

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE
at 7.45 p.m. on Tuesday, 20th April, 2021**

There were three members of the public present.

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

*Before the meeting commenced, members stood for a minute's silence in memory of
His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh*

Mr. Malcolm Lee spoke about the land behind 118 Trowbridge Road, which the Parish Council would be considering later in the evening. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.49 pm.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr. Hayes under the resolution approved at the March/August, 2020, PC meetings, and Cllr. Uncles.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

Minute 8 - Land behind 118 Trowbridge Road: The Chairman, Cllr. Turner and Cllr. House, the land in question adjoining their properties.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 16th March, 2021, were approved and signed.

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

Minute 8 – Grants: The Clerk had sent grant cheques to Hilperton C. of E. Primary School, St. Michael's and All Angels Church, and Wiltshire Search and Rescue, and all had been acknowledged with much appreciation.

Minute 8 – Highways Improvement Request for Whaddon Lane: The Clerk had sent the request form to Kirsty Rose at Wiltshire Council, with the Parish Council's endorsement. She had also contacted the resident who made the request.

Minute 8 – Formal Letter of Engagement between the Parish Council and RA Book-Keeping: The Chairman had signed the letter on behalf of the Parish Council, and it had been sent back to Ros Huggins.

Minute 8 – CPRE Best Kept Village Competition, 2021: The Clerk had entered Hilperton in the Large Village category.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

Local Elections in May: The Chairman said there would be no election in Hilperton as there were thirteen nominations for thirteen places. Cllr. Tucker did not stand for re-election, and Mr. Richard Allan would shortly become a new parish councillor.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Local Plan: Cllr. Clark said that there had been 3,500 responses to the local plan to date. Wiltshire Council's draft proposals would be returned by the end of the year and it was expected to go for examination by 2023.

Local Elections: Cllr. Clark said there would be an election in Hilperton as there were three candidates – Conservative, Green and Independent.

7. POLICE

PCSO Matthew Till had intended to attend the meeting but had been called out to help investigate a robbery. The Clerk said she had put his contact details on the PC notice boards.

8 ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Wiltshire Council Local Plan – consideration of applying to create further conservation areas within the Parish

A letter had been sent to the Parish Council recently by Dr. Celia Beckett, who was a parish councillor some years ago. In it she said she was writing to ask if the Parish Council would consider applying to create further conservation areas within the Parish in an attempt to protect heritage areas under threat from development.

Copies of her letter were tabled, members given time to digest the contents, and then a discussion took place. As everyone was generally in agreement with the points Dr. Beckett had made, the Chairman recommended the formation of a Working Party comprising some parish councillors and a few members of the public. Cllrs. Boreham and Sawyer volunteered their services, and it was agreed that the Clerk should liaise with them and Dr. Beckett to move matters along.

Allotment Matters/Community Orchard

The Clerk was in the process of ‘chasing-up’ late payers, and Cllr. House said that one or two tenants were not looking after their allotment plots, which was causing annoyance to other tenants and to some people waiting for a vacant plot. As there was a fairly long waiting list, it was agreed that the Clerk should send a copy of the Parish Council’s tenancy agreement to Cllr. House to see what steps should be taken to terminate the tenancies of plot holders not complying with the terms of their tenancy agreements.

Works for the Parish Steward

The Chairman asked parish councillors to let him know by the end of the week if there were any jobs that needed to be done during the steward’s visit in May.

WALPA (Wiltshire Area Localism and Planning Alliance)

The Chairman said that there had been a ‘virtual’ meeting earlier in the day with members of WALPA and spatial planners but, due to the current state of purdah, participants seemed to be going around in circles. He said that Wiltshire Council was taking legal advice regarding local plans and revisions. WALPA members planned to meet again after the local elections, probably in three months’ time.

Local Elections - 6th May, 2021

The Clerk informed members that Mr. David Tucker had been a member of the Parish Council since December, 1983, and it was agreed that he should be invited to the Annual Parish Assembly in May so that he could be thanked for his many years of service.

Trowbridge Town Council – Planning application adjacent to Doric Park: Consideration of any further Parish Council involvement

The Chairman said that the Western Area Planning Committee would not be meeting until the 9th June, and it was agreed that this matter should be discussed at the May PC meeting.

Repairs to the Timber Swing at Stourton Park

It was unanimously agreed that Id Verde’s quote of £1,381.42 (plus VAT) to supply and install one new crossbeam and replacement shackles for the beam should be accepted, the funds to come from CIL monies.

Land behind 118 Trowbridge Road

The Chairman, Cllr. Turner and Cllr. House left the meeting and Cllr. Carbin agreed to take the Chair.

Discussion took place on possible uses for the land other than grazing, members referring to matters such as access and planning issues regarding any possible development. At the end of the discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should not take a position at the present time, and it was now up to the owners to find a way forward. The Parish Council could then consider any application by them for which planning permission might be sought.

The Chairman, Cllr Turner and Cllr. House returned to the meeting.

Village Hall Play Equipment Inspections

The Clerk said that the recent inspection by Playdale was the last of the five-year inspection package agreed between them and the Parish Council. The cost had been £175 per annual inspection (+ VAT). Playdale were not offering any packages now, and the cost would rise slightly to £195 per inspection (+ VAT). Cllr. Turner said that at the last Village Hall meeting it was agreed that Playdale's inspections were very comprehensive and provided a good risk assessment. Based on that and the fact that the company had supplied the play equipment, it was agreed to continue requesting annual inspections by them.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

There were none.

Decisions

20/11191/FUL and 21/00471/LBC: Willow Brook Barn, Whaddon Lane

Amendment to planning permissions 20/01402/FUL and 20/02210/LBC to allow for redesign of single storey ground floor extensions and folding doors

Approval/Listed Building consent given

21/00002/FUL: Windrush, 2 Nursery Close

Erection of a wooden garage at front right side of property – approval given

20/06770/FUL: Maxcroft House, 3 Maxcroft Lane

Alterations to the current site boundary; erection of a new two-storey dwelling; demolition of existing greenhouse on site; removal of five trees and alterations to garden; new private land leading from Maxcroft Lane to the house; erection of new gate between Maxcroft Lane and the new private lane; erection of new garage for the new house; creation of a new parking space for 3 Maxcroft Lane – approval given.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) CPRE – Countryside Voices, Spring, 2021; and Members' Guide 2021

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised since the last meeting:

Hilperon School PFA – Section 137 grant towards all-weather sports pitch	£3,000.00
Hilperon PCC – Section 137 grant for clock repairs	£655.00
E. Clark – Chairman's allowance	£46.50
Wiltshire Search and Rescue – Section 137 grant	£300.00

Payments authorised this meeting:-

Clerk’s Salary for April, 2021	£520.00)	
Clerk’s Expenses	£249.10)	£769.10
Id Verde – planters and maintenance for March, 2021		
	(including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59
WALC Annual subscription (including £188.41 VAT)		£1,130.44
Clerks and Councils Direct – annual subscription		£12.00

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a) War Memorial - plants and sweeping (May PC meeting)
- b) Cllr. Boreham’s report on COVID 19 (May PC meeting)

14. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS

There being no re-launch as yet, nothing could be sent.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 18th May, 2021:

7pm – Annual Parish Assembly immediately followed by Annual Parish Council meeting

The meeting closed at 8.43 pm.

Signed Date