

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 19th February, 2013**

There were five 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. K. Jackson
	Mr. R. House	Mr. W. Jameson
	Mr. D. Tucker	Ms. P. Turner

Before the start of the meeting, Adrian Ingham and Rosemary Hawkes from the Paxcroft Mead Community Forum gave a short presentation regarding the proposed Skate Park. Mr. John Willis had come to the meeting to thank members for the letter he had received on his retirement, and the bottle of whisky given to him. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.53p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from PC Mark Hough.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Item 8 - Allotment matters: Councillor R. House, as an allotment tenant. Councillor V. Bielecki, as shown on his declaration of interests.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 15th January, 2013, and the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 5th February, 2013, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING (from the January PC meeting)

Minute 5a: Wiltshire Council had advised that there was no need to co-opt another parish councillor, following the retirement of Mr. Willis, as the local elections were only a few months away.

Minute 13b: The Clerk had contacted Pat Whyte at Wiltshire Council about the state of the pavements by 70 Hill Street.

Minute 13c: The dog bin in Middle Lane had been mended.

Minute 13d: The Chairman and Pat Whyte had been to investigate the appearance of posts on the verge at the far end of Whaddon Lane, and Wiltshire Council would take appropriate action.

Minute 13e: The state of the gullies/ditches along Whaddon Lane had been reported to Wiltshire Council highways.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman said that, at the recent meeting of the Village Hall committee, quotes for new panels for the Village Hall roof had been considered. These would be funded by Section 106 agreement money from the Blue Hills development but would need to be ratified by the Parish Council. It was agreed informally that the panels could be purchased but this matter would need to be included on the agenda for the March PC meeting.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Mr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council would be setting its budget on the 26th February.

7. POLICE

PC Hough had given his apologies and had sent in a report, which was read out by the Clerk.

In the past month there had been fifteen incidents in the parish:-

One ASB – Cannings Close

Two burglaries – Blue Hills development and Ashford Homes

One incident of criminal damage – Wyke Road

One drugs incident – Hammond Way

Four thefts – The childrens' home, Castley Road, Stourton Park and the Village Hall car park

Two incidents of a violent nature – Greenhill Gardens and Hill Street

Four traffic related incidents – Ashton Road, Horse Road, Tudor Drive and the roundabout at Hilperton Drive

Consultation on the Police and Crime Plan

A letter had been received from the Wiltshire Police and Crime Commissioner, inviting local authorities to take part in a consultation on policing and crime. The Clerk said she expected to receive details in the next few days.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Paxcroft Mead Skate Park

Following the presentation made before the meeting, it was expected that details of the planning pre-application would be received in the near future.

Allotment Matters: Request to Install Fencing

The Allotment sub-committee of Councillors Bielecki, House and Jackson had considered the fencing proposal from the Hilperton Allotment Association and had come to the conclusion that installing a fence to prevent unauthorised allotment access from the footpath would have a far more detrimental effect on the site and the community than what it might or might not achieve for security and trespass purposes. An alternative solution might be to fit a large, lockable, five-bar gate and a smaller pedestrian gate (unlocked) at the site entrance. However, the Wiltshire Council footpath warden had been contacted and he saw no need to install a gate and was not supportive of reducing the width to that which was planned.

In view of the above, it was agreed that the Parish Council, after giving careful consideration to the request to install fencing, would not be in favour of granting permission. (Proposed by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Hayes, ten in favour with two abstentions from Councillors House and Bielecki).

Allotment Matters: Possible Removal of the Weblink from the PC Website

The Chairman of the HAA had contacted the Parish Council chairman to say that the allotment website was not 'official' and queried whether it ought to be linked from the Parish Council website. After consideration, it was agreed that the website, whether unofficial or not, provided a natural link from the Parish Council website and should therefore not be removed. (Proposed by Ms. Turner, seconded by Mrs. Sawyer, nine in favour with three abstentions from Councillors Bielecki, House and Jackson).

Other Allotment Matters

It was reported that plot 38 had, sometime since the allotments opened, become larger than the original 5 x 30 metres. It was agreed that the plot holder should be contacted and, under the terms of the Tenancy Agreement, requested to re-instate the plot to its original size.

Parish Steward

The Clerk said that the Parish Steward's next visits would be on the 27th February and the 19th March.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Council's Liaison Group

Mr. Jackson said that, due to unforeseen circumstances, it had been necessary to cancel the meeting scheduled for the 6th February. He would let the Parish Council know the new date as soon as it had been agreed.

Request for a Grant from the Tuesday Friends at The Giffords

A letter had been received from the Treasurer of the 'Tuesday Friends' group, explaining the purpose of the group's weekly meetings at The Giffords and asking for support from the Parish Council a) in letting her know of anyone who might benefit from becoming a member; b) in letting her have any suggestions for people she could contact to come and give a talk to the members; and c) in assisting by way of a grant towards reducing the cost of transportation to and from the group sessions.

The Clerk had ascertained that - at the present time - the group had nine attending members, one of whom lived in Hilperton. It was therefore agreed that, as currently only one resident in the parish benefitted, the Parish Council was not in a position to assist with transport costs at the present time. However, if numbers continued to grow and more Hilperton residents attended the weekly sessions, the Parish Council would be happy to reconsider the request and the group should be wished every success.

Request for a Bus Shelter in Horse Road

The Chairman reported that, at the Marsh Road end of Horse Road, Wiltshire Council had recently moved the bus stop - which used to be in a sheltered position - to another spot where there was very little protection around it. It was agreed that Wiltshire Council should be approached and asked to provide some kind of shelter/protection for people waiting at the bus stop.

Trowbridge Master Plan Stakeholder Event – 7th March, 2013

Town and Parish Council representatives had been invited to attend the above event at a venue yet to be decided. Ms. Turner volunteered to represent the Parish Council.

Wiltshire Council Core Strategy – Pre-Hearing meeting, 28th February, 2013

The Chairman informed members that a pre-hearing meeting would be held on the 28th February at 1.30 p.m. at the Civic Centre, Trowbridge.

Parish Council Planters – Quote for Planting/Maintenance

A quotation for the supply, planting and maintenance of both summer and winter bedding plants for all four planters had been received from The Landscape Group, at a cost of £972.59 (plus VAT). It was agreed that this quote should be accepted.

9. PLANNING MATTERS**Applications**

There were none.

Decisions

12/02222/ADV: Abbey Developments, Blue Hills, Devizes Road
Post mounted stack sign and two flag poles – consent

12/02143/FUL: Mrs. S. King, 32 Horse Road
Demolition of kitchen extension etc. – application withdrawn

12/02220/FUL: Mr. S. Collins, The Boatyard, 5 Hammond Way
Proposed canopy structure over canal – permission

12/02255/FUL: The Mead Community Primary School, Hackett Place
Extension to provide additional staff and meeting facilities – permission

12/02326/FUL: Mr. P. Hammond, 198 Devizes Road
Proposed conversion and extension of existing garage into ancillary accommodation - permission

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

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

The Chairman said that this situation was becoming ridiculous, with yet another complaint having been received about another planning breach. He apologised for not being able to give any further information on this matter and said he was considering referring it to the head of the planning enforcement team.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Letter from Duncan Hames MP regarding planning rules and travellers.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) Clerks and Councils Direct – Yearbook, 2013

b) Community First Newsletter ‘Headlines’ – February, 2013

c) Paxcroft Mead Community Forum – Minutes of a meeting held on the 9th January and agenda for a meeting on the 24th January

d) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Newsletter – Spring, 2013

e) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Management Committee – Minutes of a meeting held on the 9th January and agenda for a meeting on the 5th February

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised:-

Clerk’s Salary for february, 2013	£464.00)	
Clerk’s Expenses	£137.20)	£601.20
The Landscape Group – maintenance of planters (including £164.60 VAT)		£987.60
Office Right – Stationery (including £11.18 VAT)		£67.10
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club Transport (including £4.00 VAT)		£24.00
Hilperton Presents – Advert for the 2013 programme (Chairman’s Allowance)		£100.00

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

a) Mr. Carbin gave members posters advertising the ‘Trio Sospiroso’ who would be playing on Sunday, 17th March, at St. Michael’s Church, Hilperton.

b) Mr. Tucker updated parish councillors on the work being carried out on ditches in Whaddon Lane.

c) Ms. Turner said she had recently met representatives of West Ashton Parish Council to show them the new play area and give them information on installing new play equipment, for which they were very grateful.

d) Mrs. Hayes had read in one of the daily newspapers about a suggestion to change planning laws to remove the right to light. It was agreed that this could be considered at the March PC meeting.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

Due to time constraints for the parish magazine, some pre-meeting notes had been sent.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 19th March, 2013, with a possible Planning Committee meeting before then.

The meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.

Signed Date