

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,
at 7.45 pm on Tuesday, 19th July, 2022**

PRESENT	Cllr. P. Turner (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr. T. Carbin
	Cllr. R. House	Cllr. S. Uncles
	Cllr. K. Hayes	Cllr. C. Prevett
	Cllr. D. Swift	Cllr. D. Smokcum

Before the start of the meeting, Mr. G. McEinsh spoke of his concern at the state of the pavement between Fieldways and 114a Trowbridge Road. The acting Chairman, Cllr. Turner, declared the meeting open at 7.48 pm.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Clark, Fisher, Allan, Sawyer and Boreham.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 21st June, 2022, were approved and signed.

4. CLERK'S REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minute 8 – Platinum Jubilee: The Clerk confirmed that the amount of £209.30 had been put back into parish council funds. She had contacted the Chairman of the Village Hall to thank him and his team of volunteers for organising the fete and all the work they had done to make it a success.

Minute 8 – Annual Inspection of Village Hall Play Equipment: The Clerk said that this was in hand.

Minute 8 – Private Planters at the War Memorial: The Clerk had contacted the gentleman responsible for this and asked him to ensure that they were removed by the end of June. She understood they were now gone.

Minute 8 – Paxcroft Mead Play areas: Cllr. Clark had agreed to contact Wiltshire Council about the possibility of either purchasing some play equipment or taking over the play areas within the parish. As he was not present at the meeting, he would report back at the next PC meeting in September.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

Cllr. Turner said that the Village Hall lounge bar had been booked on Tuesday, 26th July, between 6pm and 7.30pm, for Redcliffe Homes' agents to give a presentation regarding plans for development on land on the north side of Devizes Road.

An invitation had also been sent to parish councillors and residents to come along to a community consultation event on Monday, 1st August, regarding the same land. The agents would hold a parish councillor preview session between 1.30 and 2.30 pm, followed by a public exhibition between 2.30 and 7.30pm.

6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Turner reported that Cllr. Clark was in discussion with Wiltshire Council about the state of some of the pavements in Greenhill Gardens. The full Wiltshire Council meeting scheduled for July had been cancelled, due to 'lack of business', but the decision had been made before the cut-off date for

either questions or notices of motion; not a decision that was welcomed by the non-Conservative political groups of the council. Cllr. Carbin was able to shed more light on this.

7. POLICE

PCSO Jack Thomas had sent his apologies.

8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION

Wiltshire Council Local Plan – Update

Dr. Beckett gave an update on how matters currently stood, including the fact that no ecology report had been received and the plan did not comply with bat mitigation. She said that the Redcliffe Homes' planning application was surely premature. Mr. Mike Linham, who had accompanied Dr. Beckett to the meeting, believed that developers were 'testing the water', and the whole issue appeared to be clouded in secrecy. The Local Plan seemed to be moving slowly, and Cllr. Clark had not seen a date for it to go before the Wiltshire Council cabinet.

Dr. Beckett now had a flood plan volunteer and, following a meeting at Staverton PC the previous night, she said that a co-ordinator and some deputies would also be needed to formulate a community emergency plan for both Staverton and Hilperton. Cllr. Turner said the Parish Council did not have any volunteers at present, but Dr. Beckett's comments were noted.

Allotments/Community Orchard

Cllr. House said that the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust felt the site at the corner of the orchard was viable for the proposed pond. The allotment group had not yet met to discuss this initiative but it was likely to meet with their approval. A grant of £625 had been approved by Wessex Water to encourage invertebrates to the area.

Works for the Parish Steward

Cllr. Turner asked parish councillors to contact Cllr. Clark with details of jobs that needed to be done on the steward's next visit in August.

Greenhill Gardens: Grit Bin and request for more Lighting

- a) Request for more lighting: Cllr. Uncles had recently received an e-mail from Ruth Durrant of the Traffic Engineering Team, who said this issue was discussed at a meeting in April of the LHFIG (local highway and footway improvement group, formerly CATG) when it was agreed to forward it to the street lighting team. She said she now understood that a proposal had been received from the team, which would be sent out shortly to the Parish Council and would then be discussed at the next meeting of the LHFIG on the 11th August.
- b) Request for a grit bin: The Clerk had e-mailed Nicola Mundy at Wiltshire Council, to ask about the cost of purchasing a new grit bin, but had not yet received a reply.

Trowbridge Road – Pavement between Fieldways and 114a Trowbridge Road

In expectation of concerns being expressed at the PC meeting, Cllr. Clark – in his role as a Wiltshire councillor - had already e-mailed Mark McClelland at Wiltshire Council. He had said that he wondered when the resurfacing of the pavement along Trowbridge Road between Elizabeth Way and 114a Trowbridge Road was due to commence. Wiltshire Council was encouraging people to get more active with this new route and yet this section of pavement was so bad that mobility scooters were now using the road. He said he had received numerous complaints about the condition of the pavement and could not but wonder why, when Wiltshire Council was spending £600k on the by-ways, it could not spend around £20k on the section of pavement linking the new scheme with the Trowbridge scheme.

After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council should contact Kirsty Rose at LHFIG to express their concerns about the state of the pavement.

Hilperton-Melksham Cycle Path: comments on the new surface and the type of traffic being encouraged

A discussion took place on this issue, with parish councillors agreeing that now the vegetation at the sides of the cycle path had been cut back and the 'path' resurfaced, it was now so wide that car drivers were encouraged to use the cycle path as a road. This was causing concern among nearby residents because of the noise of cars being 'raced' along the path. It was agreed that these concerns should be passed on to Wiltshire Council.

Grant request from the Village Hall towards the funding of Annual Grounds Maintenance and Public Liability Insurance Costs

The Clerk reminded members of the background to what had become an annual request for funding for the maintenance of the playing fields, plus 25% of the public liability insurance, less the football income. In line with grants made previously, the figures from the Village Hall accounts for the year ended 31st May, 2022, were:-

Grounds maintenance	£3,326.00
Plus 25% of Public Liability Insurance	<u>£469.05</u>
	£3,795.05
Less football income after deducting 25% of shower and heating costs	<u>£756.75</u>
	<u>£3,038.30</u>

It was agreed that a Section 19 grant should be made in the sum of £3,038.30. (Proposed by Cllr. Carbin, seconded by Cllr. House, seven in favour with one abstention from Cllr. Turner).

Request for the Parish Council to obtain a temporary road closure for Remembrance Sunday

Cllr. Clark had already contacted the person concerned to say that when requested to do similar in the past, the Parish Council had decided that it would NOT apply for a closure. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council's stance on this matter should stand.

CPRE Best Kept Village Competition – Results from the first round

Hilperton had come first in the initial round of the competition, in the West Wiltshire large village category, and would now go forward to the county round. Comments from the judges had been very complimentary, and it was agreed that a short report should be prepared by the Clerk, for the PC website.

Before discussion took place on the next item, Cllr. House declared a disclosable pecuniary interest, as he had been asked to do some work for the developers, for which he was being paid.

Proposed diversion of footpath Hilperton 54 in relation to planning application 20/09701/FUL

Wiltshire Council was in receipt of an application to divert approximately 314 metres of the footpath to a new route. The proposed diverted path would be about 369 metres with a width of two metres and would have a porous, self-binding aggregate surface. The Parish Council was being asked to make any observations or representations regarding the proposals. After a short discussion, it was agreed that no objection should be made. (Proposed by Cllr. Carbin, seconded by Cllr. Uncles, seven in favour with one abstention).

9. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PL/2022/05058 – 26 Newhurst Park

Two storey side and single storey side extensions

It was agreed that an objection should be made to this application. The single storey extension would be clad in cedar, not stonework, which it was felt was out of keeping. Also the extension itself was too large and quite visible to the street scene. (Proposed by Cllr. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. House, seven in favour with one abstention).

PL/2022/05076 – The Old Church, Church Street

Proposed new vehicular access, dropped kerb and off-road parking

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

PL/2022/05120 – Land off Ashton Rise: Erection of a five-bedroomed house with attached double garage and private gardens with vehicular access off Ashton Rise, including the re-routing of an existing footpath.

It was agreed that an objection should be made to this application as the proposed dwelling would be outside village policy limits. (Proposed by Cllr. House, seconded by Cllr. Uncles, four in favour with four abstentions).

Decisions

20/09701/FUL - Land at Elizabeth Way: Construction of up to 187 houses, means of access landscaping, drainage, public open space and other associated infrastructure- approval given.

PL/2022/03333 – 108 Wyke Road: Detached garage (alterations to 18/02672/FUL) – approval given.

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

PL/2021/10373 – Bekson Farm, 54 Whaddon Lane: Permanent siting of a biomass boiler and container for the control unit (retrospective) – refusal.

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

10. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

11. PUBLICATIONS

a) WALC Newsletter – June, 2022

b) Clerks and Councils Direct- July, 2022

12. ACCOUNTS

Payments authorised since the last meeting

Id Verde – planters and maintenance for June, 2022

(including £20.26 VAT)

£121.59

Payments authorised this meeting

Clerk's Salary for July, 2022

£533.00)

Clerk's Expenses

£242.15)

£775.15

Hilperton Village Hall Jubilee Celebrations: Reimbursement to the

Village Hall in respect of the PC approved grant of £5,000

£2,146.08

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

For the September meeting: In and around St. Mary's Gardens:- the speed of delivery vans being driven in an unsafe manner; vehicles in the area messed with; car drivers following women along the road; possible drug dealing.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 20th September, 2022, with possible planning committee meetings before this date.

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.

Signed Date