

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE,
at 7.45 p.m. on Tuesday, 19th October, 2021**

There were three members of the public present.

PRESENT	Cllr. E. Clark (Chairman)	Cllr. R. House
	Cllr. P. Turner	Cllr. T. Carbin
	Cllr. S. Uncles	Cllr. S. Sawyer
	Cllr. D. Smokcum	Cllr. C. Prevett
	Cllr. R. Allan	

Before the meeting commenced, Mr. C. Bowden, a resident of Horse Road, spoke against planning application PL/2021/09030 – 17a Horse Road. Mr. Brad Taylor-King, manager of Hilperton United Football Club, spoke about their request for a grant towards new outside lighting. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.50p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Fisher, Hayes, Boreham and Swift, (Cllr. Hayes' apologies given due to ongoing Covid concerns)

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Planning application PL/2021/03253: The Chairman and Cllr. Turner, the proposed dwellings being close to their boundaries. Planning application PL/2021/09377: Cllr. House, having given professional advice to the applicant. Grant request from St. Michael's Pre-School: Cllr. Turner, as treasurer.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 21st September, 2021, were approved and signed.

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

Minute 8 – Works to trees at the Village Hall: The Clerk had been in touch with the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, who said he would let the Parish Council know when the grant was required.

Minute 8 – Grant request from Carer Support Wiltshire: The PC's grant cheque had been sent and gratefully acknowledged.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Turner for chairing the September meeting in his absence.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Both the Chairman and Cllr. Carbin had attended a Wiltshire Council meeting earlier in the day but neither had anything of significance to report.

7. POLICE

Matthew Till was unable to attend the meeting as he was on secondment and not currently carrying out his PCSO duties.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Wiltshire Council Local Plan: Report on progress and to decide if the Parish Council should meet Semington, Staverton and Trowbridge councils on a regular basis to discuss the Local Plan and the possibility of finding a response that had unanimity for the four Councils

Cllr. Allan gave details of a meeting which had taken place earlier in the month between Hilperton, Semington, Staverton and Trowbridge councils, all opposed to the local plan for a number of reasons. It was agreed that regular meetings between the four councils would be beneficial.

Allotment Matters/Community Orchard

Cllr. House said the problems regarding plot 29 seemed to have been sorted, at least until next spring. Recently, volunteers had cut back and tidied up the area of wild flowers in the Orchard.

Works for the Parish Steward – 15th and 16th November

The Chairman asked members to contact him at least two weeks before the next visit, with a list of jobs that needed to be done.

Protection of Local Green Spaces - update

The Chairman suggested that discussion on this matter should be put on hold until the Parish Council knew what the future held with regard to further development. This was agreed.

Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, 2022 – update and possible grant request to the Trowbridge Area Board

Cllr. Turner had arranged to meet a representative from Playdale on site in November, after which they would come back with recommendations and quotes for new play equipment. She was now waiting to hear from another playground supplier. The Chairman said that the Parish Council might wish to put in a grant application to the Trowbridge Area Board and suggested an amount of £5,000.

Speed Indicator Devices - update

The Chairman gave details of the possible cost of the Parish Council purchasing and installing signposts and sockets, should it decide to have its own SID, but one of the problems was that currently there was no-one who would be able to move it from place to place, as required. He suggested it might be an idea to wait until Trowbridge Town Council decided whether or not to purchase more SIDS via the Area Board, and this was agreed. The Chairman made a note to contact Lance Allan about this.

Road Sweeper Scheme

The Chairman had learned from Carl Maddox at TTC that recent interviews for recruitment of drivers had proved unsuccessful. Another interview date had now been set.

Hilperton Play Areas: Foxglove Close, Lacock Gardens, Millards Close and Stourton Park – report on a meeting between the Chairman, WC and IdVerde

The Chairman gave details of how much money Wiltshire Council was able to put towards maintenance funding for each of the four play areas. He was now awaiting quotes from IdVerde in respect of possible new play equipment, and when received this could be discussed by the Parish Council – hopefully in November.

Defibrillators – update

The Chairman was happy to report that the defibrillator for The Giffords had been installed and checked. He would now approach the Marsh Road Stores manager in an effort to get the last defibrillator fitted.

Election of a member of the Parish Council to the Wiltshire Council Operational Flood Group and possibly a champion for blue/green climate issues

It was generally agreed that the WC operational flood group was somewhat ineffective around the county, but Cllr. Turner said there might be more interest in climate issues as the green agenda took off. Cllr. Allan kindly volunteered to be the PC 'champion' for blue/green climate issues and also said he would be happy to be the PC's representative in respect of the Flood Group.

Grant Requests:

a) St. Michael's Pre-School: Request for a contribution towards replacement doors to the main storage area.

The Parish Council had asked for more information regarding this request, which had not yet been received, so it was agreed to consider this at the November PC meeting.

b) Hilperton United Football Club: Request for 50% funding for the replacement of outside lights from Halogen lamps to LED lights

After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council should pay in full for the new lights, as long as the invoice was made out and sent to the Parish Council (in order to claim back the VAT element). (Proposed by Cllr. Uncles, seconded by Cllr. Smokcum, all in favour).

c) Westbury Town Council – Request for a contribution towards their 'fighting fund' – a legal challenge in respect of the proposed incinerator

A request had been received from Westbury Town Council for a contribution towards funds for a legal challenge. Although the Clerk had asked for details of what this might cost and what amounts Westbury was hoping to receive from local councils, their answer was somewhat vague. After a discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should go back to Westbury Town Council to say that Hilperton PC was very sympathetic to their plight but would need more specific information.

Whaddon Lane – results of the Metro Count between the Village Hall and the end of the 30mph speed limit

The results of the metro count that the Parish Council had asked for had demonstrated that no further action would be taken by Wiltshire Council on this occasion, and the site was not eligible to be added to the community speed watch sites.

Annual Review and Adoption of the Parish Council's Risk Assessment

All parish councillors had received a copy of the current risk assessment and it was unanimously agreed that this should be adopted for another twelve months.

Parish Byways and Bat Migration Strategy – the need for dark corridors and possible funding of a bat survey

A discussion took place on this issue, it was agreed that there was a need for dark corridors, and the funding of a bat survey would be a good use of parish funds. Cllr. Allan agreed to push this forward and to contact Celia Beckett's husband, as he might have an idea of how much this would cost. He would also get in touch with Staverton and Semington parish councils.

Discussion of the date for the December, 2021, PC Meeting

The Chairman said that the Clerk was unable to attend the December PC meeting, scheduled for the 21st of the month. He had asked the Chairman of the Village Hall if the hall was available on the 14th, but it was not, so the meeting would have to be held on the third Tuesday. Someone would need to take the Minutes and the Chairman asked parish councillors to give this some thought.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PL/2021/08554: land off Elizabeth Way

Application for approval of reserved matters (layout, scale, appearance and landscaping) for 151 new houses, pursuant to outline application 16/00672/OUT

It was agreed that there could be no objection to this application but it should be pointed out to the planning authority that the Parish Council still felt that the number of new houses was excessive. Also, the Parish Council should make its concern felt about the lack of provision of zebra-crossings.

The Chairman and Cllr. Turner left the room whilst discussion took place on the following application.

Cllr. Carbin took the chair.

PL/2021/03253: Lion and Fiddle: erection of two detached houses, garages and associated works.

It was agreed that no objection as such should be made to this application, but concerns should again be raised about the loss of parking spaces at the Lion and Fiddle, which would undoubtedly result in vehicles parking along the roadside at a very busy road junction; or much of the pub garden given up to compensate for the loss of on-site parking spaces, which would result in the loss of public amenity space.

The Chairman and Cllr. Turner returned to the meeting.

PL/2021/09011: 30 Marshmead – dropped kerb at the front to allow parking

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

PL/2021/09030: 17a Horse Road – replacement of roof and associated works to create bedrooms

It was agreed that the Parish Council should strongly object to this application. This would be massive overdevelopment of the site and out of keeping with the surrounding area. Adjoining properties would be overlooked, with upstairs windows on the back and front of the property. There would be totally inadequate parking spaces for a six-bedroomed property, and parking in the public right of way would not be permitted. The surrounding area road system was inadequate with a non-adopted dirt track and the aforementioned public right of way.

PL/2021/09087: 10 St. Michael's Close, works to trees in a conservation area

Felling of Cypress and pruning of two Yews.

Owing to time constraints, comments had already been sent to the planning officer, stating that the Parish Council had no objection to the proposed works as long as they met with her approval.

PL/2021/09377: 63 Hill Street – proposed two storey rear extension

It was agreed that a 'no comment' response should be made.

PL/2021/09689: 75 Foxglove Drive – felling of one Lime tree causing subsidence

It was agreed that an objection should be made, the tree in question being protected by a preservation order. Also, there was a total lack of information regarding a survey report by a professional tree surgeon, only home insurers identifying subsidence.

Decisions

PL/2021/08117: - 235 Church Street, works to trees in a conservation area

Canopy reduction of Elder – no objection

PL/2021/08143: 14 St. Mary's Gardens

Single storey side extension – approval given

PL/2021/06678: 57 Newhurst Park
Single storey extension to rear of house – approval given

PL/2021/08342: 6 Horse Road - proposed new dwelling (reserved matters application pursuant of PL/2021/03352 relating to appearance, landscaping, layout and scale – approval given.

Notice of Tree Preservation Order – The Grange, Ashton Road

A group of trees of mixed species on the eastern boundary. TPO took effect on a provisional basis on the 8th October, 2021, to safeguard the visual amenity, wildlife value and character of the area. It was agreed that the Parish Council should strongly support this TPO order.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing received.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) WALC Newsletters – October, 2021

12. ACCOUNTS

a) Completion of the Audit for the year ended 31st March, 2021

The Clerk confirmed that the audit had been completed to the satisfaction of the external auditors.

b) Payments authorised since the last meeting:-

Id Verde, Planters and maintenance for September, 2021 (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59
PKF Littlejohn – Annual audit fee (including £60.00 VAT)	£360.00
Mrs L. House – plants for the War Memorial	£61.03
Carer Support Wiltshire – section 137 grant	£1,000.00
Water2Business – Allotments supply 6/8/21 to 2/9/21	£49.75

Payments authorised this meeting:-

Clerk's Salary for October, 2021	£520.00)	
Clerk's Expenses	£215.80)	£735.80
Water2Business – Allotments supply 3/9/21 to 4/10/21		£83.10

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Parish magazine.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 16th November, 2021, with a planning committee meeting before that date.

15. MATTERS OF A POSSIBLE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE

Sir William Roger Brown's (Coal) Charity – to be discussed at the November PC meeting

The meeting ended at 9.26 p.m.

Signed

Date

