

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE,
at 7.20 pm on Tuesday, 18th May, 2021**

There was one member of the public present.

PRESENT	Cllr. E. Clark	Cllr. P. Turner
	Cllr. R. House	Cllr. D. Swift
	Cllr. T. Carbin	Cllr. K. Hayes
	Cllr. P. Fisher	Cllr. G. Boreham
	Cllr. D. Smokcum	Cllr. S. Uncles
	Cllr. R. Allan	Cllr. S. Sawyer

Cllr. Clark welcomed members to the first Parish Council meeting since the local elections earlier in the month, and especially the new parish councillor, Richard Allan. Members each signed a 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office'.

1a. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr. Clark was elected Chairman (proposed by Cllr. Turner, seconded by Cllr. Sawyer, all in favour) The Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1b. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr. Turner was elected Vice-Chairman (proposed by Cllr. Clark, seconded by Cllr. Sawyer, all in favour).

2. APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

Planning Committee: Cllrs. Sawyer, Fisher, Uncles, Boreham and Swift, with Cllr. Clark ex officio. Substitute: Cllr. House

Footpath Representative: Cllr. Turner

Village Hall Representative: Cllr. Clark (ex officio)

War Memorial Plants and Flowers: Mrs Lesley House

Allotments Representative: Cllr. House

Tree Wardens: Cllrs. Fisher, Smokcum and Allan

Area Board Representative: Cllr. Boreham

Risk-Assessment Sub-Committee: Cllrs. Clark and Turner, and the Clerk

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr. Prevett.

4. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

Planning application PL/2021/03253 – The Chairman and Cllrs. Turner and House, their properties being either adjacent to or close to the application site.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 20th April, 2021, were approved and signed.

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

Minute 8 – Repairs to the swing at Stourton Park: The Clerk had e-mailed Wayne Frapple at Id Verde to accept the quote, and the work should be completed shortly.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman said that a presentation had been made to David Tucker at the Parish Assembly earlier in the evening to thank him for his thirty-eight years as a member of the Parish Council.

8. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Clark confirmed his re-election to Wiltshire Council, and also congratulated Cllr. Carbin on his re-election. He said that Wiltshire Council had a new leader and deputy leader, and he himself had been elected Chairman of the Area Board for a further twelve months.

9. POLICE

PCSO Matthew Till had sent his apologies.

10. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Local Council Elections – May, 2021

The Chairman confirmed that Hilperton Parish Council was at full strength, with thirteen parish councillors. Five members had confirmed that they would like to attend WALC 'Councillor Fundamentals' courses, and their details had been sent in readiness for the upcoming Zoom training sessions.

The creation of further conservation areas within the parish – update

Cllrs. Boreham, Sawyer and Allan, together with Celia Beckett, had already met to discuss how to reduce the proposed development in Hilperton. The group hoped to get advice from the conservation officer at Wiltshire Council regarding listed buildings, and they would try to lobby support in other areas. They felt it would be helpful to bring in Semington and Staverton as well.

Allotment Matters/Community Orchard

Since the last meeting, two tenancies had been terminated and new plot-holders had taken over their plots. New tenancy agreements had been sent to them and all payments were now up to date until the 31st March, 2022.

Works for the Parish Steward

Both the Clerk and Cllr. Smokcum had drawn the Chairman's attention to the state of three of the PC planters, one of which had damage to the Hilperton sign. The Chairman said he would have a word with the Parish Steward about cutting back the vegetation hanging over or growing around a couple of planters. In a few weeks' time, IdVerde would be taking out the autumn/winter plants and replacing them with summer bedding plants.

Trowbridge Town Council – planning application adjacent to Doric Park: consideration of any further PC involvement

The Chairman said the application had been called in and would be considered in June, 2021. It was agreed that the Parish Council should not make any further comments.

War Memorial Plants and Sweeping

The Chairman said that Cllr. Allan's daughter had volunteered to help this season, and Cllr. Boreham said he was happy to provide any water needed. It was agreed that the Parish Council should pay £360 (£12 a week for 30 weeks) for the maintenance of plants at the War Memorial, and the sweeping of the area.

Cllr. Boreham's Report on COVID 19

Copies of Cllr. Boreham's report on the Hilperton Parish COVID 19 Help Group - March 2020 to April, 2021 – had been sent to all parish councillors. It was agreed that if for any reason there should be another lockdown, it could easily be resurrected. Cllrs. Boreham, Turner and Carbin said their work had been very rewarding, and it was agreed that this report should be kept permanently as a record.

Consideration of a request for more street lighting in the 'no mans land' area of Ashton Road

A request had been received from a resident for some street lighting in the area between the gate of The Grange and the area in Ashton Road between the bollards. She felt this would help with a feeling of safety both for walkers and runners. A discussion followed, at the end of which it was agreed that – although there would always be isolated dark spots around the village - the Parish Council should approach Wiltshire Council to see if it might be possible to install three low-level lights in this area.

Speed Indicator Devices – update

The Chairman said that the SID would next be in Hilperton in September, possibly installed along the Trowbridge Road. In the meantime the Clerk had contacted Westbury Town Council to get some information about their vehicle activated signs. Trowbridge Town Council were considering purchasing another SID, if Hilperton was keen on having more per year, and the Chairman had said this would be extremely helpful.

Parish Council Insurance

The Clerk reported that the three-year arrangement with the current insurers had come to an end, and the brokers had informed her that the insurers were not currently entering into any more fixed-term arrangements. As the premium was considerably less than the other insurers' quotes, she recommended that this year the Parish Council should continue with Pen Underwriting Limited, and next year ask the brokers before the renewal date to look at the possibility of another three-year arrangement. This was agreed.

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PL/2021/03112: 300A Marsh Road - Proposed two storey side and single storey rear extensions. It was agreed that no objection should be made to this application

PL/2021/03352: 6 Horse Road

Outline planning consent for a proposed new dwelling

It was agreed that there was very little information on this application, and if it moved forward to a full planning application, the Parish Council would wish the dwelling to be one-storey, i.e a bungalow., which would be more in keeping with the surrounding properties.

PL/2021/03380: 57 Lacock Gardens

Proposed garage and driveway extensions

It was agreed that no objection should be made to this application

The Chairman and Cllrs. Turner and House left the room whilst the following application was considered. It was agreed that Cllr. Carbin should take the chair.

PL/2021/03253: Lion and Fiddle, Trowbridge Road

Erection of two detached dwellings, garages and associated works

It was agreed that an objection should be made to this application, on the following grounds:-

- a) Overdevelopment of the site
- b) The loss of a number of parking spaces at the Lion and Fiddle which would either result in vehicles parking along the roadside at a busy road junction, or much of the pub garden being given up to compensate for the loss of on-site parking spaces, resulting in the loss of public amenity space at a time when outside gatherings were being encouraged.

The Chairman and Cllrs. Turner and House returned to the meeting.

Decisions

20/08513/FUL: Land south of The Old Rectory, Whaddon Lane

Change of use for the land to hold twelve shipping containers to be used for B8 storage – application withdrawn

21/00661/FUL: Maxcroft Farm, 5 Maxcroft Lane, Hilperton Marsh

Internal and external renovations including double storey side extension, addition of attached garage and a loft conversion, including twin dormers – approval given

16/00672/OUT: Land west of Elizabeth Way (land SW of Hilperton Marsh)

Proposed development comprising up to 165 new houses with access from the relief road, new open space and associated infrastructure (amended information). (Outline application relating to principle and access) – approval given.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Tim Davies, on behalf of the Village Hall, thanking the Parish Council for its support recently towards essential works to the roof and new fencing rails.

13. PUBLICATIONS

- a) Clerks and Councils Direct – May, 2021
- b) Countryside Voice – May, 2021.

14. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised since the last meeting:-

Id Verde, planters and maintenance for April, 2021

(including £20.26 VAT) £121.59

Stonehill Officeright – stationery (including £18.60 VAT) £111.58

Tim Davies – poles for the Village Hall play area £134.78

Payments authorised this meeting:-

Clerk's Salary for May, 2021 £520.00)

Clerk's expenses, including office rental and gift for David Tucker £862.24) £1,382.24

Mrs L. House – War Memorial: maintenance of plants/sweeping £360.00
(approved earlier in the meeting)

Information Commissioner's Office – data protection fee renewal £40.00

Water2Business – supply of water for allotments 21/10/20 to 27/4/21 £83.75

Came and Company – annual insurance premium (including Insurance Premium Tax) £1,347.56

15. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were none.

16. ITEMS FOR PARISH NEWS

The Chairman had spoken with Michael Gamble recently. As there had been no 'relaunch' of the parish magazine, the Parish Council could not pay the grant it had agreed some six months ago. If in future there was another attempt to start up the parish news, the Parish Council would have to be approached again for a grant.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 15th June, 2021 (apologies given by Cllr.Smokcum).

The meeting ended at 8.25 p.m.

Signed **Date**