

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 16th June, 2015**

There were two members of the public present.

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

Before the start of the meeting, Heather Morris spoke to members about the time and effort required to create a Neighbourhood Plan, and in particular Holt Parish Council's experience of producing their own. Her comments were extremely interesting and informative, and the Chairman thanked her for making the effort to come and talk to members. He declared the meeting open at 8.06 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mrs K. Hayes, Ms. P. Turner, Mr. W. Jameson, Mr. I. Greatwood and PC Mark Hough.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council's annual meeting held on the 19th May, 2015, were approved and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minute 7b) The Clerk confirmed that she had written to Michelle Donelan on behalf of the Parish Council, congratulating her on becoming MP for the Chippenham constituency at the May General Election. The Chairman said she made an appearance at the recent village summer fete.

Minute 15a) The Chairman gave details of the recent changes to bus services and said that the anticipated date for withdrawal of the T1 and 234 routes was 2nd August. He informed members that First had been operating the daytime service on both these routes as a commercial venture, without financial support from Wiltshire Council. Unfortunately they had now found that it was no longer profitable for them to do so. He added that they were also struggling to recruit drivers so they had decided to concentrate their efforts on providing the services operating from Wiltshire into Bath.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

a) The Chairman was pleased to report that the Parish Council had recently received a payment in respect of the Marsh Farm Solar Park, in the amount of £6,822. He reminded members that payment would always be made in advance according to the installed capacity. The Clerk was asked to find out when the solar park actually went on line.

b) The Chairman said that the Clerk had now received a voucher from the Hills Group for 10 bags of Warrior Compost (foc) in respect of the Best Kept Village competition. The voucher was valid until 2nd August and he asked if anyone would be able to store the bags until they were needed.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

a) Details of the allocation of Area Board money for 2015/2016 had been received from Wiltshire Council. Discretionary capital for the Trowbridge Area Board was £88,7654, with £15,354 allocated for transport.

b) Mr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council was embarking on a review of passenger transport spending and service delivery. As part of their pre-consultation phase, various workshops had been arranged to discuss the review:-

Thursday, 16th July: Corn Exchange, Devizes, 6pm to 8pm

Monday, 20th July: Monkton Park, Chippenham, 6pm to 8pm

Tuesday, 21st July: County Hall, Trowbridge, 6pm to 8pm (This would coincide with the Parish Council July meeting but it was hoped that Mr. Carbin would go along).

7. POLICE

a) In the absence of PC Hough, the Clerk read out his report. Over the last month there had been 74 rural occurrences, 16 of which had been in the parish of Hilperton. The report is held on file.

b) The Chairman informed members that the Community Speedwatch team would be in the village in the next few days.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Allotment Matters/Community Orchard

a) The Clerk said that a number of new tenancy agreements had been sent out in respect of phase 2.

b) A letter had been received from the Secretary of the Village Hall Trustees, asking if the Parish Council would write to all allotment holders, reminding them that they did not have any rights over parking their cars when accessing their allotments. The allotment holders had in fact been e-mailed quite recently, and both Mr. House and Mr. Bielecki said things were getting better. The Clerk was asked to write back informing the Secretary of this.

c) A request had been received from Sue Roberts, asking if the Hilperton WI could plant a fruit tree to commemorate the National Federation WI's Centenary year. It was agreed that they could do this and that they could place a plaque by the tree.

d) Ms. Fisher referred to a meeting she had attended recently, when the community orchard was discussed. She said that the area was quite large and the ground needed clearing of stones. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Nigel Cullis-Hallworth, leader of the 1st Hilperton Scouts, to ask if he could arrange for some volunteers to help with this on Saturday, 18th July, during the morning. They would need to bring along some rakes and buckets, and the stones could be deposited along the wall.

e) Mr. Jackson gave up to date financial details regarding the allotments and confirmed that the break-even point would be half way through 2024/2025.

Trowbridge Community Area Parish Councils' Liaison Group

In the absence of Mr. Greatwood, the Chairman confirmed that the next meeting of the group would be in July.

Hilperton Relief Road

In response to the Parish Council's concerns over the layout of the relief round roundabout at the Hilperton Road/Trowbridge Road end, Wiltshire Council Highways had confirmed that works were going to plan. However, whilst the works were under construction there was traffic management in place which might reduce capacity. The Clerk said that she had not yet received a response from Allan Cready in respect of the kissing gates, and had written to remind him about this.

Wiltshire Council Community Day Works

The Chairman said he would be unable to attend the Community Day pre-meeting on the 23rd June as he would be on holiday. He would therefore get in touch with Norman Burgess regarding jobs by e-mail. The next visit would be on the 1st July.

Neighbourhood Plan

Everyone agreed that the presentation given by Heather Morris had given much food for thought. It would clearly involve a lot of hard work and time, and at least six volunteers would be needed. It was

agreed that the Hilperton Gap Action Group should be approached in the first instance and details also given in the Parish News, on both the Parish Council website and Mr. Clark's Wiltshire Councillor website, together with the Summer Newsletter. It should be pointed out that the Parish Council would be looking to support the initiative on a financial basis so there would be no need to worry about any fund-raising. This matter would be discussed again at the July PC meeting.

Play Areas

The Chairman had contacted Jonathon Seed to ask that, should a parish council wish to take on responsibility for a play area (or areas) within its boundary from Wiltshire Council, would Wiltshire Council make a one-off capital contribution to the parish council. If so, how would the sum be calculated. He had received a reply stating that WC had not allocated any capital funding to improving play areas for transfer. It recognised that the provision of play areas was best undertaken by town and parish councils, and maintenance funding on play areas subject to transfer was given priority. But this funding was only allocated to bring the area to a mutually agreed standard, NOT for any new or improved facilities. Therefore, there would be no actual lump sum from WC. The Chairman said he would find out what the annual costs were in respect of each playground, and bring this information to the July meeting. He confirmed that there had been no approach from WC to date, asking the Parish Council if it would help pay for broken equipment.

'No Cuts' Grassed Areas

The Chairman referred to the land south of The Grange by the cycle path, where there was a big grassed area on the left and another on the right. The Clerk was asked to contact Norman Burgess to find out if this area had been adopted yet and, if it had been, it should be left to flourish. Discussion also took place about cutting verges along Whaddon Lane, and it was agreed that one-width cuts on either side of the road were acceptable.

Summer Newsletter

Mr. Uncles had prepared a draft, and it was agreed that this should be distributed via e-mail to all parish councillors, asking for their comments/suggestions. The final draft should be brought to the July meeting.

Community Infrastructure Levy – Update from Wiltshire Council

A letter had been received from Wiltshire Council, saying that proposals for the CIL had been adopted by full council on the 12th May. This meant that WC had become a charging authority for CIL and any decisions could be liable for a CIL contribution. WC was required to pass a proportion of CIL receipts to parish and town councils from developments that took place in their areas: 15% of CIL receipts to relevant city/parish/town councils, rising to 25% in areas with an adopted Neighbourhood Plan. To prevent excessive amounts being passed on, the payments to areas without a Neighbourhood Plan in place would be capped to £100 per council tax dwelling per year (£210,000 max. approximately in the parish of Hilperton).

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

15/04694/106: Abbey Developments Ltd., land north east of Green Lane Farm
Modification of Legal Agreement in respect of 07/03864/OUTES to remove the obligation set out in clause 6.1 to pay the off-site highway contribution. It was agreed that the Parish Council should respond by saying it felt unable to comment on a legal agreement between the developers and Wiltshire Council.

15/04719/TCA: Mrs K. Hannah, Oriel House, 74 Hill Street
Reduce T12, T17 and T18 Yew trees by one third, and shape

It was agreed that no objection should be made as long as the work involved was approved by Wiltshire Council's landscape officer.

Decisions

15/03385/FUL: Mr. and Mrs I. Pearson, 176a Devizes Road
Front atrium extension and part rendering to front - approval given.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) Paxcroft Mead Community Centre Management Committee – Notice of a meeting to be held on the 9th June, 2015, preceded by their AGM.
- b) CPRE: The Moonraker, June, 2015

12. ACCOUNTS

a) Adoption of the Accounts for the Year ended 31st March, 2015

Members had received copies of the Income and Expenditure accounts, Cash Statements and Balance Sheet. After a short discussion it was agreed that the accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2015, should be adopted. (Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, all in favour).

b) Payments authorised:-

Since the last meeting –

Mrs L. House: War Memorial, maintenance of plants and sweeping	£300.00
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This meeting -

Clerk's Salary for June, 2015	£485.00)	
Clerk's Expenses	£163.08)	£648.08

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a) Mr. Jackson referred to the eight Copper Beech trees and eight Silver Birch trees planted on behalf of the Parish Council in 2010 behind the hedge line on Mr. Pike's land on the north side of Trowbridge Road, to 'mirror' the beech trees on the south side of the road. Now that they were maturing, he wondered if the Parish Council should ask for TPO's to be placed on them, for their long-term amenity value. This was agreed.
- b) It was asked whether it might be more efficient for Mr. Bielecki to be tasked with updating the agendas and minutes on the website.
- c) Mr. House said that Tony and Lynne Hack (allotment holders) had kindly donated £25 towards the upkeep of the War Memorial, and the Clerk was asked to write to thank them.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- a) Details of Neighbourhood Plans.
- b) Community Orchard update
- c) Forthcoming summer newsletter

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 21st July, 2015, with a possible planning committee meeting before then.

The meeting ended at 9.25 p.m.

Signed Date

