

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 20th January, 2015**

There were twelve members of the public present.

PRESENT	Mr. E. Clark (Chairman)	Mr .V. Bielecki
	Mrs. S. Sawyer	Mr. R. House
	Mr. T. Carbin	Ms. P. Fisher
	Mr. S. Uncles	Mr. I. Greatwood
	Mr. K. Jackson	Mr. D. Tucker

Also in attendance: PC Mark Hough

Before the start of the meeting, Hayley Bell, Leisure Services Manager, Trowbridge Town Council, spoke to the Parish Council about plans for the development of sports facilities adjacent to the Rugby club. She said she would continue to keep the Parish Council updated . The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.40 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mrs K. Hayes, Mr. W. Jameson and Ms. P. Turner.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Agenda Item 8 – Allotment matters: Both Mr. R. House and Mr. V. Bielecki in respect of setting rates for allotment holders for the forthcoming year.

Agenda Item 9 – Three planning applications relating to 112 Church Street: Mr. R. House, as he had given professional advice to a connected party; and Mr. E. Clark, being friends with both supporters of and objectors to the applications.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 16th December had been circulated. Mr. Bielecki pointed out that under item 8 – Allotment Matters – the end of the second paragraph should have read ‘proposed by Ms. Turner.....’ not Ms. Tucker, as had been written. Subject to this amendment, the Minutes were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 8 – Tree planting suggestion, Hanewell Rise: The Clerk had written to Mrs Travers and had explained the situation to her.

Minute 8: - Litter Bin at Paxcroft Mead: The Clerk had ordered a new bin.

Minute 9 – Tree Matters: A copy of the letter received from Wiltshire Council had been sent to each parish councillor.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman wished members a Happy New Year. He informed them that the closure of Church Street would not now take place until the summer. The Chairman also announced that he intended to vary the order in which agenda items would be discussed.

6 WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Mr. Clark said that the Core Strategy had been formally adopted by Wiltshire Council earlier in the day. He gave an update on the Parish Governance Review and said that a report from the Working Party would go to Wiltshire Councillors and the public in February. He then read a letter received from the deputy Leader of Wiltshire Council confirming the withdrawal of Speed Indicator Devices as currently funded.

7. POLICE

PC Mark Hough said that there had been 42 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 then answered questions put to him by parish councillors.

The Chairman read a letter received from the Police and Crime Commissioner, informing local councils that he had begun a public consultation on the cost of policing in 2015-2016 and that he was considering an increase of £3.06 per year, or 6p per week. The consultation would run until the 4th February.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Approval of the Budget and Setting of the Precept for 2015/2016

Copies of three suggested budgets (a, b and c) had been sent to each parish council member. The Chairman said that the estimated number of Band D properties in the parish was 1,814.20. Therefore the three scenarios would be:-

- a) The charge remaining at £14.00 (no increase), which would bring in a Precept of £25,398.80. This would be topped up by Wiltshire Council to the tune of £1,229.28, giving a total Precept of £26,628.08. This would be less than last year's amount of £27,889.42 because the number of Band D properties had dropped.
- b) The charge increasing to £14.28 (around 2% increase), which would bring in a Precept of £25,906.78. This would be topped up by Wiltshire Council as above, giving a total Precept of £27,136.06. This would still be less than last year.
- c) The charge increasing to £14.70 (around 5% increase), which would bring in a Precept of £26,668.74. This would be topped up by Wiltshire Council as above, giving a total Precept of £27,898.02, very slightly over that received last year.

After a detailed discussion, it was agreed that the Precept should be increased by 2% (option b). A few amendments to the budget in respect of Allotment income and expenditure were agreed and the Budget was approved. (Proposed by Mr. Greatwood, seconded by Mr. Jackson). Parish councillors who voted in favour were: Mr. E. Clark, Ms P. Fisher, Mr. K. Jackson, Mr. T. Carbin, Mr. I. Greatwood, Mrs. S. Sawyer, Mr. S. Uncles, Mr. R. House, and Mr. D Tucker. Mr. V. Bielecki voted against the proposal). *(Note: the vote on the budget was recorded in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2014 (SI 165 2014) which came into effect on the 25th February, 2014. Regulation 2 provides that votes at key budget decision meetings by local authorities should be recorded).*

Allotment Matters

It was agreed that the existing rates should be maintained for the next year. Should Phase two (the new one-acre plot) shortly be up and running, Mr. Jackson said there would be around 26 plots, bringing in an income of – provisionally - £45 a year each. This would still leave space for the proposed community orchard. It was agreed that the original working group should be set up again to oversee the work required when the new land was in the Parish Council's ownership. In this respect, the Clerk had now received the transfer document from Withy King which would need to be signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman, and witnessed.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group

Mr. Greatwood said that the group had met on the 7th February. Matters discussed had been future funding and it may well be that parish councils in the Group would be asked to contribute in the region of £25 each every year. Emergency planning had also been discussed. Mr. Greatwood said that the next meeting was scheduled for April.

Hilperton Relief Road

The Chairman said that he had heard that the new road would not be open until July. He had complained that there was still a lot of mud on the road, despite the wheel wash facility, and he gave details of proposed weight limits to be imposed from the day of the opening of the new road.

Mr. Jackson reported damaged to the planter by Fieldways, and the Clerk was asked to report this to Morrison Utilities, who were most probably responsible.

Footpaths and Kissing Gates

It was agreed to defer discussion on this item until the February PC meeting.

Wiltshire Council Community Day Works

The Chairman had nothing to report this month.

Flooding and Flood Wardens

It was agreed to defer discussion on this item until the February PC meeting.

Bus Stop Clearways

Wiltshire Council's highways development control officer had written to the Parish Council about the necessity of two bus stop clearways in conjunction with current bus stops in Horse Road. She said that Wiltshire Council's bus network manager said they would need two bus stop boxes to be placed on the southern end of Horse Road and had sent a diagram showing where the clearways would need to be. The southbound stop would need to be level with the bus stop pole (not the whole of the bus shelter) and the northbound stop would need to be next to lamp post 25 outside no. 386 Horse Road. It was agreed that no objection would be made to this proposal.

Suggestion of Change of Road Name

It was agreed to defer discussion on this item until the February PC meeting.

Consideration of Grant Requests

A request had been received from Michael Gamble, following the Parish Council's agreement to pay for the front cover of the Parish News twelve months ago. He asked if the Parish Council would be willing to continue its sponsorship of the cover for a further year, which would now cost £220. Ideally he and his team would like the cover to be in full colour but the cost for this would be approximately £500 per year. After a short discussion, it was agreed that a Section 137 Grant in the sum of £220 should be made (proposed by Mr. Greatwood, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, all in favour).

9. PLANNING MATTERS

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow members of the public to address the Parish Council on planning applications due to be considered. One of the applicants spoke in favour of planning application 14/11880/FUL. Three residents then each spoke against the planning applications relating to 112 Church Street. The Chairman reconvened the meeting fifteen minutes later.

Applications

14/11763/FUL: Mr. A. Huxham, site adjoining 7 Stuart Close
Erection of a one-bedroomed, detached dwelling

It was agreed that no objection would be made to this application (proposed by Mr. Greatwood, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, eight in favour with two abstentions, one by the Chairman).

14/11880/FUL: Messrs. B. and H. Tucker, Whaddon Grove Farm, Whaddon Lane
Retrospective change of use of domestic outbuilding to class B2 use comprising processing of aircraft materials to create furniture.

Mr. David Tucker left the meeting whilst discussion took place on this application.

Whilst supporting the concept of this initiative, it was agreed that an objection should be made. The application would be contrary to Core Policy 48 (2, 3 and 4) in that neighbours would be disturbed by the noise generated in the workshop. Added to this, there would be an inevitable increase in vehicle movement along Whaddon Lane. (proposed by Mr. Greatwood, seconded by Mr. House, seven in favour with two abstentions, one by the Chairman).

Mr. Tucker returned to the meeting.

14/11993/FUL: Cadfan Developments Ltd., Grange Court, 115d Hilperton Road
Retrospective application for new porch to side, existing garage doors to be infilled and glazed, existing side window to be replaced with external door, and minor changes to boundary treatment.
It was unanimously agreed that no objection would be made to this application.

14/11976/FUL: Mr. and Mrs F. Hinks, The Coach House, 112 Church Street
Change of use to separate dwelling and extensions.

15/00211/LBC: Mr. and Mrs F. Hinks, Woodcote House, 112 Church Street
Extension to the Coach House, within the grounds of a listed building, to form a separate dwelling.
After a detailed discussion, and mindful of the concerns of those residents who had earlier spoken against the application, including the listed building element, it was agreed that an objection should be made on the grounds that:-

- a) The proposal would be out of keeping and would have a poor relationship with an adjoining listed building.
- b) The size and scale of the proposed extension would be visually damaging and disproportionate to the size and scale of the existing building.
- c) The proposal would have an adverse impact on traffic movement through Nursery Close at its junction with Church Street.
- d) The proposed demolition of a wall to create a new access road would have a cumulative effect (taking into consideration planning application 15/00193/FUL) within the curtilage of a listed building.

(Proposed by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, six in favour, one against and three abstentions, including the Chairman and Mr. House).

Reference was also made to the old nissen hut within the grounds of the property which was removed some time ago, apparently with permission being sought.

15/00193/FUL: Mr. and Mrs F. Hinks, Woodcote House, 112 Church Street
Proposed new dwelling in orchard area.

It was agreed that an objection should be made to this application on the grounds that:-

- a) Access to the proposed property would be through a substandard entrance on to the road.
- b) The proposed demolition of a wall to create a new access road would have a cumulative effect (taking into consideration planning applications 14/11976/FUL and 15/00211/LBC) within the curtilage of a listed building.
- c) The proposed new dwelling would overlook and have a poor relationship with adjoining properties.
- d) The excessive bulk and scale of the proposed property would be incompatible with existing buildings.
- e) The proposal would incur the loss of the last remnants of an existing orchard and there would inevitably be a loss of wildlife habitat.

(Proposed by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Bielecki, seven in favour and three abstentions, including the Chairman and Mr. House).

Decisions

14/11445/FUL: Mrs V. Legg, 363 Horse Road
Porch to front to replace existing canopy – approval given.

14/08796/FUL: Mrs S. Locke, 23 Leventon Place
Retrospective raised timber decking area – permission granted.

14/10916/VAR: Mr. Bevan, 22 Horse Road
Variation of condition 2 for planning permission 00/01498/FUL to allow occupation of the room above the garage by persons other than the current owner of 22 Horse Road – application refused.

14/11283/FUL: Gaiger Solar Limited, land north of Marsh Farm
Installation of CCTV system within the perimeter of an approved ground mounted PV solar park at Marsh Farm – application approved.

Notice of Tree Preservation Order

Lion and Fiddle Public House: TPO took effect, on a provisional basis, on the 15th January on a Walnut tree at the rear of the pub, the tree being a landmark tree of high amenity value.

Notice of Planning Appeal

14/05579/CLE: Mr. P. Payne, 259 Hill Street

Appeal lodged against the refusal of Wiltshire Council to issue a Certificate of Lawfulness for use of the property as a residential dwelling.

Appeal Decisions

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

Appeal made against the refusal of Wiltshire Council to grant outline planning permission – appeal allowed.

14/04412/FUL: Ashford Homes, land west of Jasmin House, Hilperton Road

Appeal made against the refusal of Wiltshire Council to grant planning permission – appeal dismissed.

14/02453/VAR: Mr. S. Cooper, The Chase, Church Street

Appeal made against the refusal of Wiltshire Council to grant a variation of conditions 2 and 7 of planning permission 12/01877/FUL – appeal allowed.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Letter of thanks from a resident for the new Hill Street bus shelter.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) Clerks and Councils Direct – January, 2015.

b) Paxcroft Mead Residents' Association – Minutes of a meeting held on the 20th November, 2014, and Agenda for a meeting on the 22nd January, 2015.

c) The Clerk – January, 2015.

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised:-

Since the last meeting –

Mr. E. Clark – Christmas refreshments (Chairman's Allowance)	£17.50
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Hilperton Village Club – Christmas drinks (Chairman's Allowance)	£82.80
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This meeting:

Clerk's Salary for January, 2015	£481.00	
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Clerk's Expenses	£182.16	£663.16
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CPRE – Annual Subscription		£36.00
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Officeright – office supplies (including £12.53 VAT)		£75.20
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Queensbury Shelters Limited – new bus shelter for Hill Street (including £594.96 VAT)		£3,569.76
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Alpha Taxis – Sunday Club transport (including £1.00 VAT)		£6.00
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Leafield Environmental Limited – replacement litter bin, Paxcroft Mead, (including £11.80 VAT)		£70.80
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The Chairman abstained from voting on payments from the Chairman's allowance.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

a) The three items on the agenda deferred to the February PC meeting (Footpaths and Kissing Gates; Flooding and Flood Wardens; and Suggestion of change of Road Name).

b) Annual Assembly – 5th May, 2015.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

Due to time schedules for the Parish News, the Clerk had sent pre-meeting notes.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 17th February, 2015, with a possible planning committee meeting before then.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

Signed Date