

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE,
at 7.45 p.m. on Tuesday, 21st September, 2021**

There were no members of the public present

PRESENT	Cllr. R. House	Cllr. P. Turner
	Cllr. D. Swift	Cllr. T. Carbin
	Cllr. P. Fisher	Cllr. G. Boreham
	Cllr. S. Uncles	Cllr. S. Sawyer

Also Present: Dr. Celia Beckett

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Turner, took the chair

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Clark, Hayes, Smokcum, Allan and Prettett.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Works to trees at the Village Hall: Grant request – Cllrs. Sheila Sawyer and Pam Turner, being members of the Village Hall committee.

Planning application PL/2021/07640, 15 King's Gardens: Cllr. House, having sold the property to the applicant.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 20th July, 2021, and the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 17th August, 2021, were approved and signed.

4. CLERK'S REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM THE JULY PC MEETING

Minute 8 – CPRE Best Kept Village Competition 2021: The Clerk said that Hilperton had come fourth in the second round, but had received some very positive comments from the judges.

Minute 9 – Westbury Incinerator: The Clerk had written to Robert Jenrick, MP, and had sent copies to Dr. Andrew Murrison, MP, and the Clerk to Westbury Town Council. She had received a letter of thanks from Westbury TC.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

There were none.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Turner said that Cllr. Clark had sent notes to all parish councillors, following a Wiltshire Council meeting held on the 1st September to discuss the local plan.

7. POLICE

Although PCSO Matthew Till had not attended any PC meetings since the start of the pandemic, Cllr. Turner said he had been pro-active regarding a few local incidents in recent months.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

The creation of further conservation areas within the parish – report on progress

Dr. Beckett gave a short presentation on where matters stood at present, and said that things had definitely moved on a little. Contact with local landowners had proved very informative, and mostly positive, and it was interesting to have some knowledge of the intended 'moves' Wiltshire Council was thinking of making (not so positive). Dr. Beckett said that along with Hilperton,

Staverton, Semington and Trowbridge were very concerned about the proposed future development in their parishes, and this had resulted in a meeting to be held between all four councils sometime in October, most probably on either Friday, 1st or Monday, 11th. Along with the Chairman of Hilperton PC, Cllr. Richard Allan had indicated that he would like to attend, and Dr. Beckett said she would get in touch with him shortly. She was thanked for the efforts she and the working group had made to date and for taking the time to attend the meeting.

Allotment Matters/Community Orchard

Cllr. House said that the tenancy of plot 14 would shortly be taken over by a resident of Whaddon Lane, and mentioned that some complaints had been received about the state of plot 29. The Clerk was asked to write to the tenant and ask why the plot had not been worked on at all over the past few months.

Works for the Parish Steward – 18th and 19th October

Cllr. Turner said that parish councils were now being asked to give two weeks' notice of work that needed doing, so requests for the October visit should be with the Chairman by the 4th October. The Parish Steward's next visit after that would be on the 15th and 16th November.

Fields in Trust – Deed of Dedication in the Whaddon Lane 'Open Space' and/or Allotments

The Clerk said that a few days ago Cllr. Clark had read an article in the Local Council Review, explaining how local councils could protect their open spaces in perpetuity - similar to the Fields in Trust scenario, but perhaps a little easier to achieve. He wanted to look into this further and had suggested the matter should be deferred to the October PC meeting. This was agreed.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 – 2022 Jubilee thoughts/suggestions

The Chairman had contacted Chris Braham, the Hilperton Cubs leader, who said that it was hoped that the Cubs, Scouts and Beavers could have a two-day camp in the far corner of the playing field over the weekend of the Jubilee celebrations. Cllr. Turner said that there would be plenty of events taking place in and outside of the Village Hall.

When told about the intention to provide commemorative mugs to children attending Hilperton Primary School and St. Michael's pre-school, Mr. Braham wondered if consideration could be given to the children who might not reside in Hilperton but who attended Hilperton Brownies, Cubs, etc.

The Clerk had contacted Playdale about the possibility of purchasing some new play equipment, and they had already been in touch with Cllr. Turner. She was now waiting to hear from another play equipment provider.

Speed Indicator Devices - update

The Chairman said that Cllr. Clark had recently met with Kirsty Rose from Wiltshire Council to discuss where holes could be dug around the village which could accommodate poles on which a SID could be positioned, and at what cost. This was in the event of the Parish Council deciding to purchase a SID which could be moved from place to place when required. He would report back at the October PC meeting.

Road Sweeper Scheme

The Clerk said that Trowbridge Town Council were hopeful of re-starting the scheme in October, after they were successful in recruiting more staff.

Works to Play Areas at Lacock Gardens, Millards Close and Stourton Park

The Clerk said that quotes had now been received, following a meeting between Cllr. Clark, a representative from IdVerde and a Wiltshire Council officer on site back in July. Cllr. Clark had a few queries on these quotes and had suggested discussion by the Parish Council at the October meeting.

Works to Trees at the Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee had recently discussed the situation regarding a problem with a Silver Birch which a neighbour said was causing damage to his driveway from the tree roots. Two quotes had had been received from a tree surgeon, one to reduce the crown and the other to fell the tree completely. Both quotes included reducing the hedge alongside to match the rest around the field. The conclusion the Village Hall Committee had come to was to opt for taking down the Silver Birch completely (all trustees were in favour of this action).

A discussion took place and it was agreed that, in spite of the fact that it was a shame to have to fell the tree, it had been suffering neglect for some years and could, indeed, be causing damage. The Village Hall Committee was asking the Parish Council if it would consider paying for the work to be done (the second quote came in at £1,100 for the felling plus £900 for the reduction in the hedge height, i.e. a total of £2,000), it was agreed that the Parish Council should make a Section 19 grant to the Village Hall in the amount of £2,000 (there would be no VAT involved). (Proposed by Cllr. Boreham, seconded by Cllr. Uncles, five in favour with three abstentions, two from Cllrs. Turner and Sawyer).

Wiltshire Council – Climate Strategy Consultation

Cllr. Clark had sent details of this consultation to all parish councillors, to enable anyone to respond, if they so wished. He also suggested that a volunteer might be found, if possible, to become the ‘PC champion’ for blue/green climate issues. It was felt that this was something Cllr. Allan might be interested in.

Defibrillators – update

Cllr. Turner said that Selwood had come forward to offer to house one of the two remaining defibrillators in their sheltered housing at Greenhill Gardens, and this was considered to be a very good location. Cllr. Clark would now contact the manager of Marsh Stores to see if he could move things forward there, so that all five could soon be operational.

Grant Request from Carer Support, Wiltshire

The Clerk had received an e-mail from Carer Support concerning its ‘Caring beyond Covid’ appeal. Their aim was to raise £30,000 so that they could continue to offer practical, specific and bespoke support to carers across the county in the aftermath of the pandemic. In Hilperton over the past year they took seven new carer registrations, completed welfare checks on eleven isolated carers and triaged twenty carers to the critical support they required. After a discussion, it was agreed that a Section 137 grant of £1,000 should be made. (Proposed by Cllr. Sawyer, seconded by Cllr. House, seven in favour with one abstention).

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PL/2021/07640 – 15 King’s Gardens

Erection of a single storey rear extension, rear dormer and front porch. Loft conversion and reduction in garage length.

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

PL/2021/08143 – 14 St. Mary’s Gardens – single storey side extension
It was agreed that a ‘no comment’ response should be sent.

PL/2021/08342 – 6 Horse Road
Proposed new dwelling (reserved matters application pursuant of PL/2021/03352 relating to appearance, landscaping, layout and scale).
It was agreed that no objection should be made to this application.

PL/2021/08493 – 367 Horse Road, rear extension to dwelling
It was agreed that no objection should be made to this application.

Decisions

PL/2021/07106 - 222 Church Street
Works to trees in a conservation area – removal of Cedar tree: No objection

PL/2021/06506 – 3 Princess Gardens
Proposed single storey side extension – approval given

PL/2021/06366 – 47 St. Mary’s Gardens – front porch extension – approval given.

PL/2021/06552 – 119 Lacock Gardens
New wooden gazebo in rear garden, overall height 3 metres (retrospective). New 2.5 metre fence along entire rear boundary and replacement of existing fence – approval given.

Planning Appeal

Ms. T. Gregory, land adjoining The Farmhouse, 5 Marsh Road. Appeal made to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of an enforcement notice issued by Wiltshire Council in view of an alleged breach of planning control.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing received.

11. PUBLICATIONS

- a) WALC Newsletters – July and September, 2021
- b) Local Council Review –Issue 3, 2021
- c) Clerks and Councils Direct – September, 2021
- d) CPRE – Countryside Voices, Summer, 2021

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised since the last meeting:-

Id Verde, Planters and maintenance for July, 2021 (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59
Water2Business – Allotments supply 4/6/21 to 1/7/21	£49.75
IdVerde – replacement of timber frame at Stourton Park play area (including £276.28 VAT)	£1,657.70
Clerk’s Salary for August, 2021	£520.00
Clerk’s Expenses	£115.30
Water2Business – Allotments supply 2/7/21 to 5/8/21	£64.78
Id Verde, Planters and maintenance for August, 2021 (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59

T & S Lux Electrical – Village Hall lighting (including £216.00 VAT) £1,296.00

Payments authorised this meeting:-

Clerk’s Salary for September, 2021 £520.00
Clerk’s Expenses £130.80 £650.80

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were none.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 19th October, 2021.

The meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.

Signed **Date**