

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 18th March, 2014**

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

Also in Attendance: Mrs Heather Greatwood, Ms. Leanne Homewood and PC Mark Hough.

Before the start of the meeting Mr. Jackson – as a member of the public – spoke in favour of planning application 14/01902/FUL. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.34 pm.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. D. Tucker and Mrs K. Hayes.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 18th February, 2014, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 8 – Cracked Litter Bin in The Knap: The Chairman said that this had been inspected but he had been told that it was not damaged enough to merit its replacement at the present time.

Minute 13a – Neighbourhood Planning: Details of neighbourhood planning, which the Clerk had requested from Wiltshire Council, had been forwarded to Mr. Greatwood.

Part 2: The Clerk confirmed that she had responded to the letter from Hilperton PV Ltd.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman said that he and Mr. Bielecki had attended the police ‘Day of Action’ recently, with Mark Hough, which they had both found interesting. He reported that the litter bin opposite Marsh Stores had been stolen. The theft had been witnessed by some members of the public but they had not been able to read the vehicle’s number plate. The Chairman had attended the annual general meeting of HELP recently, and was thanked for the support that the Parish Council had given them.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Mr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council’s meeting to set the precept had resulted in a ‘nil’ increase but there would no doubt be cuts to services. He gave information about an upcoming Older People’s day on Thursday, 27th March, and said that there would soon be an update from Wiltshire Council concerning new parking regulations. In conclusion, he said that the owners of 154 Wyke Road had agreed to site the proposed new greenhouse further down the garden, and the neighbours appeared to be happier about this.

7. POLICE

PC Hough said that there had been 66 rural occurrences over the past month, 17 of which had been in Hilperton. His report is held on file. Leanne Homewood, the Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator, then gave information about the scheme in the hope of ‘resurrecting’ the Hilperton initiative.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Allotment Matters

Mr. Bielecki said that the water had recently been turned on. With reference to the option to purchase more land, Mr. House suggested that the owner should be approached to see if he would accept stage payments. The Clerk was asked to contact him.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils’ Liaison Group

Mr. Greatwood confirmed that the next meeting would be held on the 30th April.

Hilperton Art Project

Mrs Greatwood passed around printed details of the artist, Alex Murdin, who had been selected. She said Mr. Murdin would spend the next few weeks getting to know Hilperton and Paxcroft Mead, meeting with people and groups to find out about their needs, ideas and aspirations to input into the project. There would be another meeting in about four weeks’ time.

20 mph Speed Limits within the Parish (not allowed on A or B Roads)

At the last meeting it had been agreed that it would be difficult to come up with any suggestions for Hilperton that met the criteria, but it should be considered further at this meeting. After a short discussion, it was agreed that a request for a 20 mph speed limit should be made in respect of the village of Whaddon from after the canal bridge (where the houses start) to the end of the public highway, adjacent to Whaddon church. (Proposed by Ms. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Carbin, nine in favour, two against).

Request for new Road Signs: a) on the roundabout at the end of Devizes Road and b) in Whaddon Lane.

The Chairman said that a request for a new road sign on the roundabout at the end of Devizes Road to warn drivers that there could be ‘U-turning traffic’ coming from the opposite direction, had already been submitted to Pat Whyte by the Clerk, and he had passed this on to Rachel Efemey for action at the next CATG meeting.

Following a letter from a concerned resident, discussion took place on the possibility of requesting a sign warning drivers of pedestrians/horses/cyclists along Whaddon Lane. It was, however, generally considered that it would not have the desired effect.

Hilperton C of E Primary School – Community Litter Picking Report

It was unfortunate that the five parish councillors who attended the litter pick on Saturday, 15th March, outnumbered children, parents and staff from the school, which was disappointing as the initiative had come from the school. Ms. Turner had concentrated her efforts on the Village Hall playing fields and was alarmed at the amount of rubbish collected, mostly in the hedgerows. She said she would present a report to the Village Hall Management Committee. Mr. Jameson suggested that a village litter pick should be an annual event, organised by the Parish Council who could then invite schools and members of the public to come along to help. This was agreed, with the Chairman adding that the proposed litter pick in the Navigator Close/Towpath Road area of the village would hopefully take place in the spring. He said he would contact Mark Banks and Selwood Housing to find out the state of play. The Clerk was also asked to contact Hilperton school to thank them for their efforts.

Request for a Section 137 Grant from the Parish News

The Chairman read out a letter received from Michael Gamble, expressing the Parish News team's concern about the future of the magazine. They wondered if the Parish Council would consider sponsoring the cover which would cost in the region of £150 - £200 a year (black and white images on coloured paper) or £500 a year (full colour). A discussion followed, after which it was proposed that the Parish Council should make a Section 137 Grant of £200 for the next twelve-month period, subject to a note on the cover indicating the Parish Council's sponsorship (proposed by Mr. Jameson, seconded by Mr. Jackson, all in favour).

Parish Council Newsletter

The Chairman said it was about time another Newsletter was produced, for distributing around the parish during May/June. As no volunteers came forward, he said he would put something together and bring a draft back to the Parish Council.

Parish Council Planters – Quote for planting and Maintenance

The Clerk had received a quote from the Landscape Group in the sum of £982.31 (plus VAT) for the planting of summer bedding plants and their maintenance from June to the end of September, 2014, and the supply and planting of winter bedding plants and under-planting with bulbs, and maintenance. It was agreed that this quote should be accepted.

Possible Replacement Bench for The Knap

After a short discussion, it was agreed that the old bench, which had rotted and had been removed, should not be replaced at the present time. If, however, requests were received from residents to have a new bench, this could be reviewed in the future.

Annual Parish Assembly

The Chairman reminded members that the Annual Parish Assembly would take place on Tuesday, 6th May, in the Village Hall, at 7.30 p.m.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

14/00288/FUL: Mr. B. Curtis, 71 Wyke Road

Erection of single bungalow on land adjacent to 71 Wyke Road

It was agreed that this application should be supported (nine in favour with two abstentions, one from the Chairman).

14/01779/FUL: Mr. and Mrs D. Westlake, 36 Marshmead

Two-storey side extension forming garage, utility, WC, bedroom and ensuite

It was agreed that no objection would be made to this application (nine in favour, one against, and one abstention from the Chairman)

14/01902/FUL: Mr. P. W. Jordan, 123 The Laurels, Devizes Road

Extension over existing kitchen to create new bedroom plus ensuite. Removal of existing front entrance porch and creation of new porch area with bathroom over, including conversion of two single bedrooms into one double bedroom.

It was agreed that this application should be supported (nine in favour with two abstentions from the Chairman and Mr. Jackson).

Decisions

14/00437/ADV: Just Learning Nursery, 19 Hackett Place

Seven non-illuminated signs – approval given

14/00513/TPO: Mr. M. Radcliffe, 75a Hill Street

T1 – Austrian Pine tree: significant crown thinning and removal of 6-8 lower limbs – approval given

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter from Wiltshire Council giving details of a new interactive website designed to provide people and communities with information on a wide range of sporting and recreational activities.
- b) Letter from Trowbridge Area Board giving details of a senior-citizens event to be held on Thursday, 27th March, at Trowbridge Civic Centre.

11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) HELP Counselling Services – Annual Report 2012/2013
- b) Clerks and Councils Direct – March, 2014
- c) The Clerk – March, 2014
- d) Local Council Review – Spring, 2014

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised:

Clerk's Salary for March	£472.00)	
Clerk's Expenses	£119.40)	£591.40
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club Transport (including £3.52 VAT)		£21.12
Hilpertown Home and Garden Maintenance – installation of litter bin at the Village Hall and cleaning/maintenance of PC bus shelters		£140.00
The Landscape Group – planting/maintenance of PC planters (including £194.52 VAT)		£1,167.11
Mr. E. Clark: Chairman's Allowance		£51.13

(The Chairman refrained from voting when members authorised this payment)

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a) Mr. Greatwood said he would look through the information he had received regarding neighbourhood planning and report back at the next meeting.
- b) Mr. Carbin said there were some advertising banners at the King's Arms which he thought might not be legitimate. The Clerk was asked to contact the enforcement officer.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- a) Annual Parish Assembly.
- b) Bench in The Knap
- c) Cleaning of the War Memorial
- d) Hilpertown Art Project
- e) Wiltshire Council's new interactive website
- f) Grant for the Parish News
- g) Parish Council Newsletter
- h) Community Speedwatch – volunteers needed

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 15th April, 2014, with the likelihood of a Planning Committee meeting before this date.

The meeting ended at 9.02 p.m.

Signed Date