

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 15th December, 2020**

There were four members of the public present.

PRESENT	Cllr. E. Clark	Cllr. S. Uncles
	Cllr. R. House	Cllr. D. Swift
	Cllr. T. Carbin	Cllr. G. Boreham
	Cllr. S. Sawyer	Cllr. D. Smokcum
	Cllr. P. Turner	Cllr. C. Prett

Before the start of the meeting, George Braham, assistant group scout leader of the 1st Hilperton Scout Group, spoke about their request for a grant from the Parish Council to cover the cost of batteries, a solar panel, voltage regulator and connectors to use on floodlights the group had been given. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.34pm.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Hayes, Fisher and Tucker, under the resolution approved at the August, 2020, PC meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

Planning application 20/09701/FUL: Cllr. House declared a pecuniary interest and said he would leave the meeting when the application was considered.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 20th October, 2020, were approved and signed.

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

Minute 8 – Persimmon and Barratt Sites, Hilperton Gap – Management of green open spaces: The Chairman had informed Cllr. Steve Oldrieve of the Parish Council's decision.

Minute 8 – Disposal of Wiltshire Council land off Wyke Road: The Chairman had contacted Wiltshire Council, as discussed.

Minute 8 – Grant request from the Village Magazine towards its relaunch: The Clerk had been in touch with Mary Tapping but she was still waiting to hear from her regarding the grant and where the payment should be sent.

Minute 8 – Speeding and traffic issues along Whaddon Lane: The Chairman had made a request to Wiltshire Council for two metro counts to be taken, one in the 30mph limit area and the other further up the lane; and the Clerk had contacted the resident who had written in, informing him of this.

Minute 13 – The Knap Gate: The Chairman had been in touch with the owners, but they had insisted the gate should be kept locked.

Minute 16 – Sir William Roger Brown's (Coal) Charity: Following the Chairman's recent e-mail to members, it had been agreed that the two recipients still on the list should each receive a donation this year. The Clerk had sent the donations and a Christmas card to each.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- a) Speed Indicator Devices: The Chairman had been in touch with Carl Maddox of Trowbridge Town Council, following his e-mail to the Clerk to let her know that during the second week of January a SID would be placed in Hilperton. The Chairman asked for it to be located in a stretch of Marsh Road which saw drivers exceeding the speed limit.

- b) Remembrance Sunday: The Chairman said that there was no church service this year. He went to the War Memorial in the morning with the Parish Council wreaths, and was pleasantly surprised to see around twenty people there.
- c) Village Green application: The Chairman said that the Inspector had now sent his report to Wiltshire Council and this would be considered at the January Western Area planning committee meeting.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council was in the process of preparing a new local plan up to the year 2036, and this should be discussed at the Parish Council's January meeting. A public consultation would take place from the middle of January to mid-February.

7. POLICE

PCSO Matthew Till had sent his apologies but said that if anyone wished to speak to him he would be available at his e-mail address.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Allotment Matters/Community Orchard

Following the Parish Council's agreement to make a Section 137 grant to pay for three new trees for the orchard, to replace three that weren't doing so well, Cllr. House said that his wife had purchased two pear trees so far.

Works for the Parish Steward

The Chairman said the Parish Steward would be back in January, and he asked members to contact him if there were jobs that needed to be done during his visit.

Neighbourhood Plans

The Chairman said that the working party, based in Malmesbury, was still meeting on a regular basis to discuss the future of Neighbourhood Plans. At the moment, Wiltshire did not have a five-year land supply, and some parishes were talking about how quickly it might take them to make changes to their plans.

COVID19 – Preparation of a Report on Achievements to date

Cllr. Boreham gave details of what he had prepared so far, and said he would ensure the report would be finished over the Christmas break. The steering group had received a few requests for support during the lock-down in November and, of course, with the winter months approaching, there could be more; but many residents who had been helped during the first lock-down had, by and large, sorted themselves out. He, personally, had found the experience very rewarding.

Setting of the Precept for 2021/2022

After a discussion, it was agreed that a) in the event of the January, 2021, meeting not being able to take place, the Precept should be set at this meeting; and b) the Precept should remain at £14.28 per annum (per Band D property). In view of the slight decrease in Band D properties from the previous year (due in part to those residents receiving income support/ universal credit), this would bring in a precept of £23,109.18. (Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Smokcum, all in favour). Those who voted were: Cllr. G. Boreham, Cllr. T. Carbin, Cllr. E. Clark, Cllr. R. House, Cllr. C. Prett, Cllr. S. Sawyer, Cllr. D. Smokcum, Cllr. D. Swift, Cllr. P. Turner and Cllr. S. Uncles). *(Note: The vote was recorded in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Amendment) (England) regulations 2014 (SUI 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).*

Double Yellow Lines Request

A request had been received from a resident of Devizes Road, asking for the Parish Council's support for double yellow lines to be laid down, at least one car's length, on both the left and right hand side of her driveway exit. Her concern was that, when exiting her driveway, cars were parked right up to the gate boundaries, thereby obscuring her view. After a detailed discussion by members, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council could not support the request and therefore could not forward it to Wiltshire Council for consideration.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8pm so that Mr. Edward Kirk could speak in favour of the following request. The meeting was reconvened at 8.06pm.

Trowbridge Town Council – Request for Financial Contributions from Parish Councils in respect of ‘Active Trowbridge’ Services

Following receipt of this request, the Clerk had contacted Lance Allan of TTC to ask a) what the ‘Active Services’ were all about and what was actually provided and b) how many residents of Trowbridge sent their children to Hilperton Primary School. Mr. Allan was able to give information in respect of a) but he had not received confirmation from admissions at Wiltshire Council in respect of b).

After a discussion, and having listened to Mr. Kirk, it was agreed that the Parish Council should respond to the request from TTC by saying it did not feel able to assist. (Proposed by Cllr. Turner, seconded by the Chairman, nine in favour with one abstention).

Grant Request from the 1st Hilperton Scout Group

Details of this request had been sent to members of the Parish Council. The Scouts had been given six battery operated floodlights that could help with leading outdoor meetings during the winter. They now needed to provide six batteries, one solar panel, a voltage regulator and connectors and wiring, amounting to £509.

After a short discussion, it was unanimously agreed that a Section 137 grant in the amount of £509 should be made to the Scout group. (Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Turner, all in favour).

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

20/10317/FUL: 13 Marshmead – Proposed two storey side extension

It was agreed that a ‘no comment’ response should be given..

20/10126/FUL: 32 King’s Gardens – single storey rear extension to sitting room

It was agreed that a ‘no comment’ response should be given.

Cllr. House, having declared a pecuniary interest in the following planning application, left the meeting.

20/09701/FUL: Barratt Housing, land at Elizabeth Way

Construction of up to 187 dwellings, means of access, landscaping, drainage, public open space and all other associated infrastructure.

The Chairman reminded members that the principle of development at this site had already been established by the Wiltshire Council HSAP and the Hilperton Neighbourhood Development Plan. It was therefore the ‘details’ of the application which should be considered.

After a discussion it was agreed that an objection should be made on the following grounds:-

- a) The proposed play area would be situated near a busy road and should therefore be moved away from any traffic.
- b) There should be a 40mph speed limit imposed along the road.
- c) Bearing in mind the increase in the number of houses for the whole of the west of Elizabeth Way, formal pedestrian facilities should be provided.

It should also be added that the Parish Council would wish the developers to provide swift boxes and hedgehog highways in what was primarily a 'green' area.

(Proposed by Cllr. Sawyer, seconded by Cllr. Turner, eight in favour with one abstention from the Chairman). It was also agreed that when this application was due to be considered by the planning committee, a representative of the Parish Council, other than the Chairman, should attend the meeting.

Decisions

20/07855/TCA: 109 Church Street

T1 and T2 – Two silver birch trees – overall reduction and reduction in height to 7m.

No objection

20/08245/FUL: 13 King's Gardens

Single storey rear extension to provide larger bedroom and new bathroom

Approval given

20/08417/TPO: 114 Trowbridge Road

25% crown reduction to copper beech- approval given

20/07966/FUL: 228 Church Street

Loft conversion with side and rear dormers and roof light to front – approval given

20/09322/DP3 – Hilperton Primary School

Retention of double mobile classroom – approval given

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received to date.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) CPRE: Countryside Voice, Autumn/Winter, 2020

Wiltshire Voice, October, 2020

b) WALC Newsletters for October, November and December, 2020

c) Clerks and Councils Direct – November, 2020

d) War Memorials Trust – Bulletin, November, 2020

12. ACCOUNTS

a) Completion of the Audit for the year ended 31st March, 2020

The Clerk reported that the audit had now been completed to the satisfaction of the external auditors, and notices informing the public of the completion had been placed on the notice boards and the Parish Council's website.

Payments authorised since the last meeting:

Officeright – Stationery (including £13.80 VAT)	£82.80
Officeright – Stationery (including £4.28 VAT)	£21.40
Mrs L. House – plants for the War Memorial	£78.94
Id Verde – planters and maintenance for October (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59
Water2Business – allotments water supply 16/4/20 to 20/10/20	£602.76
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – three wreaths	£75.00
(Chairman's Allowance)	
P. K. F. Littlejohn – Audit fee (including £40.00 VAT)	£240.00
Clerk's Salary for November, 2020	£520.00
Clerk's Expenses (including office rental)	£686.79
Id Verde – plants and maintenance for November (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59

Payments authorised this meeting:

Clerk's Salary for December, 2020	£520.00)	
Clerk's Expenses*	£259.40)	£779.40
(including purchase of stamps before price increase on 1/1/21)		
CPRE – Annual subscription, 2021		£36.00

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were none.

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS

A report from the Parish Council for the December/January Parish News had been sent to Michael Gamble.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS: Tuesday, 5th January, 2021 (to consider the Church Farm planning application only), and **Tuesday, 19th January, 2021.**

The meeting closed at 8.43pm.

Signed Date