

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

There was one member of the public present

PRESENT	Mr. E. Clark	Mr .V. Bielecki
	Mrs. S. Sawyer	Mr. R. House
	Mr. T. Carbin	Ms. P. Turner
	Mr. S. Uncles	

Also in attendance: PC Mark Hough

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Mr. K. Jackson, Mrs. K. Hayes, Mr. W. Jameson, Mr. I. Greatwood and Ms P. Fisher.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 21st October, 2014, and the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 4th November, 2014, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING (from the October PC meeting)

Minute 5 – The Clerk confirmed that a metrocount for Leap Gate had been requested.

Minute 8: - New Bus Shelter in Hill Street: The Clerk said this had been ordered and would hopefully be installed before Christmas.

Minute 8 – Wiltshire Council Training Events: The Clerk said that the training event to be held on the 19th November had been over-subscribed but she had anyway put forward the names of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council.

Minute 8 – Marsh Farm Solar Farm: The Clerk said that the suggested amendments made by the Parish Council had been agreed and the signed Agreement had now been received from Hilperton PV Limited.

Minute 9 – The Chase: The Clerk confirmed that further representation from the Parish Council had been sent to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of the appeal.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman said that he had laid a wreath, on behalf of the Parish Council, at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

He said that the recent ‘Hilperton’s Lovely War’ production had been very successful and around £1,000 had been raised which would be sent to the Royal British Legion.

An e-mail had been received from Katrina Fleet of Wiltshire Police, introducing the Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging initiative, whereby members of the public could – by e-mail, text or voicemail - talk about policing and crime matters relating to their area. She had attached an article and had asked if the Parish Council would be able to publish it on the website and include a link to the Community Messaging website. This was agreed, and Mr. Bielecki said he would take care of this.

6 WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Mr. Clark said that a developer had bought the former Peter Black site and a planning application was anticipated shortly which was expected to include a quality retail outlet and additional restaurant units, linked to St. Stephen's Place via a new footbridge. A public consultation had taken place on the 30th October at the Civic Centre.

Mr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council had given notice of a temporary closure of Church Street (from its junction with Hill Street to its junction with Trowbridge Road and Devizes Road) to enable works to be carried out to replace a gas main in the carriageway. The road closure would come into operation on the 19th January, 2015, and the closure was anticipated to be required until the 13th March, 2015. Both he and Lance Allan had asked if it would be possible to wait until the Hilperton Relief Road was open, in order to avoid two months of possible traffic chaos, but had been told that this work was essential and could not wait until the adoption by Wiltshire Council of the new road.

Mr. Clark referred to the problems being experienced in respect of the Hilperton Relief Road and the apparent unwillingness of Wiltshire Council officers to adhere to conditions imposed on the developer years ago. He referred in particular to speed limits, zebra crossings and the unacceptable state of Trowbridge Road when mud was dragged out of the building site. He said that Wiltshire Council's enforcement team had recently confirmed that should a wheel wash not be provided by the contractor by Monday, 17th November, then a temporary stop notice would be served. To date this had not been done nor a stop notice issued.

In conclusion, Mr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council was reviewing its car parking service and a workshop would be held on the 4th December at County Hall from 7pm to 9pm. The consultation would be open until the 16th January, 2015.

7. POLICE

PC Mark Hough said that there had been 52 rural occurrences over the past month, 18 of which had been in Hilperton. He gave details of these and his report is held on file. He also referred to the possible danger of mud coming from the relief road site and had asked one of his colleagues to go around to speak to the site manager and offer strong words of advice. He encouraged everyone to call the police immediately if they saw excessive or dangerous conditions at the location.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Allotment Matters

Mr. Bielecki reported that there had been a number of shed break-ins recently, with small items stolen. This had been reported to the police. The Clerk had heard from the Parish Council's solicitor that he understood someone else at Goughs was handling the option issue on behalf of Mr. Pike, and he had been advised that an application had been made to the Land Registry and he would receive a draft transfer shortly.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group

The Chairman confirmed that a meeting had been held on the 29th October, and no doubt Mr. Greatwood would give a report at the next PC meeting.

Hilperton Relief Road

Details (together with maps) of the proposed weight restrictions and speed limits had been sent to every parish councillor. It was agreed that the proposed weight restrictions as shown on the map should be supported, together with the revocation of the existing 7.5T weight restriction along a stretch of the road (shown in blue on the map) between Wyke Road and Hammond Way. As far as speed limits were concerned, it was agreed that the Parish Council should object to both the proposed 50 mph limits (as shown in pink on the second map). (Proposed by Mr. Bielecki, seconded by Mr. House, all in favour).

The Clerk said that Mrs Hayes had asked her to raise the matter of the bus stops at the end of Horse Road as these would have to be moved when the road was completed. A concern had been raised that they might be moved into Wyke Road, which would not be acceptable. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask Ian White at Wiltshire Council to keep the bus stops in Horse Road by moving them down towards St. Mary's Church.

Footpaths

The Clerk had learned from Paul Millard that three or four new gates would be required along HILP20, and she reminded members that – back in 2010 – six new kissing gates had been provided in the village by people sponsoring them. It was agreed that details of sponsorship should again go on the website and also in the next parish news magazine. The cost of each gate would be £100 or £120 if Mr. Millard's team provided a plaque with the sponsors' inscription on it. It was also agreed that up to date details of the PIGS (Parish Improvement Grant Scheme) should be asked for by the Clerk.

Wiltshire Council Community Day Works

The Chairman said that he had met a representative from the Balfour Beatty team earlier in the day and had given him details of work that required to be done. He reminded members that they should contact him with requests for jobs so that he could pass these on to BB. It was hoped that the contractors could take down the ivy on the pavement side of the Blind House but it appeared they could not do this because of its height, and the Clerk was asked to contact Michael Grant again to see if he could do the work.

Parish Governance Review

The Chairman said that there would be a fact-finding meeting on the 2nd December (10.30 am at St. John's Parish Centre, Wingfield Road) to which two parish councillors and clerk from each of the affected towns/parishes were invited. This was to gather evidence and views from these areas. Mr. Bielecki offered to attend, together with the Clerk, who was asked to get in touch with Mr. Jackson, who had expressed an interest in attending a meeting to state the Parish Council's case.

The Mead Primary School – School Journey Feasibility Study

The Chairman said that the school had recently received from Wiltshire Council a copy of the report from the recent feasibility study undertaken in response to their application under the scheme 'Taking Action on School Journeys Challenge'. The Parish Council had also received a copy, as had Trowbridge Town Council, the Area Board and the Chairman himself, as the relevant Wiltshire Councillor. The Chairman and Lance Allan from TTC had liaised and agreed a unified response, details of which he read out to members. It was agreed that the responses relevant to Hilperton should be supported by the Parish Council.

Community Asset Register

Following the October meeting, when the Chairman had suggested that the Lion and Fiddle might be listed as a community asset, there was further debate on this issue, with valid arguments put forward both for and against. At the end of the debate it was proposed and seconded that a request should be made to Wiltshire Council to include the Lion and Fiddle on the Community Asset Register. When put to the vote the proposal was defeated by four votes to three.

Flooding and Flood Wardens

In view of the fact that Ms. Fisher was unable to attend the meeting, it was agreed that this should be discussed at the December PC meeting.

Sports Pitches

The Chairman said that Trowbridge Town Council had purchased land near the rugby club in order to provide further sports facilities. It was agreed that a representative of TTC should be invited to either

the December or January PC meeting to give a short presentation on what the Town Council was considering in this respect.

Wiltshire Council Parking Service Review

Referring to the Chairman's comments made earlier in the meeting, it was agreed that the review (to be found on the website <http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal>) should be noted by the Parish Council, and it would be up to members of the PC to respond individually, if they so wished.

Wiltshire Council – Speed Indicator Devices

A letter had been received from Wiltshire Council to say that the Council had approved, when setting the 14/15 budget, the withdrawal of funding for deployment of SIDs, hoping that alternative funding could be identified within the speed watch funding stream, which it had not been. Prior to their final withdrawal, town and parish councils were being invited to consider whether they would be prepared to contribute towards their retention. The Chairman gave details of the devices in the Hilperton area, and the possible annual cost to the Parish Council, at the end of which it was agreed that the Parish Council should not contribute towards keeping the devices, as they did not work effectively and did not give value for money. (Proposed by Ms. Turner, seconded by the Chairman, all in favour).

Land between Devizes Road and Ashton Road

The Chairman reminded members that when this land last came on the market a few years ago, the Parish Council had held an extraordinary meeting, which concluded in agreement to make an offer of no more than £10,000. The bid was unsuccessful and the land had been sold to a developer. It was now going up for auction very shortly, with the landowner hoping to raise in the order of £35,000 for it. It was understood that residents living in houses around the site had got together in the hope that they could purchase the plot. It was agreed that, having discussed the matter, and being aware of the consortium of neighbours, the Parish Council should write to wish them luck at the forthcoming auction.

Grant Request from Carer Support Wiltshire

The Clerk informed members that the Parish Council was last asked for assistance in November, 2012, and approved a grant of £400. At that time there were 84 carers in Hilperton. Now there were 122 Hilperton carers registered with the charity who could benefit from the services it provided. It was agreed that a grant of £500 should be made this time (Proposed by Ms. Turner, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, all in favour).

Paxcroft Mead Community Orchard

An e-mail had been received from a resident of Hanewell Rise, Paxcroft Mead, asking if there was a possibility of some community fruit trees being planted on a roughly rectangular piece of community land situated between numbers 21 and 23, and extending from the hedge bordering Devizes Road to the main part of the Green. The Clerk had replied, asking if this was a request for funding from the Parish Council, in which case details of costs, the number of trees she would wish to be planted and a plan of where she would wish the community orchard to be sited should be sent to the Parish Council. The Clerk had also asked her if there were other people interested. So far it appeared that three neighbours supported this idea and she was now in the process of asking a local garden centre which trees would grow best in the soil and space available. She would get back to the Parish Council when she had been given this advice and the costs involved. It was agreed that this could be discussed when the information was received.

Under Standing Order 68, the following item was classified as confidential and the member of the public present asked to withdraw

Sir William Roger Brown's (Coal) Charity

The Chairman confirmed that the 2013 recipient whose name had been deleted from the electoral register was no longer living at the address given. The Parish Council was also advised that another of

the 2013 recipients had recently died. This left a total of two. It was agreed that these two residents should receive £25 each this Christmas, making a total of £50, which would come from the interest which had accrued. (Proposed by Ms. Turner, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, all in favour). As no other possible names had been suggested, it was agreed that details of the charity should be given to residents in the parish, via the Parish News and the PC website, in an effort to encourage people to come forward with names of recipients who might benefit from the charity.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

There were none.

Decisions

There were none.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) Minutes of a meeting of Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Management Committee held on the 7th October, 2014, and Agenda for a meeting held on the 4th November, 2014.
- b) Countryside Voice - Winter, 2014
- c) CPRE: Fieldwork – Winter, 2014
- d) Clerks and Councils Direct – November, 2014
- e) Bulletin: War Memorials Trust - November, 2014
- f) The Clerk – November, 2014
- g) Paxcroft Mead Residents' Association: Minutes of a meeting held on the 25th September, 2014, and Agendas for a committee meeting and AGM on the 20th November, 2014.

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised:-

Since the last meeting –

Mrs L. House – plants and compost	£43.42
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This meeting -

Clerk's Salary for November, 2014	£481.00)	
Clerk's Expenses (including office rental)	£344.25)	£825.25
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – Wreath for War Memorial		£18.00
Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club transport, including £2.47 VAT		£14.87

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were none.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- a) Update on new Bus Shelter in Hill Street
- b) Details of Wiltshire and Swindon Community Messaging service
- c) Details of the temporary closure of Church Street
- d) Hilperton Relief Road
- e) Sponsors sought for new kissing gates
- f) Grant given to Carer Support Wiltshire
- g) Details of the Sir William Roger Brown's (Coal) Charity

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 16th December, 2014 (apologies from Mrs Hayes).

The meeting ended at 9.18 p.m.

Signed Date