

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 16th April, 2013**

There were two members of the public present.

PRESENT	Mr. E. Clark	Mrs. S. Sawyer
	Mr. T. Carbin	Mr. V. Bielecki
	Mrs. K. Hayes	Mr. K. Jackson
	Mr. R. House	Mr. W. Jameson
	Mr. D. Tucker	Ms. S. Carleton

Also in Attendance: PC Mark Hough and Sgt. James Bray

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Pam Turner and Scott Uncles.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 19th March, 2013, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 8 - The Blind House: The Clerk said that Nimbus had made an inspection and the stone in question would be replaced by them.

Minute 8 – Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust: Despite sending a second e-mail, nothing had been heard from them.

Minute 8 – Bus Shelter, Horse Road: The Clerk had written to Ian White at Wiltshire Council, formally asking for the bus stop to be returned to its original position. She had also asked if a yellow ‘bus stop’ sign could be painted on the road to enable bus drivers to clearly see where the bus stop was. She was waiting to hear back from him.

Minute 9 – Blue Hills Bat Pavilion: The Clerk had written to Natural England but had not as yet received a reply.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman thanked Sandra Carleton for the two years’ service she had given to the Parish Council.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

2013 Local Elections: Mr. Clark said that the Hilperton division would be contested by conservative, labour and independent candidates.

Trowbridge Area Board: In future only funding for capital projects would be considered by the Area Board, and all applications must be made on line.

7. POLICE

PC Hough introduced Sergeant Bray and said there had been seventeen crimes in the parish over the last month:-

Two burglaries; three incidents of criminal damage; two thefts; three incidents of violence; two crime-related incidents; four domestic incidents; and one traffic incident – details of which he gave to members.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Local Elections – May, 2013

The Chairman said that there would be no election or co-option of candidates in respect of the Parish Council, as all thirteen vacancies had been filled. He asked all parish councillors to endeavour to attend the forthcoming Annual Parish Assembly in May so that they could sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Allotment Matters

The Chairman said there had been another incident of bad behaviour from footballers, but as this was an informal match nothing could be done on this occasion.

The Clerk said that most invoices had been paid, with just four outstanding. Mr. Bielecki informed her that the tenant of plot 7 had gone and he would give her information shortly concerning the new tenant.

The Chairman said that he and the Clerk would be meeting the tenant of plot 38 on Friday morning in an attempt to resolve the issue of the boundary.

In conclusion, Mr. Bielecki said that, although bonfires were permitted between the 1st October and the 31st March, one or two had been lit in April. It was agreed that - via the website - tenants should be reminded of clause 5.28 of their Tenancy Agreement

Parish Steward

The Clerk said that the Parish Steward had been in the village on the 9th April. His next visits would be on the 29th April and the 20th May.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Council's Liaison Group

Since the last PC meeting, the PCLG had met for the AGM on the 10th April, and it had been agreed that there was still enough interest in the group to enable it to move forward. Richard Covington from West Ashton had been elected Chairman, and Mr. Jackson Vice-Chairman. Douglas Ross from TCAF had been elected finance officer but as yet the group had no secretary, and this situation would be discussed at the TCAF steering group meeting later in the month.

Mr. Jackson informed members that management of highway matters/street scene had been taken away from Parkway and English Landscapes and given to Balfour Beatty for a period of five years. Mark Banks would be the new co-ordinator for parish councils, and the parish steward scheme would be absorbed into this new arrangement.

Mr. Jackson said there were a number of issues to be considered by the PCLG, such as the BANES Cleveland Bridge scenario, which was still not cut and dried, Hilperton Parish Council's experiences with aspects of planning enforcement, which could be shared with the group, and the issue of the old cement works being used for landfill, in respect of the Trowbridge urban extension. PC Mark Hough had said he would like to consolidate the work he was doing with the Tasking Groups and the Liaison Group.

The next meeting of the group would be on the 12th June at West Ashton Village Hall, with further meetings planned for the 16th October and the 11th February, 2014.

Village Litter Pick

The Chairman said that a resident from the Navigator Close area had asked if the Parish Council could help to organise a litter pick in the near future. Mr. Carbin said that the Bradford Area Board had a number of 'grabbers' which they might be willing to loan (Peter Dunford the contact). Wiltshire Council would be able to supply jackets and black bags and rings. It was suggested that, if litter picks were arranged on a fairly regular, twice-yearly basis, the Parish Council might consider purchasing some grabbers of their own.

Annual Parish Assembly – Tuesday, 7th May, 2013

The Chairman reminded members that the Village Hall would be open from 7 p.m. for light refreshments, and the meeting would start at 7.30 p.m. Agendas would be put on notice boards shortly and, of course, on the website.

E-Communications with Parish Councillors

At the suggestion of the Chairman, it was agreed that, in order to save postage, members who had computer facilities should receive agendas and minutes electronically. As soon as the Clerk sent these to Dave Huggins to be put on the PC website, she would inform members that they were available to view/download in PDF form. She would also bring along some hard copies to meetings.

Clearing of Detritus/Rubbish from Private Land

Mr. House gave members details of what had been happening lately on The Gap land, where rubbish, dog faeces, cans, bottles etc. had been dumped, and this was causing the owner some annoyance.

After discussing this issue, it was agreed that the Parish Council should arrange to have some signs prepared and fixed to gates, reminding people of the countryside code and their responsibilities (Mr. House to prepare a draft). Mr. House also asked for volunteers to join him in a litter pick within the next few weeks. Both Mr. Carbin and Mr. Jameson said they would help (all three to liaise). It was also agreed that a few litter bins strategically placed would be helpful, and the Clerk was asked to find out how much these would cost.

This matter should also be brought to the attention of people attending the forthcoming Parish Assembly.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

There were none.

Decisions

13/00095/FUL: Mr. Mockford, 202 Devizes Road

Loft conversion with pitched roof dormer to side elevation, flat roof dormer top rear elevation and velux rooflight to front elevation - permission

13/00271/ADV: WS Retail, 8 Marsh Road

Replacement pole sign - consent.

13/00282/FUL: Mr. C. Whittaker, land rear of 162 Devizes Road

Retrospective application for erection of hay barn – permission

13/00289/FUL: Mrs. M. Parker, 29 St. Mary's Gardens, Hilperton Marsh

Front porch - permission

Planning Appeals

12/01840/OUT: Former nursery site, Hilperton Marsh. Appeal lodged by Ashford Homes (SW) against the refusal of Wiltshire Council to allow permission for the erection of 30 dwellings and associated works.

12/01521/FUL: Land rear of 162 Devizes Road. Appeal lodged by Mr. and Mrs. C. Whittaker against the refusal of Wiltshire Council to allow permission for retrospective application for the siting of a residential motor home and installation of a septic tank and soakaway.

12/00116/ENF: Land rear of 162 Devizes Road. Appeal lodged by Mr. and Mrs. C. Whittaker against the service of an enforcement notice, issued by Wiltshire Council in connection with the land and the breach of planning regulations.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Management Committee – 5th March Minutes and 2nd April Agenda
- b) CPRE: Field Work, Spring, 2013, and Countryside Voice, Spring, 2013.

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised:-

Since the last meeting –

Hilperton Village Hall – Section 19 Grant	£2,712.00
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This meeting –

Clerk's Salary for April	£472.00)	
Clerk's Expenses	£186.30)	£658.30
OfficeRight – Stationery (including £8.26 VAT)		£49.55
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club (including £3.88 VAT)		£23.28
Local Council Review – Annual subscription		£175.00

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- a) Mr. Tucker said that, when an attempt had been made to clear the ditches in the Dirty Lane area of Whaddon, it was found that the drains were solidly blocked, so Wiltshire Council would have to be asked to clear them again, as they did a few years ago.
- b) Mr. Jackson brought members' attention to two areas in the Devizes Road area where surface water was causing problems on the footpaths. Pat Whyte of Wiltshire Council was aware of the situation and had told the developers (Abbey Homes in both cases) that they needed to do something about the situation before the roads were offered for adoption.
- c) The Chairman said that another problem had arisen at 202a Devizes Road. The approved plans had stated that South Cerney gravel should be used on the driveway but in fact non-porous blocks had been laid. The enforcement team was looking into this, as the property was about to be sold.
- d) The Chairman said that the byway between Whaddon Lane and Paxcroft Farm had recently been blocked by felled leylandii. Wiltshire Council was aware of this and would be sending in a lorry to clear it away.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- a) Problems in The Gap.
- b) Annual Parish Assembly

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Planning Committee meeting: Tuesday, 30th April, 2013, commencing at 7 p.m.

Annual Parish Assembly: Tuesday, 7th May, 2013

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council: Tuesday, 21st May, 2013

The meeting ended at 8.42 p.m.

Signed Date