear door.

It was resolved by the Parish Council to make no comment

**PL/2025/05134** – 110 Church Street – Listed Building consent – replacement of garage roof and side windows.

It was resolved by the Parish Council to make no comment

Cllr Clark confirmed that the Paxcroft Farm Development would be coming before the Strategic Planning Committee in late August/September and it would be good if a representative from the Parish Council could attend.

**25/151. Planning decisions.**

**PL/2025/02193** – Home Farm, Whaddon – lawful development certificate for an existing use. Storage of caravans in barn. Withdrawn by applicant

**PL/2025/03892** – Beechwood, 124B Ashton Road – Erection of new double garage. Withdrawn by applicant

**25/152. Planning Appeal**

PL/2024/09371 – Land off Ashton Road – Erection of 1 no dwelling and detached garage  
APP/Y3940/W/25/3367873

The Parish Council had already commented on the application so no further comments necessary.

**25/153. HAAG/flood-warden scheme.**

Celia apologised for missing last meeting. She reported that they had received support from The Environment Law Foundation and they will check our Statements to make sure they are legally valid. Free but asked for donation. She has a new flooding map. She has been in contact with Gerald Kells about housing numbers. Cllr Linham has also been copied in and he said that there is a new 5year plan for number of houses. Gerald is planning for 3 days work.

Celia reported on the Wiltshire Cabinet meeting last week where there is a new Trowbridge/Westbury bat mitigation strategy. When debated in Full Council next week then that will be it and will be enforceable. New Cabinet is different to the old one. No survey on new land. No information in regards to bats as developers refuse to release the information. Cllr Clark also added the comment with regard to the bat information being so secretive because people might raid the bat nests if they know they are there. Cllr Linham asked if Cabinet will reach the 80% rule. The creation of buffer zones are most important. With regard to Local Plan, statements have to be in 3 weeks before the meeting.

Trees and hedgerows need to be protected. We need the Tree Preservation Officer to look at the areas. This would have the backing of the Parish Council. All agreed.

**25/154. Rural Play Area Funding**

The Clerk gave an update and reported that legal paperwork was now beginning to move. Wiltshire Council had stated that the cost of each of the areas was £1!

**25/155. Trowbridge Rugby Football Club**

Cllr Bayley reported that it was agreed that Cllr Clark would stand for a year and then he would take over as trustee. Awaiting a reply from their Trustees.

**25/156. Future Energy Landscapes (FEL)**

The Clerk had circulated an email. It's a 2 year project of what the community wants.

**25/157. Highway matters**

Bus Shelter damage – The Clerk had circulated an email from the broker but still insisting that the Parish Council has to pay the £250 excess. The Clerk suggested he ought to contact Tesco manager at Trowbridge and explain the situation to him.

The 3 LHFIG application had been submitted and were with the engineers.

**25/158. Parish Steward.**

Any suggestions for work should be forwarded to the Chairman.

**25/159. Allotments/Community Orchard.**

Cllr House reported that currently 5/6 allotments are not being cultivated. He would pursue these people and give them a month's notice under the terms of their tenancy. There are 10 new people on the waiting list. The Parish Council agreed with Cllr House's action. Cllr House had been approached from an allotment holder who has a disabled relative and wanted the bar dropped a couple of times a week so they could get nearer to their allotment. He was not happy with the commitment or getting a spare key. He did however mention the Equalities Act 2010 where it states that although there is no specific requirement for disabled access it would be good to work to try and make the access more inclusive. It was agreed that the correspondence be passed to Sonja at Village Hall Committee for their comments. All agreed.

**25/160. Church Farm/War memorial.**

Cllr Linham had not received any updates and he had reported the wall as being unsafe to Wiltshire Council and now there are problems with brambles. Cllr Clark will make contact with Ashford Homes. Cllr Jamieson reported at the last meeting about state of the wall adjacent to

the War memorial and the Clerk also mentioned he had contacted James Long and they are willing to look at the wall and give an estimate. Cllr Jamieson said he would contact them.

**25/161. 'Clerk's report.'**

The Clerk gave a CCLA update which he had previously circulated. There will be a seminar in September which will explain this in more detail.

Bank balances - The Clerk reported that the bank balance in the Treasurer's account was £80,485.33 (this included a recent deposit of CIL money for Elizabeth Way of 26,052.71). There was £110,184.84 in the new Instant access account and £859.80 in the old Bus Instant account. CCLA was £121,708.11 and Redwood Bank was £68,322.25.

The Clerk had provided an invoice for nearly £10,000 for the Solar Farm and had received a cheque for £32.76 for the Wayleave.

With regard to Internet banking the Clerk reported that, unfortunately, Councillors have to do all the paperwork themselves, on line. The Clerk will send a link for Councillors to start the process. In the meantime the Clerk will forward a copy of the bank statement.

The Clerk explained the AGAR further with the Councillors, and paperwork was also passed around and discussed. The Clerk read out questions on Section 1. The Chairman duly signed the forms.

Cllrs Clark and Bayley asked if a copy of Parish Council fixed assets could be circulated..

**25/162. Approval of invoices for payment.**

**Payments for this meeting**

Idverde June invoice £121.60 including £20.27 VAT

Clerk's salary (June) £499.63

HMRC £125.00

Cloudy IT (08124) £77.46 including £12.91 VAT

Water2Business £396.18

Scribe (11104) £39.60 including £6.60 VAT

Proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Uncles that the above amounts be paid. All agreed.

**25/163. Website**

Cllr House explained the meeting recently held between him, our web master (David Huggins), Cllr Bayley and the Clerk. There are certain areas of the site that need changing and updating especially in regard to accessibility. Cllrs House and Linham will take this forward with help from the Clerk.

**25/164. Wiltshire Council's report for remuneration for Councillors**

This was deferred from the last meeting. It was discussed and noted but decided that, at this present time, no further action taken.

**25/139. Meetings for councillors to consider attending.**

LHFIG, Thursday July 24<sup>th</sup> 10-12, Hybrid meeting

Get Flood Ready – online event – 4.30 Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Will be circulated including Baz.

**25/140. Correspondence received.**

A letter had been received from Trowbridge Town Council re Doric Park which was definitely not for sale.

The Clerk read out the reply from CPRE over Best Kept Village Competition which indicated a good sense of Community spirit but would not be progressing to next round.

The Clerk had also received a copy of Steeple Ashton's Neighbourhood Plan.

**25/141. Items for future meetings.**

Cllr Linham brought up the question of watering of newly planted trees.

**25/142. Items for notice board or publication.**

**25/143. Date, time, and venue for the next parish council meeting.**

Tuesday August 17<sup>th</sup> for a HAAG meeting or planning committee meeting., at 7.45pm, at Hilperton Village Hall, Whaddon Lane.

Meeting closed at 21.40

Signed .....

Dated 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025.