

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 21st May, 2013**

There were no members of the public present.

PRESENT	Mr. E. Clark	Mrs. S. Sawyer
	Mr. T. Carbin	Mr. V. Bielecki
	Mrs. K. Hayes	Ms. P. Fisher
	Mr. R. House	Ms. P. Turner
	Mr. D. Tucker	Mr. S. Uncles
	Mr. I. Greatwood	

Also in Attendance: PC Mark Hough

Mr. Clark welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the two new parish councillors, Ms. Pam Fisher and Mr. Ian Greatwood. He informed members that Mr. Jackson was in hospital and he had brought along a 'get well' card for people to sign.

1a. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr. E. Clark was re-elected Chairman

(Proposed by Mr. House, seconded by Mr. Uncles, all in favour)

The Chairman signed the Declaration of Office.

1b. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr. V. Bielecki was elected Vice-Chairman

(Proposed by Mr. House, seconded by Mr. Carbin, all in favour)

2. APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

Planning Committee: Mr. K. Jackson, Mrs. S. Sawyer, Ms. P. Fisher, Mr. V. Bielecki, Mr. S. Uncles, Mr. W. Jameson, Mr. I. Greatwood and Mr. E. Clark (ex officio). Substitute: Mr. R. House.

Footpath Representative: Ms. P. Turner

Police Representative: Mrs. K. Hayes (temporarily) and then Mr. K. Jackson.

Village Hall Committee Representative: Mr. E. Clark (ex officio).

Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Representative: Mr. V. Bielecki

War Memorial Plants/Flowers: Mrs. L. House

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group: Mr. K. Jackson

Allotment Point of Contact: The Clerk, Mrs. M. Timms

Tree Wardens: Ms. P. Fisher and Mr. W. Jameson

Area Board Representative: Mr. K. Jackson

Highway and Streetscene Point of Contact: The Clerk, Mrs. M. Timms

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. W. Jameson and Mr. K. Jackson.

4. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 16th April, 2013, and the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 30th April, 2013, were approved and signed. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on the 7th May, 2013, were noted.

6. MATTERS ARISING (from the April PC meeting)

Minute 8 - E-communications with Parish Councillors: The Chairman said that he had read an article written by the Chief Executive of the Local Councils Advisory Service which said that some parish councils had authorised the Clerk to send agendas, minutes and other documents by e-mail. This might be convenient but did not comply with the letter of the law. It was agreed that the Parish Council should revert to the old system and the Clerk should send out hard copies.

Minute 13a): The problems with the ditches in Whaddon Lane had been reported to Pat Whyte at Wiltshire Council, who said he would get the drains looked at as soon as possible. He had pointed out, however, that Wiltshire Council was about to change contractors from Ringway to Balfour Beatty Living Places, so things were somewhat complicated at the present time as far as forward planning was concerned. He had informed his colleague, Mark Banks, the new Area Co-ordinator, of the ditch problems, so he could ensure the contractor dealt with it.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

A suggestion had been made by the Village Hall Committee that signs should be put up around the play area stating that no-one over the age of 16 should use the play equipment. It was agreed, however, that this would probably not serve any purpose.

8. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Wiltshire Council 2013 Elections: Mr. Clark said that he had been re-elected councillor for the Hilperton division, and Mr. Carbin had been re-elected Councillor for the Holt and Staverton division. They were both congratulated.

Mr. Clark said that Jane Scott remained leader of the Council.

Mrs. Hayes referred to problems regarding recycling plastic containers at the recycling centres, which Mr. Clark said he would investigate.

9. POLICE

PC Hough said there had been twenty-three crimes in the parish over the last month:-

Five anti-social behaviour incidents; three burglaries; four incidents of criminal damage; one drug-related incident; one theft; one violent incident; two domestic incidents; one traffic-related incident; and five miscellaneous incidents - details of which he gave to members.

10. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Annual Parish Assembly

At the Parish Assembly a suggestion had been made that a 'community orchard' might be planted, possibly in the field opposite Pike Close or on part of the Village Hall playing field. The Chairman added that, if the Parish Council decided to take up the option of more land for the allotment area, some of this might be used as an orchard. This might be something for the tree wardens to look into.

Allotment Matters

There was nothing to report.

Parish Steward

The Clerk had been informed that there was no schedule for the parish steward scheme for June onwards. There would still be committed personnel for each area but, with the new contractor starting on the 1st June, no-one was sure about the new set up and ways of working. It was agreed that Dave Self, the current parish steward, should be thanked for his help and his courtesy to members of the public over the years, and the Parish Council hoped that he would continue his visits to the parish.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group

Mrs. Hayes kindly offered to attend the next meeting on the 12th June. She asked members what matters they would like to bring up, and the problem with speeding - particularly along Marsh Road - was suggested.

Village Litter Pick

The Chairman said that he would get in touch with the gentleman who had suggested the litter pick and ask him to contact the Clerk with some possible dates. She could then arrange for the grabbers, jackets, black bags and rings to be supplied. The Chairman said that members of the parish council would be asked to volunteer some time, as well as local people in the Towpath area.

Clearing Rubbish from Private Land

Mr. House said that he, his wife and Mr. Carbin had filled four large bags with rubbish from the Gap fields. He had not as yet done anything about any signs and it was agreed that the footpath officer should be contacted to see if he had anything suitable that could be put up.

War Memorial: Maintenance of Plants and Sweeping

As in previous years, it was agreed that an allowance of £5 a week should be made between the beginning of April until the beginning of November, 2013, for thirty weeks of maintenance of plants at the War Memorial, together with the sweeping.

Bus Stop – Horse Road

The Chairman confirmed that an official request had been made to Wiltshire Council to have the bus stop 'flag' put back to its original position. The Clerk said she would try to find out when this might be done.

Licensing – Paxcroft Café, A361 Layby

The Chairman said that an application for street trading consent had been sent to Wiltshire Council by the proprietors of the Paxcroft Café. It was unanimously agreed that this should be fully supported by the Parish Council.

11. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

10/01920/FUL: Mrs S. Wilkins, 202a Devizes Road

Amendment to application to use block pavers to front driveway area with drainage channels up to garage

It was agreed that an objection should be made to this application, the proposed materials not being of a permeable nature. This proposal would only exacerbate the already problematic flooding issues in this part of Devizes Road. (Proposed by Mrs Hayes, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, eight in favour, one against and two abstentions, one being from the Chairman).

13/00530/FUL: Mr. J. Knight, 202a Devizes Road

Revised boundary wall treatment - It was agreed that no objection should be made to this application.

13/00742/FUL: Mr. J. Knight, 202a Devizes Road
Single storey rear extension

It was agreed that no objection should be made to this application.

13/00628/FUL and 13/00708/LBC: Mr. J. Purdey, The Poplars, 166 Wyke Road
Alterations to listed building and extension to domestic workshop outbuilding to bring about the change of use to form a self-contained granny annexe associated to the host dwelling house, as well as alterations to the roof of the dwelling house to install velux windows and construct dormer window, as well as internal alterations.

It was agreed that no objection would be made to this application provided that the planning authority imposed a condition to state that the property should be occupied as one dwelling unit, with the accommodation occupied as part of, or an extension to, the main dwelling, and it should not be let or sold as separate accommodation.

(Proposed by Mr. Bielecki, seconded by Mr. Greatwood, ten in favour with one abstention from the Chairman).

Decisions

12/02069/FUL: Mr. M. Miller, land south of Whaddon Lane

Change of use of land to mixed for the keeping of horses and as a residential caravan site for one gypsy family with three caravans, including laying of hardstanding – Refused

Notice of Planning Appeal

12/01838/FUL: Appeal lodged by Ashford homes (SW) Ltd. against the refusal of Wiltshire Council to give permission for continued change of use for the storage of building materials and plant (use Class B8) for a three-year period at land at the former nursery site, Hilperon Marsh.

Other Planning Matters

Mrs. Hayes referred to the issue of the Blue Hills Bat Pavilion. The Clerk had written to Natural England, giving information on what had happened. The response from Natural England was disappointing, merely suggesting that the Parish Council should, if it wished, use the planning authority's own complaints procedure. It was agreed that this was not acceptable and that the Clerk should ask for a copy of the bat licence.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

13. PUBLICATIONS

- a) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Management Committee – 2nd April minutes and 7th May agenda
- b) The Clerk – May, 2013
- c) Clerks and Councils Direct – May, 2013

14. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised:-

Clerk's Salary for May	£472.00)	
Clerk's Expenses (including office rental)	£186.30)	£834.81
Wessex Water – Allotments 10/10/12 to 5/4/13		£19.58
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club (including £4.16 VAT)		£24.96

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- a) Ms. Turner said she would be happy to put a coat of hammerite on the Village Pump and Mr. House said he would teak-oil benches and the door of the Blind House. He asked the Clerk to let him have the key to the Blind House.
- b) Ms. Turner said it would be a good idea to get some quotes in soon for the cleaning of the War Memorial
- c) Mrs. Hayes said that footpaths 5, 6 and 54 were very overgrown in places, making life difficult for walkers. Ms. Turner said she would take a look and the Clerk was asked to contact the footpath warden. Mrs. Hayes said she would be happy to meet him on site to talk to him about the problems.
- d) Jean Grayshon had given Mrs. Hayes an article about swift conservation and it was agreed that she should ask Jean to write an article for the parish magazine.
- e) Mrs. Sawyer said that the drain at the top of Hill Street, by the bus stop, was blocked.

16. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

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

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 18th June, 2013

The meeting ended at 9.18 p.m.

Signed Date