

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 17th February, 2015**

There were two members of the public present.

PRESENT	Mr. E. Clark (Chairman)	Mr .V. Bielecki
	Mrs. S. Sawyer	Mr. R. House
	Mr. W. Jameson	Ms. P. Fisher
	Mr. S. Uncles	Mr. I. Greatwood
	Ms. P. Turner	Mr. D. Tucker
	Mrs K. Hayes	

Also in attendance: PC Mark Hough

Before the start of the meeting, Mr. F. Hinks addressed the Parish Council regarding the planning applications at Woodcote House, Church Street, with particular reference to the minute regarding the nissen hut. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.33 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr. T. Carbin and Mr. K. Jackson

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Agenda Item 8 – Allotment matters: Mr. V. Bielecki referred to his register of interests held at Wiltshire Council.

Planning application 15/00661/FUL: Mr. Tucker declared a non-pecuniary interest and stated that although the applicants operated from premises belonging to him, he had no interest in their business.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 20th January, 2015, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 8 – Grant request: The grant cheque for the Hilperton and Staverton News had been sent to Michael Gamble and had been acknowledged with many thanks.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

a) The Chairman reported that the new litter bin for Paxcroft Mead had been delivered and put in place.

b) He referred to the results of the recent metro count at Leap Gate. The 85th percentile was 40.7 mph (the 85th percentile is the speed at which 85% of the traffic is travelling at or below) and no further action would be taken under the community speed watch model. Also, another metro count could not be requested for another twelve months.

c) The Chairman informed members that planning application 14/11880/FUL (retrospective change of use of domestic outbuilding to class B2 use comprising processing of aircraft materials to create furniture) would be considered by the full planning committee on the 25th February, commencing at 3 p.m.

6 WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Mr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council's budget meeting would be on the 24th February where matters such as charging for green bins and the possible scrapping of the funding for the 'hopper' RUH bus service would be decided on.

In response to a query from Mr. Greatwood regarding the Parish Governance Review, Mr. Clark said this would now be going out for consultation for a probable three-week period, with a good response from the public anticipated.

7. POLICE

PC Mark Hough said that there had been 50 rural occurrences over the past month, 17 of which had been in Hilperton. He gave details of these and his report is held on file.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Allotment Matters

The Clerk reported that the transfer of the new area of land was nearing completion.

A quote had been asked for and received from Ian Cradock concerning the relocation of the current fence; relocation of the kissing gate; provision of a water pipe to achieve the relocation of water troughs, with the addition of two larger troughs; the ploughing of the new land and levelling off ready for cultivation; and the supply of grass seed for the path areas between plots. The quote for this work was £2,800 and, after a short discussion, it was agreed that it should be accepted (proposed by Mr. W. Jameson, seconded by Ms. P. Turner, nine in favour and two abstentions, one from Mr. Bielecki and the other from the Chairman).

Discussion took place on the future of allotment plot 1. It had never been a viable plot and it was shortly going to be given up by the current plot holder for another one becoming vacant. A letter had been received from the tenant of plot 2 proposing that she and the tenant of plot 3 might be allowed to take over the maintenance of plot 1. However, the feeling of the sub-committee was that this plot could now form part of the proposed new community orchard, and this was agreed by members of the Parish Council. The letter had gone on to say that plot holders 2 and 3 had undertaken some work to tidy up the area next to the shed at the top of allotment 3. Their intention was to clear the area or part of it and erect two new compost containers, and they hoped this would meet with the Parish Council's approval. It was agreed that both plot holders should be thanked for their efforts.

Turning to the subject of the community orchard, it was agreed that Mr. Jameson and Ms. Fisher should contact Mark Newbery in this respect, as the suggestion for the orchard had come from him at the last Parish Assembly. Mowing, planting, trimming and the future maintenance of the orchard should also be discussed when the land came into the ownership of the Parish Council.

Mr. Jackson had produced an amended financial appraisal, based on the latest cost information, and copies of this were given to all parish councillors present. He predicted that the whole scheme would break even during the financial year 2024/2025.

In conclusion, a letter had been received from the Chairman of the Hilperton Allotments Association, which was read out by Mr. House. The issue of some uncultivated plots was discussed and the general feeling was that the Parish Council in the first instance should continue to write to plot holders who – for whatever reason – were not maintaining their plots to an acceptable standard. Depending on their circumstances, this could result in a termination of their tenancies. Other points raised in the Allotments Association Chairman's letter were discussed, and the Clerk said she would send a letter of reply shortly.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group

Mr. Greatwood confirmed that the next meeting of the group would be on the 8th April.

Hilperton Relief Road

In response to a query from Mr. Jameson, the Chairman said that he would e-mail everyone copies of plans regarding landscaping.

The intended date for the opening of the road would be sometime in July, and the Chairman said that the Parish Council had been asked to come up with a suitable name for the relief road. One had already been received from a resident, and the Chairman asked members to give this matter some thought for discussion at the March PC meeting. Details could also be included in the parish magazine.

Planter at Fieldways

The Chairman and the Clerk had met a representative of Morrison Utilities recently, and it appeared that the planter had been damaged before his workers came on site. However, he said he would arrange to have the planter mended when all work in the vicinity had been completed. Discussion took place on the possible re-siting of the planter, and it was agreed that this should be addressed if or when the Parish Council was asked to move it.

Footpaths and Kissing Gates

As this matter was moving forward at a somewhat slow pace, it was agreed to defer discussion until the March PC meeting.

Wiltshire Council Community Day Works

The Chairman had met representatives of Balfour Beatty earlier in the day and discussed works to be done when they would be in the village on the 25th February. The Chairman reminded members that overhanging hedges and branches should be reported directly to Wiltshire Council.

Flooding and Flood Wardens

Information on who to contact in the event of a flood had been put on the Parish Council's website, and Mr. Bielecki said he would arrange to find out how many people had looked at it.

Reference was then made to the Community Emergency Plan. Whilst Hilperton's proximity to a big town would – hopefully – prove to be a protection in an emergency, Whaddon's situation was somewhat different, and it was agreed that Ms. Fisher should complete the template received from Wiltshire Council with the emphasis on Whaddon.

Suggestion of Change of Road Name

A request had been received from a resident of Ashton Road suggesting – because of the A361 slicing Ashton Road in two and further divided by a barrier at Newhurst Road- that the road should be re-named Ashton Road South (for the road south of the roundabout), Ashton Road North (the stretch of road leading to the barrier) with the name of the remaining stretch of road joining Devizes Road being left unchanged. A short discussion followed and it was agreed that the name of the road should be unchanged as the Parish Council had addressed this issue some years ago.

Wiltshire Housing Site Allocation Development Plan Document

The Chairman referred to a briefing event due to take place on Monday, 23rd February, at Chippenham Town Hall. Due to the fact that Wiltshire would have to find sites for another 1,000 homes, the Chairman said it was important that a representative from the Parish Council should go along to this workshop. Ms. Turner kindly offered to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Litter Pick

A resident from Paxcroft Mead had expressed his concern at the amount of litter scattered around the public open spaces. The Clerk had sent him details of how to organise a community litter-picking event and had also informed him that a community litter pick had been arranged for the 15th February by the Paxcroft Mead Residents' Association. He had been given their contact details.

10/2015

Discussion took place on the amount of debris left on the touchline of the Whaddon Lane football pitch after matches. This was due to be addressed by the Village Hall committee shortly.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

15/00486/TCA: Mr. S. Cooper, Annexe, The Chase, Church Street

Felling one large Hawthorn tree and thinning out two Chestnut trees

The Clerk had been in touch with David Wyatt, Wiltshire Council's local arboricultural and landscape officer, who had recently visited the site. He had discovered that the large tree in question was in fact an Evergreen Oak, well decayed at the base with several decay brackets around the entire lower stem. The Clerk read out his report which concluded with the information that he had informed the applicant that this current application should be withdrawn and re-issued with the correct tree species and extent of the works involved. It was agreed that if the landscape officer approved the works detailed in the new application, no objection would be made by the Parish Council.

15/00895/FUL: LD and PC Ltd., Unit F Hackett Place

Change of use of A1 shop to A2 financial and professional services

It was agreed unanimously to support this application, which would keep the unit in question in use.

15/00661/FUL: Trojan Engineering, Whaddon

Change of use of agricultural building to B8 storage and B2 general industrial use ancillary to engineering works.

Ms. P. Fisher left the meeting before discussion took place on this application.

A couple of letters from residents living nearby, voicing their concerns about this application, had been received, and all members had been given copies. Permission was being sought to change the use of the adjacent, redundant farm building which would enclose the existing open bays to provide secure storage for raw materials and an enclosed space for spray painting of products. After discussing this application, it was agreed that the response to the planning authority should be that the Parish Council did not feel it was in a position to either support or object, as cogent reasons had been given both ways. However, it should be pointed out to the planning authority that the Parish Council would be extremely concerned if the proposals resulted in any increase in traffic along Whaddon Lane. (Proposed by Mr. Greatwood, seconded by Mr. Jameson, seven in favour with three abstentions, one from Mr. Bielecki, one from the Chairman and one from Mrs Sawyer).

Ms. Fisher returned to the meeting.

Decisions

14/06237/FUL: Mrs 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 dwellings within the grounds – application refused.

14/11763/FUL: Mr. A. Huxham, site adjoining 7 Stuart Close

Erection of one-bedroomed detached dwelling – application refused.

Judicial Reviews

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

Judicial Review made by Wiltshire Council against the appeal decision
14/02453/VAR: Mr. S. Cooper, The Chase, Church Street
Judicial Review made by Wiltshire Council against the appeal decision

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

11/2015

11. PUBLICATIONS

Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Management Committee – Minutes of a meeting held on the 6th January, 2015, and agenda for a meeting on the 3rd February, 2015.

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised:-

Since the last meeting –

Hilperton and Staverton Parish News – Section 137 Grant	£220.00
Mrs L. House – plants	£24.00

This meeting:

Clerk’s Salary for February, 2015	£481.00)	
Clerk’s Expenses	£111.72)	£592.72
Officeright – office supplies (including £11.30 VAT)		£67.83

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Mr. Bielecki referred to a stretch of land along Whaddon Lane, just past The Bassetts, by the stables and opposite Sharkays, where a number of concrete blocks had been placed which could cause damage to vehicles. The Clerk was asked to contact Pat Whyte to establish whether or not the land in question was in the ownership of Wiltshire Council.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- a) Parish Governance Review
- b) Naming of the Relief Road
- c) Parish Plan

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.

Signed Date

