

## **Minutes of the meeting of Hilperton Parish Council, held at Hilperton Village Hall on Tuesday April 21<sup>st</sup> 2026 at 7.45pm.**

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

Clerk and one member of the public.

### **AGENDA.**

#### **26/71. Acceptance of apologies for absence.**

Cllr Uncles who is away on work. Accepted

#### **26/72. Declarations of interest.**

None

#### **26/73. To receive and sign the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on March 17<sup>th</sup> 2026,** previously circulated to council members and available on PC website.

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

#### **26/74. Chairman's announcements.**

None.

#### **26/75. Report from Wiltshire Councillor.**

None

#### **26/76. Report from Police.**

None received, but further details can be obtained at <https://wiltshire.police.uk/trowbridge-rural>  
Cllr Robinson reported that there was an increase in vehicle thefts in village.

#### **26/77. Planning applications.**

**PL/2026/01011** – 32 Marsh Road - Orangery.

It was resolved that the Parish Council make No Comments.

**PL/2026/01558** – Rectory Barn, Whaddon – Erection of a single dwelling and associated work.

This is technical details consent following approval of permission in principle ref PL/2025/03764

It was resolved that the Parish Council make No Objection to the above application. However it would like to comment that it is next to a listed building and therefore out of character in the neighbourhood and the Parish Council wish to remind Wiltshire Council of the bats and newts of the area. They would also like to see hedgerows remain..

**PL/2026/01676** – 79 Lacock Gardens – Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of application PI/2025/07340

It was resolved that the Parish Council make No Comments.

**PL/2026/02057** – 1 Foxglove Drive – T1, section fell previously pollarded Willow tree. T2, Crown reduce Ash tree by up to 2m.

The Parish Council will concur with views of Wiltshire Council's tree officer.

**PL/2025/09997** – 179 Devizes Road – Single and two storey extensions – **Amended Plans/Additional information.**

It was resolved that the Parish Council make No Comments.

#### **26/78. Planning decisions.**

None

### **26/79. HAAG**

Celia Beckett reported that they had a meeting with Wiltshire Council. There is a very difficult situation ahead until the new Local Plan comes into existence. They agreed that they have to abide by habitat regulations. So the situation has changed dramatically and decision taken on what we can do in the meantime. Maxcroft and Devizes Road are still subject to consultation. A bat expert had produced a report on both Maxcroft and Devizes Road. At the meeting Cllr Bayley challenged why the Parish Council was not getting pre-application information. Wiltshire Council have 30 months to do the next Local Plan.

Ideas were floated on how to get the updated information out to the public. It was felt better to hold back until Wiltshire Council announces that it had officially ditched the Local Plan at its May meeting. There is still the problem that Wiltshire does not have a 5 year land supply.

### **26/80. Rural Play Area Funding**

Cllr Bayley had a meeting with solicitors to go through 3 land transfers and 1 lease. Everything sent back to Wiltshire Council to look at. He made sure that monies on each one would be transferred upon signing. He also raised s106 money which would also be transferred upon signing. A couple of small issues on Lacock Gardens where there is land but not known who owns them. Foxglove lease is 125 years and can only be used as community land.

### **26/81. Elizabeth Way Speed limit**

Cllr Clark had been contacted by several people over the possible reduction of reducing speed limit from 50mph to 40mph and he passed those comments on to Wiltshire Council Highways. They took it to LHFIG and suggested a survey at cost of £3200 with 25% picked up by Hilperton Parish Council. Cllr Clark went back to them and advised them that it was doubtful if Parish Council would pay that amount as they did not actually ask for it. It was proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Hayes that if the Clerk is approached with regard to a contribution for the survey that he declines. All agreed.

### **26/82. Proposals for 2026 batch of parking and waiting restrictions.**

The Clerk had circulated a list of which 3 related to Hilperton.

Support for double yellow lines in Church Farm Close but no support for extra parking bays in Church Street.

Hill Street and Greenhill Gardens. Support double yellow lines as submitted.

Horse Road, opposite St. Mary's Close. Double yellow lines. Cllr Hayes declared an interest.

There was support but suggested 15 metres not 10 metres in length.

### **26/85. Possible 20mph zone at southern end of village**

The Parish Council had told Wiltshire Council that they had not looked at the requested area.

There was some s106 from Church Farm Close for traffic calming for the village. However

Wiltshire Council had come back and said that it had been used for cyclepath between

Trowbridge and Melksham.

### **26/86. Community Governance Review for the Elizabeth Way houses**

The Community Governance committee recently met and dealt with Devizes area with

Salisbury next. Cllr Clark assumed that Trowbridge will want to take over Elizabeth Way houses.

It was felt to wait to see what Trowbridge might ask for but thoughts were to try and leave the 'Hilperton Gap'.

### **26/87. Moving present bin from Stourton Park Play area to Hilperton Footpath 8 (opposite Bellway Development)**

Cllr House suggested moving a bin from Stourton Park to footpath 8 which was agreed. Also

ask for a detached bin on footpath 3 be attached to a post. There was also a comment about bin

on the small 'green' at eastern end of Middle Lane being damaged.

### **26/88. Parish Steward.**

Any suggestions for work to Cllr Clark but Parish Stewards are still helping with pot holes.

**26/89. Allotments/Community Orchard.**

Cllr House reported that all allotments had been paid. Just 4 change hands, Various tree posts had rotted over the years. Roger Beckett had been through them all and fixed them. It was suggested that a letter of appreciation be sent. Very small waiting list. It was suggested that a sign be made and placed at entrance to allotments with contact number. Cllr House will look further into cost.

**26/90. Update on revised Hilperton Neighbourhood Development Plan**

No progress at present.

**26/91. Update on Councillor vacancy.**

The Clerk will put a notice on the notice boards. There had been interest on local social media group.

**26/92. Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme – Bringing Faster Broadband to Hilperton**

The Clerk had circulated an email about this. It was suggested that Whaddon addresses be circulated.

**26/93. ‘Clerk’s report.’**

Bank balances - The Clerk reported that the bank balance in the Community (commercial) account was £119,260.44. There was £110,759.43 in the new Instant access account and £863.63 in the old Bus Instant account. CCLA was £125,407.91 and Redwood Bank was £133,371.57.

No progress on internet banking.

**26/94. Approval of invoices for payment.**

*The Clerk explained the following payments*

Cloudy IT (April) invoice 11201 £83.81 including £13.97 VAT

Scribe (April) invoice 17241 £39.60 including £6.6. VAT

Clerk’s salary (March) £499.43

HMRC £156.11

RA Books £34.00

Water2Business £17.15

WALC £1259 including £209.83 VAT

Village Hall Car Park re-lining £1800 inc £300 VAT (minute 26/14) (s.137)

Proposal to pay the above made by Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Bayley. All agreed

**26/95. CIL Money**

The CIL committee met on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Working on getting correct payments over the years. Interest would have to be added.

Cllr Clark had also contacted the s.106 money for Village Hall. Wiltshire Council need invoices for this. Separate accounts needed.

**26/96. Energy in your Community Workshop, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2026**

Cllr Clark reported that very few people attended. Cllr Clark mentioned to them that it would be difficult to find land in Hilperton where any scheme could be started. He will bring it up at next Village Hall meeting.

**26/97. Website**

Cllr Clark had contacted web master. Clerk would contact Parish Websites.

**26/98. Meetings for councillors to consider attending.**

None

**26/99. Correspondence received.**

None that had not been circulated

**26/100. Items for future meetings.**

Speed limit on Whaddon Lane  
Maintenance of War Memorial  
Knapp - drainage

**26/101. Items for notice board or publication.**

The Clerk had placed a Best Kept Village poster on Hill Street noticeboard

**26/102. Date, time, and venue for the next parish council meeting (which will be the Annual one).**

Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup> 2026 following the Annual Parish meeting at 7.00pm, at Hilperton Village Hall, Whaddon Lane.

Meeting closed at 21.33.

Signed .....

Dated May 19<sup>th</sup> 2026.