

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.45 p.m. on Tuesday, 16th July, 2019**

There were no members of the public present.

PRESENT	Cllr. P. Turner	Cllr. S. Sawyer
	Cllr. S. Uncles	Cllr. R. House
	Cllr. T. Carbin	Cllr. K. Hayes
	Cllr. P. Fisher	Cllr. D. Tucker
	Cllr. D. Swift	

Before the start of the meeting, Mr. Kendrick Jackson, having recently resigned from the Parish Council, was thanked for his years of service and commitment to the Parish Council. Cllr. Turner, who was chairing the meeting in the absence of Cllr. Clark, declared the meeting open at 7.48 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr. E. Clark.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 18th June, 2019, were approved and signed.

4. CLERK'S REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minute 8 – Annual Parish Assembly/Annual Parish Council Meeting: The Clerk confirmed that she had booked the Village Hall from 7pm on Tuesday, 19th May, 2020.

Minute 8 – Trowbridge Museum Expansion: The Clerk had e-mailed Lance Allan to inform him of the Parish Council's decision to make a Section 137 grant of £2,500 and to ask him who the beneficiary was, in order to send the payment. He had responded to say that it would be either the Friends of the Museum or Trowbridge Town Council and he would get back to the Clerk when the matter was decided.

Minute 8 – IdVerde, extra grass cutting: The Clerk had e-mailed parish councillors with a list of the areas that should be receiving the extra cuts. Cllr. Turner had responded to say she would keep an eye on the areas close by.

Minute 8 – CPRE – Best Kept Village competition: The judges' comments had been received and the Clerk read them out. They were all extremely positive and encouraging.

Minute 13b – Wooden bollard at the Marsh Road end of Hill Street: The Clerk had contacted Pat Whyte to inform him that the bollard had been removed. It appeared that it had not yet been replaced.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- a) Cllr. Turner gave details of the Defibrillator Awareness evening at the Village Hall on the 30th July, 2019 (commencing at 7pm). The Clerk had put notices on the notice boards in the village.
- b) The resignations of both Cllrs. Jackson and Greatwood had been officially received.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

- a) Cllr. Turner said that at the last Wiltshire Council meeting the Leader, Jane Scott, had retired and her position would now be held by Philip Whitehead.
- b) Cllr. Clark had asked Wiltshire Council for a temporary warning sign on the approach to the new parking spaces when coming from the direction of Staverton, but he had been informed that there

was no appropriate signage available. Members felt he should go back to Wiltshire Council to see if there was a suitable sign to ask people to drive with caution, or words to that effect.

7. POLICE

PCSO Matthew Till was unable to attend the meeting, but had sent a report which the Clerk had forwarded to members. (The report is held on file).

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Allotment Matters/Community Orchard

Cllr. House said that there was still no quote for a ramp at the Orchard, but volunteers had decided to make one themselves which would be fairly simple and accessible.

Although all the allotments plots were taken and paid for, Cllr. House said that there were four which were not being worked on. As a number of complaints had been received from other tenants, he intended to write to the four concerned to ask them to - at the very least - cut back the weeds on their plots.

In conclusion, Cllr. House said that the Brownies had asked for a little allotment plot, and he thought they could perhaps share the pre-school plot, which was not being worked on very much at the moment.

Works for the Parish Steward

The Clerk said that there would be no visit in August. The Parish Steward was next due in the village on the 3rd September and possibly one other day.

Defibrillators – update

Cllr. Clark had been informed by the South Western Ambulance Service that they would accept defibrillators without an electricity supply. He had now signed up for the third one and had asked the electrician to contact the Lion and Fiddle to speak about the electricity issue and how he would stand if the Lion and Fiddle simply plugged the defibrillator into an existing socket.

In the meantime, it looked as if Marsh Stores was about to come on board, as the manager was going to send some staff to the defibrillator awareness evening on the 30th July. He would be contacted by Cllr. Clark on his return from holiday.

Whaddon Lane 30mph Signs

Members were informed that Wiltshire Council would agree to erect two new signs at a cost of £240, and wanted the Parish Council to contribute £80. It was agreed that this should be done.

Devizes Road Blocking

In response to Cllr. Clark's recent e-mail to Kirsty Rose at Wiltshire Council, asking her to confirm that at the last CATG meeting she said that Wiltshire Council would want Hilperton PC to conduct a survey of the residents of Devizes Road before they would look further at the topic, she had replied to say she was happy to draw up options etc. for Devizes Road ahead or alongside of any consultation with residents. If the PC preferred, it could use the options as part of the consultation or could go ahead and undertake some preliminary consultation with residents ahead of those options being drawn up. The important this was that residents should be consulted to determine the level of support for the changes before any legal order was advertised.

A discussion followed, and it was agreed that the residents of Stourton Park should be consulted, alongside the residents of Devizes Road. Cllr. Turner said that it would be fairly easy to get volunteers to assist with the canvassing, and it was agreed that Kirsty Rose's offer to draw up options should be taken up.

Parish Council Vacancies

The Clerk had contacted Wiltshire Council to inform them that there were now three vacancies. They had sent notices, which the Clerk had put up on the notice boards, and which were also displayed on the WC website. If, by the 18th July, a request for an election was made in writing to the Returning Officer by ten electors, then an election would be held to fill the vacancies; otherwise they could be filled by co-option. If an election was called, it would take place no later than the 23rd September.

The Clerk said that, with the resignations from Cllr. Jackson and Greatwood, the planning committee was a little ‘thin on the ground’ in terms of numbers, and she asked councillors to think about this in the hope of at least one volunteer agreeing to join the committee.

Grass Cutting – Hilperton Drive

Cllr. Clark had written to WC Highways to make a complaint regarding grass cutting in Hilperton. The complaint related to Hilperton Drive. Approaching from Trowbridge, immediately after the Fieldways roundabout, the area on the left beyond the wooden ‘barrier’ should not be cut. The area between the barrier and the road should be, but the area further from the road should be allowed to grow ‘wild’ and should only receive first and last cuts from IdVerde. This had not happened. An investigation was made and it appeared that IdVerde had cut this area of grass by mistake and reassurance had been given by them to make sure this did not happen again.

Grant Requests:

The Village Hall – help towards the installation of new lighting in the main hall.

A letter had been received from the Chairman of the Village Hall, which the Clerk read out to members. The strip lighting in the hall was starting to fail, and a quote had been received to replace all fifteen units with similar sized LED units. The quote also included adding wall lights on each side of the hall on a separate circuit. The total cost of the work, including VAT, was £2,088 and the Chairman was asking the Parish Council to consider a contribution of £1,000 towards the cost.

After a discussion, it was agreed that a Section 19 grant in the sum of £1,000 should be made. (Proposed by Cllr. Carbin, seconded by Cllr. House, seven in favour with abstentions from Cllr. Sawyer and Cllr. Turner).

The Village Hall – help towards the funding of annual grounds maintenance and public liability insurance costs.

Cllr. Turner declared that she was a trustee of the Village Hall but derived no pecuniary benefit.

The Clerk reminded members of the background to what had become an annual request for funding for the maintenance of the playing fields, plus 25% of the public liability insurance, less the football income. In line with grants made previously, the figures taken from the Village Hall accounts for the year ended 31st May, 2019 were:-

Grounds Maintenance	£3,144.00
Plus 25% public liability insurance	<u>£325.87</u>
	£3,469.87
Less football income after deducting 25% of shower and heating costs	<u>£774.00</u>
	<u>£2,695.87</u>

It was agreed that a Section 19 grant should be made in the sum of £2,695.87 (proposed by Cllr. House, seconded by Cllr. Hayes, all in favour).

(Cllr. Sawyer, although a member of the Village Hall Committee, voted as she did not derive any financial benefit from her membership).

Marshmead – New White Posts around the Willow Tree

The Clerk had contacted Kirsty Rose at Wiltshire Council about the request for the installation of white posts to prevent cars parking and driving over the green. Pat Whyte had looked at the site and he said he would contact the streetscene, team as they maintained the area. If they were happy for posts to be erected he would then obtain a quote for the work. So far the residents of Marshmead had raised £333.

Dog Fouling along Elizabeth Way

Cllr. Turner said there was a dog bin near the Old Bakery in Church Street which didn't seem to be used very much, and maybe this one could be moved to a suitable spot along Elizabeth Way, although this could probably not be done until the road was adopted. Cllr. Sawyer said that the litter bin in Horse Road (opposite St. Mary's Church) had been removed some time ago and never been replaced, so it could be that Wiltshire Council 'owed' the Parish Council a bin. In the meantime, the Clerk had spoken to the Clerk of Staverton Parish Council who said that they had bought a couple of bins in the village and these had been installed by Wiltshire Council (paid for by the Parish Council) and were now emptied by IdVerde's waste emptying service fortnightly at a cost of £8 or £9 each bin. She said this scheme was working quite well, so this might be a way forward.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

19/05927/FUL: Avonfield Gardens, Marsh Road

New twin polytunnel

It was agreed that this application should be supported.

19/06300/FUL: Bekson Farm, 54 Whaddon Lane

Siting of biomass boiler and contained for the control unit (retrospective)

After some discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council could only submit a 'no comment' response, as it was not qualified to make any other remarks. However, the planning authority should be asked to ensure that the products being burnt in the boiler were not producing any harmful emissions.

19/06477/FUL: 99a Church Street

New vehicular access

It was agreed that there should be no objection to this application.

Decisions

There were none.

Planning Appeal

Appeal by Lawes Steel Fabrication, Home Farm, Whaddon Lane, against the decision of Wiltshire Council not to grant permission for application 19/00874/FUL (re-submission of 18/06726/FUL) for change of use of agricultural building to uses under Class B8 storage and B2 general industrial in association with site-based fabrication business.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) WALC Newsletter – June, 2019

b) Clerks and Councils Direct – July, 2019

12. ACCOUNTS**Payments authorised since the last meeting:**

Charity donation to Macmillan Cancer Support Re. Cllr. Viv Packer decd. (Chairman's Allowance)	£25.00
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Payments authorised this meeting:

Clerk's Salary for July, 2019	£512.00	
Clerk's Expenses	£178.80	£690.80
Id Verde – planting/maintenance of planters, June, 2019 (including £20.27 VAT)		£121.60
IdVerde – extra grass cutting, June, 2019 (including £36.75 VAT)		£220.48

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were none.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS/LOCAL PRESS

- a) Two grants for the Village Hall.
- b) CPRE: Judges' comments in this year's competition
- c) Parish Council vacancies
- d) Defibrillator updates

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 17th September, 2019, with probable planning committee meetings before that date.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Signed Date