

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE,
at 7.45 p.m. on Tuesday, 15th March, 2022**

There were two members of the public present.

PRESENT	Cllr. E. Clark (Chairman)	Cllr. T. Carbin
	Cllr. S. Sawyer	Cllr. C. Prevett
	Cllr. S. Uncles	Cllr. R. Allan
	Cllr. D. Swift	

Before the meeting commenced, George Braham, deputy scout leader for 1st Hilperton Scouts and district section leader for the Equinox Explorer Scout Unit, spoke about a project to provide stand-up paddle boarding for teenagers. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.54 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received - and accepted - from Cllrs. Fisher, Hayes, Turner and House, due to ongoing Covid problems. Apologies were also received from Cllrs. Smokcum and Boreham.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Planning application PL/2021/10024 – Cllr. Clark, the applicant being known to him.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 15th February, 2022, were approved and signed.

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

Minute 8 – Grant request for the Village Hall: The Clerk said she had given the grant cheque to Cllr. Turner.

Minute 8 – Doric Park G3 Pitch: The Clerk had written to the Trowbridge Town Council Clerk and received a response, which she read out.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman said that the Jubilee mugs had been received.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Clark had nothing to report.

7. POLICE

It was disappointing that PCSO Jack Thomas was not present at the meeting, and the Clerk said she would have a word with him. The Chairman said he would also speak again with the senior police officer he had met at a recent Area Board meeting about the lack of any police presence at PC meetings.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Wiltshire Council Local Plan: Update

Dr. Celia Beckett gave an update on progress, registering her dismay at the dismissive attitude of spatial planning officers at Wiltshire Council. She was applauded for her tenacity and thanked for the valuable work she and the Action Group were doing. She spoke again about flooding issues and mentioned that there might be someone who was willing to take on the role of flood warden.

Allotment Matters/Community Orchard

The Clerk had sent invoices for the coming year to all the tenants, and said that payments were now being received.

Works for the Parish Steward

As usual, the Chairman asked members to contact him if they knew of jobs that needed to be done.

Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, 2022

In the absence of Cllr. Turner, the Chairman said he had nothing to report other than the fact that arrangements for the celebration were well in hand.

Parish Magazine – update

Notices, seeking an editor to relaunch the 'Hilperton Village Magazine', had been put on all the village notice boards and posted on the parish council website, together with the Village Hall site and a newsletter from the Chairman. Sadly, to date there had been only one response.

Grit Bin for Greenhill Gardens

Cllr. Uncles had spoken with Helen Mansell, the Selwood Manager, and they both agreed that the grit bin should go next to the defibrillator. Cllr. Uncles said that the Parish Council would need to pay for the bin, and it would be filled by Wiltshire Council.

Parish Council representation at forthcoming Wiltshire Council Planning Committee meetings

The Chairman said two contentious planning applications would shortly be considered by the Wiltshire Council Planning Committee, and it would be helpful to have representation from the Parish Council on both applications. Cllr. Allan kindly volunteered to attend the relevant planning meetings, if he was able to.

Highways Improvement Request from Selwood Housing for more lighting in Greenhill Gardens

Helen Mansell of Selwood Housing had completed a highways improvement request form, and was seeking the support of the Parish Council in her efforts to have another street light installed outside the bungalows, where it was very dark in winter months. After a short discussion, it was agreed that this should be supported, and the Clerk said she would get in touch with Kirsty Rose at Wiltshire Council.

CPRE – Best Kept Village Competition, 2022

Details of this year's competition had been received and it was agreed that the Parish Council should enter Hilperton in the large village category.

Blind House – to consider a quote from Stonemasons regarding the Ball Finial on top

The Clerk had contacted James Long Masons, and an inspection had been made by them. They recommended sending three of their operatives to the site to remove the top section and re-fix the finial using new stainless steel dowels where necessary, and aligning using a mortar-mix cement. The cost for this would be £360 plus VAT. It was agreed that the quote should be accepted and the work should go ahead.

Grant request from the Equinox Explorer Scout Unit towards the provision of stand-up paddle boarding

During his presentation to the Parish Council earlier, George Braham had said that his unit hoped to be able to purchase ten paddle boards, at a cost of £700 each. A life protector for each board would be an extra £80. He had given details of the benefits of getting teenagers involved with this sport, and also their plans to raise the necessary funding. After a short discussion, it was unanimously agreed to support this initiative by making a Section 137 grant of £1,600. (Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Uncles, all in favour).

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PL/2022/01082 – 5 Saxon Drive: Single storey front and side extensions.

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

PL/2022/01504 – 176 Wyke Road: Replacement single storey rear extension

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

PL/2021/10024 (Listed Building Consent) – 87 Hill Street: Reduction of external wall in length and height to widen access. Removal of wall from front of garage.

It was agreed that an objection should be made on the grounds that the old wall was part of the historic fabric of the village, although it was understood that when the sub-station was built some years ago part of the wall was removed at that time.

PL/2022/01663 – 184 Wyke Road: First floor extension to create a bedroom

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

PL/2022/01699 – 34 Marshmead: Erection of a single storey side extension to the main house to provide additional living accommodation.

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

PL/2022/01810 – Former Nursery, Marsh Road: Two new polytunnels in plant-growing area for supply to existing nursery with hard standing for deliver vehicles and staff parking

It was agreed that this application should be supported.

Decisions

PL/2021/11457 – 301 Marsh Road: Extension and reconfiguration of existing outbuilding to form a self-contained annexe. Approval given.

PL/2022/00222 – The Old Rectory, Church Street: Works to trees in a conservation area; three Yews to fell. No objection.

PL/2022/00400 – The Old Rectory, Church Street: Works to trees in a conservation area; two Ash trees showing signs of dieback, remove to ground level. No objection.

PL/2021/06752 – 6 Marshmead: Removal of existing garage/kitchen extension and erection of a three-bedroomed end-terrace dwelling. Approval given.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) Clerks and Councils Direct – March, 2022.

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised since the last meeting:

Water2Business – Allotments supply 5/1/22 to 1/2/22	£33.25
Id Verde – Planters and maintenance for February, 2022 (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59
Village Hall – Section 19 Grant	£3,114.50
Hilperon Home and Garden Maintenance – repair of Hill Street Bus Shelter	£110.00
Water2Business – Allotments supply 2/2/22 to 1/3/22	£33.25

Payments authorised this meeting:-

Clerk’s Salary for March, 2022	£520.00)	
Clerk’s Expenses	£197.60)	£717.60

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Bus Shelter at the top of Hill Street – repairs needed.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 19th April, 2022

The meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.

Signed

Date