

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 17th September, 2013**

There were two members of the public present.

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

Also in Attendance: PC Mark Hough

Before the start of the meeting the two members of the public present spoke about the parking and waiting restrictions item on the agenda, particularly in relation to the Church Street and Hackett Place areas. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.35 pm and welcomed Mr. Jackson, following his period of convalescence.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 16th July, 2013, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 8 –Footpaths and Signs: Mrs Hayes had now spoken to Paul Millard about the problem areas. The crops had since been cut and the fields ploughed so the footpaths were not in existence at the present time. She said Mr. Millard would speak to Mr. Cradock next year about keeping the paths clear. Mrs Hayes had also spoken to Mr. Millard about the steps over the brook. As far as the signs were concerned, the Clerk said that Mr. Millard was unable to help.

Minute 8 – Bus Stop, Horse Road: The Clerk confirmed that she had contacted Wiltshire Council and had also written to the people concerned in this issue.

Minute 8 – Application for a new Licence for Trowbridge Rugby Club: The Clerk had written to Wiltshire Council, as requested.

Minute 8 – Litter Bin for Paxcroft Mead: The Chairman confirmed that this had been purchased by the Parish Council and was now in place.

Minute 8 – Tree Grants: Mr. Jameson confirmed that the application had gone in for thirty trees and he expected to hear back from the Woodland Trust shortly.

Minute 13d: The Clerk had contacted Mark Banks about the Whaddon Lane verges and ditches.

Minute 13e: The Clerk had contacted Mark Banks about the signs in the village which were obscured by vegetation.

Minute 13f: The Clerk had contacted Mark Banks about the state of the pavement along Horse Road, by Pound Farm gate, which was obscured by overgrown vegetation.

Minute 13g: The Clerk said that the planter at Pike Close had been re-stocked by English Landscapes.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- a) The Chairman asked members if the date of the next meeting could be put back to the 22nd October, the reason being that the Clerk would be on holiday from the 4th to the 14th and, if the meeting was held on the 15th, this would necessitate the agenda being sent out very early in the month. This was agreed.
- b) The Chairman said that agenda items regarding the Community Orchard and Verge cutting had been put back to the October meeting.
- c) The Chairman referred to the invitation from Trowbridge Rugby Club for members to tour the premises, and made a note of who would be attending and on which dates.
- d) He said that anyone wishing to go along to view the new Scouts woodland would be welcome this coming Saturday between the hours of 10am and 4pm.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Mr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council was intending to improve the highway environment throughout the county by sign de-cluttering, whereby traffic signs would be minimised and road marking used wherever possible to ensure that motorists were not overloaded with extraneous information. A letter would be going out to parishes shortly and it was agreed that this should be discussed at the October PC meeting.

At a special meeting held a few weeks ago, Wiltshire Council had agreed to give ‘top up’ grants to councils in respect of their precept requirements for the year 2014/2015. This would, however, be the last time they could do this.

Mrs. Hayes referred to problems with the Wiltshire Council website, in particular with regard to a recent planning application which had been given approval by the planning committee but had not appeared on the website.

7. POLICE

PC Hough reported that of the 58 rural occurrences over the past month, 25 had been in Hilperton:- 2 anti-social behaviour issues; 4 burglaries; 3 incidents of criminal damage; 2 thefts; 2 animal-related incidents; 4 domestic incidents; 2 traffic incidents; 6 minor matters of no community interest.

PC Hough said that he was in the process of revitalising the Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Hilperton. Mr. Jim Banks of Horse Road had kindly volunteered to be the new co-ordinator.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Allotment Matters

The Clerk said that the Hilperton Allotment Association chairman had had a request from allotment holders to ask if there could be a consideration made regarding bonfires. Currently bonfires were allowed, in accordance with the tenancy agreement, from October to March, but some plot holders would like to start their fires in mid-September. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the plot holders should adhere to the terms of the tenancy agreement in this respect.

Community Team Scheme

The Clerk had received a letter from Mark Banks, following the workshops which had taken place in May and June, on the subject of ‘Community Days’. Wiltshire Council’s new highway and streetscene contract included a provision to support community-led priorities, the idea being to identify local issues and then work in partnership with the Council to resolve them. It was agreed that the gentleman living in Navigator Close should be contacted with a view to arranging a clear-up day in that area. The Clerk

was also asked to contact Mr. Banks to see if there had been any change in Wiltshire Council's procedure of clearing litter before cutting back any vegetation.

War Memorial Cleaning

The Chairman firstly informed members that Nimbus Conservation had now replaced the stone at the Blind House which had 'blown'. They had taken photographs of the War Memorial and a quote for cleaning should be received from them shortly.

Two quotes had already been received, one from James Long and the other from Young Johnson. The quote from Young Johnson had been received verbally and the Clerk was asked to find out from them which method of cleaning they would use.

It was agreed that this should be brought up again at the October PC meeting, when ideas for funding could also be discussed (i.e. Area Board funding/War Memorials Trust).

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group

The Chairman said that Mr. Jackson had decided to step down from his role as Hilperton Parish Council representative. Mr. Greatwood kindly volunteered to take this on, for which he was thanked. The next meeting of the Group would be on the 16th October and Mr. Jackson said he would send the Chairman of the Liaison Group details of how to contact Mr. Greatwood.

Village Hall – New Chairs

The quote for new chairs had not been brought to the meeting, but the proposal was for the Parish Council as Custodian Trustee to purchase the chairs and the money spent would then be deducted from the Section 19 grant given by the Parish Council to the Village Hall each year in respect of grounds maintenance and public liability insurance. It was therefore agreed that, subject to the quote being under £2,000, authorisation should be given to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to make the appropriate payment on behalf of the Parish Council.

Village Hall – New Litter Bin

After a short discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should purchase a litter bin and arrange to have it installed at the end corner of the car park (by the seat), with the proviso being that the Village Hall committee would make its own arrangements to have it emptied regularly and dispose of the refuse. (proposed by Mr. Bielecki, seconded by Mr. House, all in favour).

Parking and Waiting Restrictions

The Parish Council had received from Wiltshire Council details of proposed waiting restrictions developed following the submission of requests from the Parish Council and also those held on file. These were in the following areas of the parish:-

- a) Church Street
- b) The junction of Devizes Road and Ashton Road
- c) The Hill Street/Greenhill Gardens area
- d) The Hackett Place (Paxcroft Mead) area
- e) Hill Street/Dymott Square

The Chairman gave details of the proposals for each area, all of which were generally agreed by members. The proposals would be open to public consultation, after which they would be laid down in statute.

Ms. Turner mentioned the environmental impact of bright yellow lines in the parish and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Wiltshire Council to see if there was any possibility of toning down the yellow colour when installing lines.

Art Project for Hilperton

The Chairman reminded members of the meeting he and the Clerk had had back in July with David Wright, concerning a public art project in connection with the developments at Blue Hills, Hackett Place and the land south of The Grange.

Mr. Wright had since written to say that his organisation was finalizing the report for the project and welcomed a member of the Parish Council to join the steering group. There were no volunteers but Mr. Greatwood said that his wife, Heather, might be interested. It was therefore agreed that Mr. Greatwood should make enquiries and that the Parish Council would have a mandate to co-opt a member of the public.

Governance Review for the Parish Boundary

The Chairman gave his reasons for including this item on the agenda, and it was agreed that this should be discussed at the October Parish Council meeting.

Request for a Zebra Crossing in Horse Road

The Parish Council had received a request from a partially sighted resident of Navigator Close to see if a zebra crossing could be placed in Horse Road, between the two bus stops at St. Mary's Church. Whilst concern was expressed that this could be a potentially dangerous spot to have a crossing, it was agreed that the Parish Council should request one and then wait to see what the experts at Wiltshire Council thought of the idea.

The same resident was also concerned about the danger of crossing Hammond Way. Both the Chairman and Mr. Carbin confirmed, and the Clerk herself had heard from Mark Banks, that Wiltshire Council was still waiting for an update from their road safety unit in connection with Staverton School's travel plan, which should include the crossing of Hammond Way.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

13/02820/FUL: Mr. K. Wilkins, 202a Devizes Road

Retrospective application for change of materials to driveway from gravel to brick pavers

It was agreed that an objection should be made to this application and the local planning authority asked to seek an expert opinion from a drainage engineer regarding the run-off. (proposed by Mr. Bielecki, seconded by Mr. Greatwood, seven in favour, one against and four abstentions from the Chairman, Mr. Carbin, Mr. Jackson and Ms. Turner).

Decisions

13/00890/FUL: Shar-kays, land south of Whaddon Lane

Amendments to previous planning permission 11/00742/FUL (change of use of land for the keeping of horses, erection of stables and tack room, construction of ménage and new access) and retrospective laying of hard standing with external lighting – Permission

13/01109/FUL: Mr. and Mrs L. Webb, Southfield, Devizes Road

Detached garage and associated block paving – Permission

13/01159/DDD: Mr. P. Payne, Little Ashton, 259 Hill Street
Removal of one dead Robinia tree – Tree works to be allowed

13/01105/FUL: Mr. C. Gale, 42 Horse Road
Erection of single storey rear extension – Permission

Notification of Planning Appeal

12/02069/FUL: Land south side 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. Appeal lodged against the refusal of Wiltshire Council to allow permission.

Receipt of Copy of Enforcement Notice

Issued by Wiltshire Council in respect of land south of Whaddon Lane.

Planning Appeal Decisions

Appeal A: 12/01521/FUL: land to the rear of 162 Devizes Rad. Appeal made by Mrs Y. and Mr. C. Whittaker against the decision of Wiltshire Council not to give permission for a retrospective application for siting of a residential motorhome and installation of septic tank and soakaway – Appeal dismissed.

Appeal B: 12/00116/ENF-M: land to the rear of 162 Devizes Road. Appeal made by Mrs Y. Whittaker against an enforcement notice issued by Wiltshire Council.

Appeal C: land to the rear of 162 Devizes Road. Appeal made by Mr. C. Whittaker against an enforcement notice issued by Wiltshire Council.

Appeals B and C: The enforcement notice varied by deleting '6 months' from 'Time for Compliance' and replacing it with '12 months'. Subject to this variation the appeals dismissed and the enforcement notice upheld and planning permission refused on the applications deemed to have been made under section 177(5) of the 1990 Act as amended.

Other Planning Matters

Mr. Bielecki volunteered to chair future meetings of the Planning Committee, for which he was thanked.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Letter from a resident of Dymott Square concerning the peacocks in the area. The Chairman to have a word with the owners.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Management Committee – 2nd July Minutes and 6th August agenda, together with 6th August Minutes and 3rd September agenda.

b) Clerks and Councils Direct – September, 2013

c) The Clerk – September, 2013

d) Paxcroft Mead Resident's Association – agenda for a meeting to be held on the 19th September

e) Paxcroft Mead Community Forum – minutes of a meeting held on the 27th June, 2013

12. ACCOUNTS

a) Completion of the Audit for the Year ended 31st March, 2013

The Clerk reported that the audit had been completed to the external auditors' satisfaction, and notices informing the public of the completion had been placed on all the parish notice boards.

b) Payments authorised since the July meeting:

Hilperton Village Hall – Banner

£128.80

Glasdon UK Limited – Litter Bin for Paxcroft Mead (including £20.67 VAT)	£124.06
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club transport (including £2.96 VAT)	£17.76
Clerk’s Salary for August £472.00)	
Clerk’s Expenses £125.95)	£597.95
Payments authorised this meeting:	
Clerk’s Salary for September £472.00)	
Clerk’s Expenses £110.55)	£582.55
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club transport (including £4.00 VAT)	£24.00

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- Mr. Bielecki asked the Clerk to send him a copy of the Parish News report and also a copy of the designs with regard to the proposed parking restrictions.
- Ms. Fisher referred to the byway going through the engineering works towards Staverton. Fences had been erected which made it appear that the footpath was being moved. Ms. Turner to take a look and then liaise with the Clerk.
- Mrs Sawyer said that the churchyard hedge needed cutting back (going into Churchfields on the cemetery side, on the field side of the footpath) – The Clerk to contact Mark Banks.
- The Clerk to make the usual request for The Knap to be tidied up in time for the Remembrance Ceremony in November.
- Mr. Jackson said that the pavement on the south side of Devizes Road (from number 129 along by the stone wall up to the cottages) was very overgrown with brambles and ivy.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- Details of the proposed parking restrictions
- Details of the Community Team scheme
- Revitalisation of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme
- Date of the next Parish Council meeting in October

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 22nd October, with a possible Planning Committee meeting before this date.

The meeting ended at 9.40 p.m.

Signed Date

