

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE,
at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 19th April, 2022**

There were two members of the public present, together with PCSO Jack Thomas.

PRESENT	Cllr. E. Clark (Chairman)	Cllr. T. Carbin
	Cllr. S. Sawyer	Cllr. C. Prevett
	Cllr. S. Uncles	Cllr. P. Turner
	Cllr. G. Boreham	Cllr. D. Smokcum
	Cllr. K. Hayes	

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. House, Allan, Swift and Fisher.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

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

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

Minute 8 – Grit Bin for Greenhill Gardens: The Clerk had e-mailed Cllr. Uncles and was awaiting a reply.

Minute 8 – Highways Improvement Request for more lighting in Greenhill Gardens: The Clerk had sent the request form - indicating the Parish Council's support - to Kirsty Rose at Wiltshire Council. It was now necessary to take a photograph indicating exactly where more lighting was required, and the Clerk had asked Cllr. Uncles if he could do this.

Minute 8 – CPRE Best Kept Village competition: The Clerk had sent back the completed application form, together with a map etc.

Minute 8 – Repairs to the Blind House: The required repair to the stone finial had been completed by James Long (Masons) and the work paid for by the Parish Council.

Minute 8 – Grant request from the Equinox Explorer Scout Unit: The Clerk was waiting for bank account information from George Braham, and she would send the grant cheque to him when he had given her details.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chairman said that the Lion and Fiddle had been given permission to carry out work on a walnut tree in the garden.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Clark said that Wiltshire Council was doing everything necessary to enable Ukrainian refugees to find homes within the county.

7. POLICE

The Chairman introduced PCSO Jack Thomas, who then addressed members on a few matters of local concern. He invited them to contact him whenever they wished to raise future issues, and the Clerk said she would change the Police contact details on the notice boards.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Covid dispensation

The Chairman reminded members of the resolutions agreed by the Parish Council at its March, 2020, meeting, in particular the special dispensation given to any parish councillor unable to attend a meeting on Covid grounds. Two years down the line, he wondered if it was now time to remove the dispensation.

A discussion followed and it was generally agreed that the dispensation should cease at the end of the current meeting. However, it was also agreed that some flexibility was needed, and one-by-one dispensations should be considered for a period of six months.

Wiltshire Council Local Plan: Update

Dr. Celia Beckett was in attendance and gave a comprehensive update on progress, including her suggestion that, in the light of Wiltshire Council's plan to impose over two and a half thousand houses upon Hilperton and Staverton, a traffic survey should be undertaken to find out the effect this might have on local roads. The Chairman said that CATG would need to be asked to do this survey, and members of the group would be meeting the following week. There was further discussion about flooding issues, and Dr. Beckett said an emergency plan was urgently needed and she would continue her efforts to try and find a willing volunteer to take on the role of flood warden.

Allotment Matters/Community Orchard

The Clerk said that most tenants had paid their rentals for the year ending 31st March, 2023, only four needed reminders sent to them, and one tenant had been given notice of the termination of his tenancy.

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

Cllr. Turner gave an update on plans for Saturday, 4th June, and said she was keeping in close touch with Sutcliffe Play about the new play equipment. The Chairman said that he and the Clerk would be making arrangements shortly to take the Jubilee mugs to the pre-school and primary school.

Parish Magazine – update

A discussion took place on this issue, given that – despite all the efforts made – only one response had been received regarding the appeal to find an editor. It was therefore reluctantly agreed that there was no momentum for a relaunch, or chance of any progress being made.

On a more positive note, it was suggested that the Village Hall chairman should be approached to see if he would agree to post notes from the Parish Council from time to time on the Village Hall facebook place. Another suggestion was to contact Kathi Walker, who currently hosted a local page called 'Hilperton – the place to be'.

Grant request from St. Michael and All Angels Church

The Chairman said that this agenda item would be deferred until the May meeting, when the Revd. John Rees would be in attendance to speak to members about the request for funding towards a new aisle carpet at St. Michael's church.

Grant request from HELP Counselling Services

The Clerk was waiting for information from the executive director regarding the number of households given assistance over the past year; it was therefore agreed that this agenda item should be deferred to the May meeting.

Street Naming for the Church Farm Development

The Parish Council had received a request from Ashford Homes to put forward a street name for the new development. After a short discussion, 'Church Farm Close' was agreed.

Repairs to the Bus Shelter at the top of Hill Street

Cllr. Sawyer said the internal walls of the bus shelter needed attention, as the surfaces were peeling. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Michael Grant to see if he could take a look at it.

Number 308 Marsh Road

The Chairman said he had received a number of comments about the highly colourful decorations at the pavement end of the front garden of number 308. There were also adverts concerning various childrens' activities, which PCSO Thomas said he would look into.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PL/2022/02156: 17a Horse Road – replacement of roof and associated works to create bedrooms plus replacement garage (re-submission of PL/2021/09030)

It was agreed that an objection should be made on the following grounds:-

- a) Overdevelopment of the site.
- b) Insufficient parking spaces – parking on the non-adopted public right of way would not be permitted. No turning space within the property, so backing out onto the public right of way would be dangerous.
- c) Little garden/amenity space would be left at the rear of the property.
- d) Inadequate sewer system, sewers being old and in need of an upgrade (several properties have had sewerage spillages).
- e) Adjoining properties would be overlooked from upstairs windows, taking away their privacy unless these windows had obscure glass. Permission for upstairs rear windows was not granted on the previous application.
- f) The proposed development would be out of character with surrounding properties.

It was also agreed that the Parish Council should voice its concern that the measurements might not be accurate and urge the planning office to make a site visit to check; and also to view the proposed parking spaces on the plans. (Proposed by Cllr. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. Boreham, five in favour with four abstentions, one from the Chairman).

PL/2022//02786: Yew Tree Cottage, Horse Road – additional domestic accommodation in the form of a single-storey annexe.

It was agreed that a 'no comment' response should be made in respect of the actual proposal, but concern should be expressed about access for plant during the construction phase.

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.

After a short discussion, it was agreed that a 'no comment' response should be made.

Decisions

20/09998/FUL: Church Farm, Church Street

Redevelopment to include demolition of agricultural buildings, erection of 12 dwellings, conversion and alteration of existing buildings to create two dwellings; refurbishment and alterations to the principal house and associated access, landscaping and drainage works.

Approval given.

PL/2021/10939: 48a Hill Street – new vehicle access including dropped kerb – approval given.

PL/2021/03061: Agricultural fields west of Whaddon Farm, Whaddon Lane

Construction and operation of a renewable energy scheme comprising ground mounted solar photovoltaic (pv) arrays, together with ancillary battery storage and other associated infrastructures including inverters, external switchgear, dno substation, customer substation, security cameras, perimeter fencing, access tracks and landscaping – approval given.

PL/2022/00081: 61 Marsh Road - single storey rear extension, -approval given

PL/2022/00220: 172 Devizes Road – rear extension to first floor over existing ground floor accommodation and additional rear porch- approval given.

PL/2022/00619: 40 Newhurst Park – two storey side extension with internal alterations and extension of dropped kerb to create additional off-street parking space – application withdrawn.

PL/2022/01504: 176 Wyke Road – replacement single storey rear extension – approval given.

PL/2022/00720: 10 Carisbrooke Crescent – single storey extension – approval given.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) Countryside Voices – Spring, 2022.

12. ACCOUNTS**Payments authorised since the last meeting:**

Id Verde – Planters and maintenance for March, 2022 (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59
James Long (Masons) Ltd., repairs to Blind House ball finial (including £80.00 VAT)	£432.00

Payments authorised this meeting:-

Clerk's Salary for April, 2022	£533.00)	
Clerk's Expenses	£222.80)	£755.80

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were none.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 17th May, 2022: Annual Parish Assembly (7pm start), followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

The meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.

Signed

Date