

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 16th September, 2014**

There were three members of the public present

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

Also in attendance: PC Mark Hough

Before the start of the meeting, the Chairman of Staverton Parish Council introduced himself and said he was endeavouring to create a network between the villages of Hilperton and Staverton. Mr. Clark then spoke - as a member of the public - against planning application 14/06237/FUL. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.36 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. Kendrick Jackson, Ms Pam Turner and Mr. Scott Uncles.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Mr. E. Clark: Planning application 14/06237/FUL. He referred to his Register of Interests.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 25th July, 2014, and the Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on the 19th August, 2014, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING (from the July PC meeting)

Minute 8: - Summer Newsletter: All copies had now been delivered and the Chairman thanked the volunteers, together with Mr. Uncles who had prepared the newsletter.

Minute 8 – Parish Governance Review: The Parish Council’s preferred option had been sent to Wiltshire Council, together with accompanying reasons behind its decision.

Minute 8 – Request for a Tennis Court: An e-mail had been sent to Andrew Pike but as yet no response had been received.

Minute 8 – Replacement Bench for The Knapp: The Clerk said this would be delivered shortly (together with a plaque) to Ian Cradock, who would then put the new seat in place.

Minute 13 – Blind House: The Clerk had written to Andrew Pike and had received a reply stating that the matter would be dealt with in due course, when the time of year was correct.

Matters Arising from the August Extraordinary meeting

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council’s response to the consultation on revised settlement boundaries had been sent to Wiltshire Council.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman said that work on the Hilperton relief road had now commenced. Concern had been expressed that some rights of way had electrified fencing crossing them without adequate means for people to use the paths. Mr. Carbin said this had been reported to Paul Millard and the Chairman said he would also contact Mr. Millard. Mr. Jameson wondered if there would be appropriate landscaping

and the Chairman reassured him that in the plans (eight to ten years ago) it stated that the area must be adequately landscaped with trees and bushes. In response to Mr. Greatwood's question about traffic calming, the Chairman said that this would be considered when the road was fully open and Wiltshire Council had had time to establish traffic flows based on weight limits. It was agreed that this matter should be discussed further sometime in 2015.

6 WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Mr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council was seeking to vary some conditions in respect of the Hilperton relief road in respect of road surfacing and speed limits.

He said that the long-awaited details of new parking restrictions should be received in October. This exercise had taken some time due, it appeared, to staff shortages.

Mr. Clark had received earlier in the day a letter from the Post Office concerning proposed changes to the Hilperton Marsh post office. The post office would be offered a till on the retail counter instead of the separate screened counter and – if the change went ahead – the branch would be open for longer: (Mon to Sun 6am to 10pm). Comments could be made up to and including 14th October, 2014.

7. POLICE

PC Mark Hough said that there had been 59 rural occurrences over the past month, 17 of which had been in Hilperton. His report is held on file.

The Chairman thanked both PC Hough and the PCSO for their help with the Community Speed Watch.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Bus Shelter for Newleaze

The Chairman said that the Trowbridge Area Transport Group had recommended that the Trowbridge Area Board should meet up to 50% of the cost, with a cap of £2,000. This would be discussed at their next meeting. A quote had been received from Queensbury Shelters in the sum of £3,406.80 (plus VAT) to supply, deliver and install an Arun Cantilever shelter to the specifications agreed on a recent site visit. It was agreed that, if a grant was approved, the Parish Council – before ordering the shelter - should ensure that the specification was acceptable to Wiltshire Council and write formally to the neighbours to whom Mrs Sawyer had spoken to be sure they had no opposition to the shelter. (Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, all in favour)

Allotment Matters

The Chairman congratulated the allotment holders for their success in this summer's Trowbridge in Bloom competition.

Mr. Bielecki said that some plot holders were disposing of weeds etc. in the hedgerows, thereby narrowing the footpath. It was agreed that all plot holders should be e-mailed about this, asked not to do it, and reminded that they could start to light bonfires from the 1st October (to the 1st April).

As far as the extra one-acre of land was concerned, the Clerk had contacted Mr. Pike that morning in an effort to get things moving, as progress was slow, and it was agreed that it would be helpful if the Parish Council could produce a plan of the extra one-acre area. Mr. House kindly offered to do this as soon as he was able.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group

Both Mr. Greatwood and the Chairman had attended the meeting held on the 30th July, and were surprised that very few members knew about the timetable for the governance review consultation. Discussion had taken place on the Salt Bag scheme and Mr. Greatwood suggested that this was something the Parish Council might get involved in next year. He said that the next meeting of the Liaison Group would be on the 30th October.

Hilperton Art Project Update

The Chairman said that Alex Murdin had met Pat Whyte and Meril Morgan recently to discuss the proposed sculptures and planting. The significant issue was that Wiltshire Council did not feel they would be able to include any maintenance of the fruit trees in the Paxcroft Mead park. The suggestion was that around seven Crab Apples should be planted as easy, fruitful and a key ingredient for jam makers, but trees such as Wild Pear, Myrobalan Plum, Wild Plum, and Wild Cherry could also be planted. The Art Project group was hoping that the Parish Council might take on the trees and look after them by pruning them occasionally and taking them down at the end of their life. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council would take on the maintenance of the trees, with the proviso that should the area in question be transferred to another parish in the future, that parish should take over responsibility for the trees. (Proposed by Mr. Jameson, seconded by Ms Fisher, all in favour). It was also agreed that some Wild Plum trees should definitely be planted.

Marsh Farm Solar Park

The Chairman said that he had spoken to Sam Gaiger recently, who told him that his company were about to instruct new solicitors in an attempt to move matters forward.

War Memorial: Maintenance of the Plants and Sweeping

The Clerk apologised for not including this on the May agenda. In previous years an allowance of £5 a week had been made from the beginning of April, for thirty weeks of maintenance of plants at the War Memorial, together with sweeping. It was agreed that an allowance of £150 should be made this year (Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mrs Sawyer, all in favour)

Best Kept Village Competition – Laurence Kitching Award Results

The Chairman reported that Hilperton had come fifth out of the five villages judged. However, some very positive comments had been received from the judges, specifically in respect of the churchyard, the school and the allotments. It was agreed that a copy of the judges' report should be sent to them all.

Possible Consultation Responses: Bus Passes and Waste Collections

- a) **Bus Passes** - It was agreed that the Parish Council should respond as a body corporate and make the point to Wiltshire Council that – on this issue – on-line consultation was not appropriate, as there were many pensioners who did not have access to a computer. It was further agreed that the option to change the Wiltshire Bus Pas scheme so that passes could only be used after 9 am Monday to Friday would be the preferred option. (Proposed by Mrs Sawyer, seconded by the Chairman, eight in favour with two abstentions).
- b) **Waste Collections** – It was agreed that it should be left to individuals to respond to the consultation over proposed changes to the Green bins.

Future of Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Services

Consultation on the future of the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority had commenced, with responses able to be sent up to the 20th October. There were three scenarios:-

- To remain independent and increase collaboration with Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council. This would produce potential savings of £0.8million within Wiltshire and Swindon.
- To remain independent and increase collaboration with Dorset Fire Authority while also collaborating with Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council. This would produce potential savings of £0.9million within Wiltshire and Swindon.
- To merge with Dorset Fire Authority to create a single combined fire authority while also collaborating with Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council. This would produce potential savings of £4million jointly within a combined Wiltshire and Dorset.

It was agreed that it should be left to individuals to respond to the consultation, which the Chairman urged members to do.

Section 19 Grant Requests from Hilperton Village Hall

The Chairman reminded members of the background to what had become an annual request for funding for the maintenance of the playing field, plus 25% of the public liability insurance, less the football income. The Village Hall had adjusted the income months claimed, from November 12 – October 13, to November 12 – May 13 to bring the period into the timescales of their accounting year.

In line with the grants made in previous years, the figures taken from the Village Hall accounts for the year ended 31st May, 2013, were:-

Grounds maintenance	£1,336.00
Plus 25% of public liability insurance 12/13	<u>£323.00</u>
	£1,659.00
Less football income after deducting 25% of shower and heating costs	<u>£783.75</u>
	<u>£875.25</u>

The figures taken from the Village Hall accounts for the year ended 31st May, 2014, were:-

Grounds maintenance	£3,024.00
Plus 25% of public liability insurance 13/14	<u>£326.44</u>
	£3,350.44
Less football income after deducing 25% of shower and heating costs	<u>£525.00</u>
	£2,825.44
Less £650 owing to the Parish Council for the purchase of a notice board at the Village Hall	<u>£650.00</u>
	<u>£2,175.44</u>

It was agreed that Section 19 Grants should be made as above. (Proposed by Mr. Greatwood, seconded by Mr. Jameson, all in favour).

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

14/07677/FUL: Edward Oatley and Son Limited, Paxcroft Farm
Change of use of redundant store to B1 (office) and B2 (industrial) use
It was agreed that no objection would be made to this application.

The Chairman left the meeting while discussion took place on the following application. Mr. Bielecki took the Chair.

14/06237/FUL: M. J. Singer and T. Nurkowski, Lion and Fiddle Public House

Extensions and alterations to public house to create four new letting rooms and construction of two detached dwellings within the grounds.

A detailed discussion took place, and it was agreed that an objection should be made to this application on the grounds that:-

- Proposed plot 2 was currently outside Village Policy Limits and both the proposed plots would fall outside the settlement boundary as proposed by Wiltshire Council's Spatial Planning team.
- The proposed extensions would adversely affect the parking area currently provided to customers. Building on the beer garden/play area and most of the car park would reduce the car park to just nine non-staff spaces, presumably to reduce custom.
- The Design and Access statement said that the business would now be orientated towards providing hotel accommodation only, which would result in the loss of the public house as an amenity. Furthermore, there was no application for a change of use from Class A4 to C1.
- Wiltshire and Swindon biological surveys reported the presence of both brown long-eared and serotine bats in the area.
- There appeared to be no proposal to retain the hedgerow to the west of the site.

(Proposed by Ms. Fisher, seconded by Mrs Sawyer, eight in favour with one abstention from Mr. Carbin)

Mr.. Clark returned to the meeting and took the Chair.

Decisions

14/06244/FUL: Mr. S. D. King, 5 Whaddon Lane

Replacement garage and extension roofs with new pitched roof – approval given

14/06423/LBC: Mrs H. Kinsa, 74 Hill Street

Replacement and relocation of gas boiler from kitchen to utility room and removal of flue and installation of new flue on rear elevation – approval given

14/06344/CLE: Miss K. Miller, 9 and 9a Whaddon Lane

Application for a lawful development certificate for existing use – subdivision of 9 Whaddon Lane into two separate dwellings – approval given

14/05490/FUL: Mr. and Mrs S. Sinclair Ross, 32 Gibbs Leaze

Single storey rear extension- approval given

14/07159/FUL: Mr. D. Wozniak, land west of 4 Marshmead

Two semi-detached dwellings and associated parking and additional parking for 4 Marshmead – application refused

14/07494/FUL: Mr. J. Collins, 192a Devizes Road

Construction of building to side/rear of existing as domestic garage – permission given

Notification of Planning Appeal

13/06879/OUT: Heron Land and Gallagher UK, land south of Devizes Road

Appeal lodged against the refusal in respect of the above site, to be held on the basis of Inquiry procedure. Date: 10th October, 2014, venue probably County Hall.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) CPRE – Fieldwork: Summer, 2014
- b) Countryside Voice: Summer, 2014
- c) Community First: Notice of AGM, 24th September, 2014
- d) SLCC: Notice of AGM, 10th October, 2014
- e) Clerks and Councils Direct: September, 2014
- f) The Clerk: September, 2014
- g) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre – Minutes of meetings held on the 1st July and the 5th August, and Agenda for a meeting on the 2nd September, 2014
- h) Local Council Review: Autumn, 2014

12. ACCOUNTS**Completion of the Audit for the Year ended 31st March, 2014**

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.

Payments authorised since the last meeting:-

Rocks East Woodland Educational Trust – Photocopying and folding 2,000 newsletters	£200.00
Officeright Limited – Office equipment (including £31.72 VAT)	£190.30
Metrosigns 2000 – Noticeboard cabinet for Village Hall (including £130.00 VAT)	£780.00
Clerk's Salary for August, 2014	£481.00
Clerk's Expenses	£160.24
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club transport (including £3.28 VAT)	£19.68
Mrs L. House, War Memorial – maintenance of plants and sweeping	£150.00
Mrs L. House – Plants and compost (Chairman's Allowance)	£50.60
Hilperton Village Hall – Section 19 Grant for the year ended 31/5/13	£875.25
Hilperton Village Hall – Section 19 Grant for the year ended 31/5/14	£2,175.44
Grant Thornton – Audit fee (including £40 VAT)	£240.00

Payments authorised this meeting:-

Clerk's Salary for September, 2014	£481.00
Clerk's Expenses	£89.60
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club transport (including £2.32 VAT)	£13.92

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a) Mr. Carbin suggested that the Hilperton Relief Road should appear as an agenda item from now on and this was agreed.
- b) Mrs Hayes said that the waste bin opposite Marsh Stores, which was stolen earlier in the year, had been replaced but now the new one had been taken away. The Clerk to contact Wiltshire Council.
- c) The Chairman said that the next agenda would contain the following items:- CIL/Section 106 monies; Footpaths; Possible venues for future meetings.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- a) hEdges of Hilperton and Paxcroft
- b) New Bench in The Knap
- c) Hilperton Relief Road
- d) Marsh Road Post Office
- e) Consultations: Bus Passes, Waste Collections, the future of the Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Services
- f) Grants given

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 21st October, 2014, with the possibility of a planning committee meeting before that date.

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.

Signed Date