

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 16th October, 2012**

There were no members of the public present.

PRESENT	Mr. E. Clark	Mrs. S. Sawyer
	Mr. T. Carbin	Ms. S. Carleton
	Mr. S. Uncles	Mr. V. Bielecki
	Mrs. K. Hayes	Mr. D. Tucker
	Mr. R. House	Ms. P. Turner
	Mr. J. Willis	Mr. K. Jackson

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. Wolsey Jameson and PC Mark Hough.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 18th September, 2012, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 8 – Grant request: A letter had been sent to the Wiltshire West Scout Association pledging the sum of £1,000 towards their purchase of Biss Wood. The Clerk reported that the purchase had been completed on the 24th September and she had received a copy of the solicitor's confirmation of the completion. The Chairman said this meant that the Parish Council's grant could now be made available to the Scouts.

Minute 8 – Blue Hills Development: A letter, voicing the Parish Council's concern that some of the properties on this development were being built very close to existing hedgerows along Devizes Road, had been sent to Wiltshire Council, with photographic evidence enclosed. So far the letter had been acknowledged. As far as the tree was concerned, this had turned out to be an old Hornbeam which the Landscape Officer had said was showing signs of internal decay and was not in a good state of health.

Minute 8 – Persimmon Land, Horse Road: The Clerk said she had contacted Persimmon and asked them to clear the overgrowth.

Minute 13b – The Clerk had written to the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, requesting that some of the Section 106 monies from the Blue Hills development should go towards fencing for the new children's play area, in order to keep it safe and to stop any dogs from getting in. She had not received a reply but the Chairman said the matter had been discussed at the recent Village Hall Committee meeting, and a letter would shortly be sent back to the Parish Council.

Minute 13c: Following a letter which the Clerk had sent to Ian Cradock, he had contacted the Chairman and both the Chairman and the Clerk had gone to see the hedges in question. They had noticed that any 'horizontal growth' was over a strip of grass and did not seem to be causing a problem. Mr. Cradock had confirmed that the road side of the hedge would be trimmed within the next few months.

Minute 13d: The Clerk had contacted Pat Whyte, who had arranged for the signs on the roundabouts to be removed. The posts had been kept in place in case someone else came forward wishing to sponsor the roundabouts at a later date.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

a) The Chairman said that the Best Kept Village Competition presentation ceremony on Sunday, 30th September, had been well attended, and a letter of thanks had been received from the Chairman of the local CPRE branch.

b) The Diamond Jubilee Oak sapling had been planted a few weeks ago.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Mr. Clark said that the new housing development at Ashton Rise, being built under the PFI scheme, was nearing completion. Two of the properties would be retained by Wiltshire Council as accommodation for the homeless.

7. POLICE

In the absence of PC Hough, the Clerk reported that there had been 60 rural crimes in the last month, 28 of which had been in Hilperton.

PC Hough had reported that building sites were still being hit, although Persimmon now had a night security guard.

The next meeting of the Neighbourhood Police Team would be held on the 24th October in Southwick Village Hall.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Allotment Matters

Discussion took place on the matter of the provision of both public and employers' liability insurance regarding the clearing/maintaining of communal parts of the allotments. It was agreed that Mr. Bielecki, Ms. Carleton, Mr. House and Mr. Jackson should meet to discuss this matter and report back to the November PC meeting.

Parish Steward

The next visit by the Parish Steward would be on Wednesday, 24th October, followed by another on Tuesday, 13th November. The Clerk said she would make the usual request for the Knap to be cleared in time for the Remembrance Day service. She would also order a wreath for the War Memorial from Matthew Ridley.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Council's Liaison Group

Mr. Jackson confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 24th October, at Southwick Village Hall, following the Neighbourhood Police Team meeting. It was suggested that the worrying increase in rural crime should be discussed.

Right to Bid for Community Assets

Particulars of this initiative had been sent to all parish councillors prior to the meeting. After a detailed discussion, it was agreed that - at the present time - no action would be taken.

Child-Minding Costs for Parish Council Meetings

The Chairman asked if the Parish Council should consider paying reasonable child-minding costs for parish councillors attending PC meetings and needing the services of a child-minder.

A discussion followed, bringing into the equation the services of carers, in order to make any needs more embracing. Given the fact that the Parish Council was already making discretionary grants on an individual need basis, it was suggested that this could continue, but the point was made that potential parish council candidates would need to know about this discretionary grant initiative, especially with elections coming up in 2013.

It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should liaise to look through the Standing Orders and see what could be included. They would report back to the November meeting.

Sir William Roger Brown's Coal Charity

Under Standing Order 68, this item was classified as confidential

The Clerk read out the list of the 2011 recipients – six in total – who had each received £20. One of these had since died. Members were asked to bring the names and addresses of any other possible recipients for 2012 to the November meeting. Only the interest could be paid out, which this year had so far amounted to £61.11 so, as in previous years, any other money required would need to come from the Chairman's allowance.

Best kept Village Competition – To consider where to place the Shield and Certificate

The Chairman said that the Village Hall Committee was happy to display the framed A4 certificate between the serving hatches in the main hall. It was agreed that a copy of the certificate should go on the PC's website.

As far as the shield was concerned, it was agreed that this should be put on the War Memorial wall, by the newly re-pointed stone, and should be in place in time for the Remembrance Day services. The Chairman said he would approach someone to do this on behalf of the Parish Council.

December Parish Council Meeting

It was agreed that this year the meeting should be held on the third Tuesday of the month, the 18th December, and this information should be put on the website and in the parish news.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

Mr. House left the room whilst discussion took place on the following application

12/01838/FUL: Ashford Homes (South Western) Limited

Land at former Nursery Site, Marsh Road

Continued change of use for the storage of building materials and plant (Use class B8) for a three-year period

It was agreed that the same objection should be made to this application as to that of the previous application (12/01094/FUL) i.e. that the proposal would not be in keeping with anything else in the area, bearing in mind that the site could only be used for 100% affordable housing. If, however, the planning authority was minded to grant permission, the Parish Council would wish a condition to be imposed concerning access and egress, as follows:- Sunday and Bank Holidays no access or egress, Saturdays only between the hours of 8am and 1pm, and Mondays to Fridays restricted to the hours of 8 am to 6 pm.

Mr. House returned to the meeting.

Decisions

There were none.

Planning Enforcement - 10/01920/FUL: 202a Devizes Road

Possible breach of planning permission with regard to roof tiles and windows

The Chairman said that one of the senior planning officers was investigating matters concerning the roof tiles but he would ask him to also look into the case regarding the windows. He would make sure he had information to bring to the November meeting.

Wiltshire Council Planning Meetings

Discussion took place on the issue of attendance at planning meetings of an authorised parish council representative. It was agreed that either the Chairman or Vice Chairman should have the authority to ask any parish councillor to represent the Parish Council at a meeting of the Western Area Planning Committee and for that parish councillor to read a pre-determined statement on behalf of the Parish Council on a particular planning application. (Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, all in favour).

10. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Letter of thanks from Mrs. Bet Harvey for the grant recently given to the Greenhill and Giffords Social Club.

11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) CPRE – The Moonraker, September, 2012
- b) Wiltshire Rural Housing Association – Annual Review 2011 - 2012
- c) Paxcroft Mead Community Forum – Minutes of a meeting held on the 19th July, 2012, and Agenda for a meeting held on the 25th September, 2012.

12. ACCOUNTS

a) Completion of the Audit for the year ended 31st March, 2012

The Clerk had received notification from Mazars that the audit had been completed to their satisfaction, and notices informing the public of the completion of the audit had been placed on all the parish notice boards.

b) Payments to be authorised:-

Since the last meeting

Gillian Lucas – Newsletter delivery	£24.00
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This meeting

Clerk's Salary for October, 2012	£464.00)	
Clerk's Expenses	£135.65)	£599.65
Mazars – Annual Audit fee (including £57.00 VAT)		£342.00
Nimbus Conservation – re-pointing work at the War Memorial Wall (including £202.05 VAT)		£1,212.30
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club Transport (including £1.04 VAT)		£6.24

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- a) In answer to a question regarding Speedwatch, the Chairman said that the police were currently looking for a new co-ordinator.
- b) Mrs. Hayes reported that footpaths 5, 6 and 10a were proving difficult to access because there were only narrow strips to walk along.

- c) In answer to a query from Mrs. Hayes regarding access in the Marsh Farm area, she was informed that a legal diversion had been put in place some time ago.
- d) Mr. Carbin confirmed that monitoring of lorries through Staverton was taking place.
- e) Mr. Jackson referred to the footpath by the development south of the Grange which appeared to flood easily and was always under water.
- f) Mr. Jackson again referred to the pavement east of 128 Devizes Road (south side) which was very overgrown, making it difficult to walk along its full width in places. This had been reported to Wiltshire Council earlier in the year.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- a) The presentation ceremony of the Best Kept Village competition and details of where the certificate and plaque would be placed.
- b) Date of the December parish council meeting.
- c) Grant given to the Scout Association.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 20th November, 2012, with a Planning Committee meeting to be held on Tuesday, 6th November, at 6.45 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.

Signed Date