

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,  
at 7.45 pm on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2022**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Cllr. E. Clark	Cllr. P. Turner
	Cllr. R. House	Cllr. S. Uncles
	Cllr. S. Sawyer	Cllr. C. Prevett
	Cllr. D. Smokcum	Cllr. G. Boreham

**Before the start of the meeting, members stood for a minute's silence in honour of the late  
Queen Elizabeth 11**

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

There were none.

### **3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2022, and the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2022, were approved and signed.

### **4. CLERK'S REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM THE JULY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minute 8 – Trowbridge Road – pavement between Fieldways and 114a Trowbridge Road: The Clerk had written to Kirsty Rose at Wiltshire Council to express the Parish Council's concern about the state of the pavement. She replied by sending a copy of an e-mail she had sent recently to both the Chairman and Cllr. McClelland.

Minute 8 – Hilpertion-Melksham Cycle path: The Clerk had contacted Kirsty Rose about the concerns of the Parish Council and members of the public. She had replied by saying that the surface dressing to complete the surfacing works was due to take place shortly and it would no longer be completely smooth tarmac surface, as a deterrent to vehicle use. Following this, a survey would be undertaken to monitor usage.

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

Minute 8 – CPRE Best Kept Village Competition: The Clerk had prepared a short report for the website, following Hilpertion's win in the initial round of the competition (large village category). In the second round Hilpertion had come joint third and the Clerk had brought along copies of the judges' report for members to read.

Minute 8 – Proposed diversion of footpath Hilpertion 54 in relation to planning application 20/09701/FUL: The Clerk had contacted Wiltshire Council to say that the Parish Council did not object to the proposal.

### **5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chairman said that the Clerk had sent a letter of condolence to HM King Charles 111 on behalf of the Parish Council and residents of the parish, following the death of The Queen.

He informed members that a meeting of the Western Area Planning Committee would be held at County Hall on the 28<sup>th</sup> September, commencing at 3pm. The planning application PL/2022/02156 (17a Horse Road), to which the Parish Council strongly objected, would be considered, and the Chairman reminded members that it had been agreed that a representative from the Parish Council

should attend. Cllr. Hayes had expressed an interest in going along and, as she was not present at the meeting, the Chairman said he would contact her.

## **6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR**

Cllr. Clark said that a proposed meeting of the cabinet had been postponed, due to the period of mourning for the late Queen Elizabeth. He had attended the Proclamation at County Hall the previous week.

## **7. POLICE**

PCSO Jack Thomas was not in attendance and the Clerk was asked to contact him as he had not sent his apologies. It was suggested that the 'Police' item could be taken off future agendas.

## **8. ITEMS FOR REPORT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Wiltshire Council Local Plan – Update**

Dr. Beckett was not present at the meeting. The Chairman said that the most recent indications were that the plan would not go to cabinet until the beginning of 2023 at the earliest.

### **Allotments/Community Orchard**

Cllr. House said that a decision had been made not to go ahead with the pond design put forward by the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, as it would be too big. So a smaller pond would be needed and the group would look into this themselves.

### **Works for the Parish Steward**

The Chairman asked parish councillors to contact him, as usual, with details of jobs that needed to be done on the steward's next visit.

### **Greenhill Gardens: Grit Bin**

After contacting various officers at Wiltshire Council for information, the Clerk had been given contact details of Integrity Enterprises, and had written to the MD, Andrew Perrett. He had replied to say that his company supplied salt bins to customers, including parish and town councils, and gave details of costs etc., which she had passed on to the Chairman and Cllr. Uncles. The Clerk read out the relevant parts of Mr. Perrett's letter and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should purchase a 400l bin at a cost of £195 (ex VAT). This would come filled with salt and the price would include installation. A site visit would be the first step on the road to acquiring a permanent bin, and the Clerk said she would liaise with Cllr. Uncles and Andrew Perrett to arrange this. (It had been previously suggested that the bin should go next to the defibrillator).

### **Greenhill Gardens: Request for more Lighting**

The Clerk had contacted Kirsty Rose to ask what the outcome was of the LHFIG meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> August. She had replied by saying that LHFIG were waiting for feedback from the Parish Council as to which option put forward by contractors Atkins Street Lighting -set out in her e-mail dated 22<sup>nd</sup> July- it would like to proceed with. As the information given by the Atkins' engineer was somewhat technical, the Clerk was asked to go back to Kirsty to see if she could provide more information.

### **Discussion of the possible Extension of Cllr. Fisher's sick leave**

The Chairman reminded members that the Covid dispensation had ceased in April. It had been agreed, however, that some flexibility was needed and individual dispensations should be considered for a period of six months. Cllr. Fisher had not been able to attend any meetings since that time, and a decision was unanimously taken that she should be given an extension until the end of February, 2023, in the hope that her health would improve and enable her to take part in PC meetings.

### **Grant Request from Wiltshire Citizens Advice**

The Clerk gave details of the clients residing in the parish who had been given advice over the past year. The impact of the cost of living crisis was bringing many more people to the CABS across the county for help with their finances, and staff and volunteers at the Wiltshire Citizens Advice needed their own resources to continue to assist their clients. After a short discussion, it was agreed that a Section 137 grant of £500 should be given (Proposed by Cllr. House, seconded by Cllr. Uncles, all in favour). It was also agreed that, whenever possible, organisations seeking grants should be asked if they could send a representative along to the particular meeting of the Parish Council where their request was being considered.

### **Grant Request from Victim Support**

Following a request from Victim Support Wiltshire for a donation towards the support provided in the local area, the Clerk had written to ask how many Hilperton residents had been given help over the past year. She was awaiting a reply and it was agreed that discussion should be deferred to the October PC meeting.

### **Grant Request from St. John Ambulance**

A request had been received for a grant towards the development of a Community Support Unit (CSU) which would enable volunteers to offer adaptable first-aid services to the public. After a discussion, it was agreed that a Section 137 grant of £300 should be given. (Proposed by Cllr. Sawyer, seconded by Cllr. Uncles, all in favour).

### **St. Mary's Gardens and surrounding areas: Speeding and other issues**

At the July meeting Cllr. Prevett had voiced his concern about speeding and other worrying incidences, including drug taking, dog fighting, and problems with anti-social, rowdy teenagers. A discussion took place on the increase in petty crime which was occurring everywhere in the village and beyond, partly due to the lack of fear and respect of authority. Added to this was the fact that there was barely any police presence in the area. The Chairman said he would get in touch with Trowbridge Police Station to voice the Parish Council's concerns.

Another issue was that of cars being parked outside St. Mary's Church on Wednesday evenings, when a weight watchers class was taking place between 5.30pm and 7.00pm. Cars were to be seen parked on both sides of the road (some on the pavement), and it was agreed that the Clerk should get in touch with Michael Gamble on this issue.

### **Paxcroft Mead Play Areas**

The Chairman had agreed to contact Wiltshire Council about the possibility of either purchasing some new play equipment or taking over the play areas within the parish. He was trying to chase up officers at Wiltshire Council but had still not received any response. He said he would keep pressing for an answer from WC.

### **SIDS Update**

The Chairman had been in touch with Kirsty Rose to see if two or three poles in the village could be erected with SIDS' attachments. If this could be agreed and done via LHFIG it would be a much cheaper route, and this request was on the agenda for their meeting the following week.

### **HILP54 – Order made by Wiltshire Council on 23/8/22**

The Chairman confirmed that the Order had now been made by Wiltshire Council with observations being accepted up to the 7<sup>th</sup> October. As the Parish Council had not objected to the draft order, it was decided that no further comment should be made.

## 9. PLANNING MATTERS

### Applications

PL/2022/06494: 57 Lacock Gardens

Single storey living room extension to front of property and single storey conservatory to rear.

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

### Decisions

PL/2022/05072: 201 Devizes Road

Two-storey extension, enlargement of kitchen and addition of an extra bedroom – approval given.

PL/2022/05058: 26 Newhurst Park

Two storey side and single storey side extensions – approval given.

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

Proposed new vehicular access, dropped kerb and off-road parking – application withdrawn.

PL/2021/08554: Land off Elizabeth Way

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

## 10. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

## 11. PUBLICATIONS

a) CPRE – Countryside Voices, Summer, 2022, and agenda for AGM on 22/9/22.

b) WALC Newsletter – July, 2022

c) Clerks and Councils Direct – September, 2022

## 12. ACCOUNTS

### Payments authorised since the last meeting

Hilperton Village Hall – Section 19 Grant	£3,038.30
Equinox Explorer Scout Unit – section 137 Grant	£1,600.00
Id Verde – planters and maintenance for July, 2022 (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59
Clerk's Salary for August, 2022      £533.00)	
Clerk's Expenses                              £155.00)	£688.00
Id Verde – planters and maintenance for August, 2022 (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59

### Payments authorised this meeting

Clerk's Salary for September, 2022      £533.00)	
Clerk's Expenses                              £200.25)	£733.25

## 13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were none.

## 14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2022.**

**The meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.**

Signed ..... Date .....

