

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHADDON LANE, HILPERTON,  
at 7.45 pm on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2022**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Cllr. E. Clark	Cllr. P. Turner
	Cllr. R. House	Cllr. S. Uncles
	Cllr. S. Sawyer	Cllr. D. Smokcum
	Cllr. G. Boreham	Cllr. K. Hayes
	Cllr. T. Carbin	Cllr. R. Allan

*Before the start of the meeting, Caroline Truss, Chair of Governors of Hilperton Primary School, addressed members on the subject of the school's recruitment drive and the role of governors in general. The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.50 p.m.*

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

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Fisher, Swift and Prevett.

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

Agenda Item 8 – Village Hall Parking Restrictions: The Chairman, as the Parish Council's nominee on the Village Hall Committee; Cllr. Turner, as Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee; and Cllr. Sawyer, as a member of the Village Hall Committee.

### **3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2022, were approved and signed.

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

Minute 8 – Grant requests: Grant cheques had been sent to Wiltshire Citizens Advice and St. John Ambulance, and these had been acknowledged with thanks.

Minute 8 – St. Mary's Gardens issues: The Clerk had contacted Michael Gamble on the car parking problem in Horse Road on Wednesday evenings, and he agreed to talk to the person who took the weight watchers class.

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

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Hayes for attending the recent Western Area Planning Committee meeting on behalf of the Parish Council, to reinforce its objections to planning application PL/2022/02156 (17a Horse Road).

The Chairman had contacted Police Inspector Andrew Lemon on the subject of residents' concerns about speeding, drug taking, anti-social behaviour and rowdy teenagers in the St. Mary's Gardens/Close area, and the increase in petty crime in the parish as a whole. He had asked if it would be possible for an occasional visit to the St. Mary's area by his officers. Inspector Lemon had replied to say that he had forwarded the Chairman's e-mail to Sgt. Chilton and had asked him to increase patrols. He went on to say that Hilperton was the current priority for speed checks and he would find out how often officers had been supporting the community speed watch volunteers. He said he would be happy to attend a future PC meeting in person, take some questions and listen to some of the issues.

The Chairman informed members that the Clerk and Cllr. Sawyer had found out that Cllr. Fisher had been taken to the RUH recently, suffering, it was believed, from Covid. The Clerk had sent a card to her in the Waterhouse ward, on behalf of the Parish Council.

In conclusion, the Chairman said that the Local Plan Inquiry would probably not take place until August, 2023.

## **6. WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR**

Cllr. Clark said that there had been at least four objections to the Order made by Wiltshire Council in respect of HILP54, which meant that there would be an Inquiry at some point.

He referred to a planning application (PL/2022/07475) in respect of the proposed conversion of Fieldways into flats. As the application was adjacent to the parish boundary between Trowbridge and Hilperton, he felt that Hilperton Parish Council should have been notified and he had e-mailed the planning officer concerned about this.

Cllr. Clark wondered if the Parish Council should do something in the parish to commemorate the life of the late Queen Elizabeth 11, and it was agreed that this should be discussed at the November meeting.

## **7. POLICE**

PCSO Jack Thomas had apologised for not giving his apologies in respect of the September PC meeting.

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

### **Hilperton Primary School – Recruitment of new Governors**

Members discussed Caroline Truss's address to the Parish Council earlier. Hilperton School had several vacancies for Governors, Parent Governors and those with specific skills sets. No prior experience was required and training would be provided. It was agreed that the recruitment posters she had left with the Clerk should be put on the notice boards, and a short article in support of the recruitment drive sent to David Huggins for the PC website.

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

Dr. Beckett gave a comprehensive update on where matters stood at the present time, and said she was more optimistic that some headway was being made. The CPRE in particular had been very helpful. She had been advised that a professional opinion/advice might be needed if opponents were to have any chance of putting together a plausible objection to the proposals, and a strategic policy and campaigns advisor had been recommended. Discussion took place on this issue, at the end of which it was agreed that the Parish Council should fund up to five days (at £350 a day) for the professional services of Gerald Kells.

Discussion then took place on a proposed traffic survey and a check of traffic levels and pollution in the Marsh Road area, which Dr. Beckett felt should be carried out in the near future. It was suggested that Mr. Kells might be asked to give some advice on this as well.

### **Allotments/Community Orchard**

Cllr. House said that the wildflowers in the orchard had now been cut back and he was pleased to say that all the trees had survived the summer drought. A few people had recently asked to be put on the allotment waiting list, and the proposed pond was still being discussed.

### **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 on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> November. His December visits would be on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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

Cllr. Uncles was making headway with this and had e-mailed Andrew Perrett of Integrity Enterprises to arrange a site visit to check on the positioning of the grit bin in Greenhill Gardens. He had been given three possible preferences by the residents.

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

Cllr. Uncles had recently met with residents about the extra lighting they had requested. They had indicated to him that they would like the light sited where the blue dot (on the plans) was located. That would mean option 1 was their preferred option, at a cost of £4,600. He had been assured that all residents in Greenhill Gardens had been notified and all were in agreement. The next step would be for the Clerk to get back to Kirsty Rose with all information.

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

The information which the Clerk was waiting for had not yet arrived, and it was agreed that discussion on this request should be deferred to the November PC meeting.

### **Paxcroft Mead Play Areas**

The Chairman had now received some information from Wiltshire Council regarding Foxglove, Lacock Gardens, Millards Close and Stourton Park play areas, which he had e-mailed to parish councillors. Discussion took place on the responsibility and commitment required by the Parish Council should it decide to take on the play areas, at the end of which it was agreed that the Chairman should go back to Wiltshire Council with the following questions:-

- a) Would the Parish Council have to take on all four play areas located in the parish or could it take only, say, three of them?
- b) What would happen if, having adopted the play areas, the Parish Council subsequently found itself unable to maintain them? Would they revert to Wiltshire Council?
- c) Who would bear any legal costs in transferring the play areas into Hilperton Parish Council control? Presumably the land would belong to the Parish Council?

This matter would be discussed further at the November meeting.

### **SIDS Update**

The Chairman said that matters were moving forward, and the Clerk had recently sent a Highways Improvement Request form from the Parish Council to Kirsty Rose, asking for two or three SIDS to be erected on new posts to be installed on highway verges in the village.

### **Annual Adoption of the Parish Council's Risk Assessment**

Members had been sent copies of the current Risk Assessment and it was unanimously agreed that this should be adopted for another year.

### **Village Hall – Parking Restrictions**

The Chairman reminded members that the Village Hall Committee had, a few months ago, discussed installing security bollards just inside the playing fields around the edge of the car park to prevent any unauthorised vehicles from driving onto the playing fields. It was felt that the most effective and sustainable solution would be to use 34 treated timber posts as the bollards plus four demountable metal bollards for access. A quote had now been received for this work in the amount of £2,020 plus

VAT., the contractor being the same fencing firm which did a good job of supplying the sturdy fence in the corner of the children's play area a couple of years ago. The Village Hall committee wondered if the Parish Council would consider funding 50% of the project. After a discussion, it was agreed that this would be a fair contribution to make (Proposed by Cllr. Carbin, seconded by Cllr. House, nine in favour and one against).

### **Church Farm – Ashford Homes**

Ashford Homes had sent the Chairman a letter a few months ago, which had come too late to be included on the agenda for the June meeting and was included instead under 'Announcements from the Chair'. It was with regard to possible further development in the field behind Church Farm. Parish Councillors had agreed that they would wish to hear more from them about this and that the developers should, perhaps, be invited to address the Parish Council at a future meeting. The Chairman had e-mailed Ashford Homes recently but had heard nothing further from them. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to see what the developers had in mind for the land and the Chairman said he would contact them again.

### **Barratt Homes – Street Naming**

Barratt Homes had approached the Parish Council to ask members to suggest names for five streets at their new development off Elizabeth Way. The Chairman had e-mailed members about this and some names had been put forward. After a discussion, it was agreed that, as the site was bounded by Elizabeth Way, and Victoria, Albert and Osbourne Roads, one of the streets (coloured orange on the developers' plan) should be called 'Prince Philip Way'. Other suggestions could not be agreed upon but it was decided that a check should be made of the plans of the fields around the site to see if inspiration could come for the other four street names, and this matter could then be discussed further at the November PC meeting.

## **9. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **Applications**

PL/2022/07352: 196 Devizes Road

Rear two storey extension and detached garage (to replace existing extension and garage).

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

PL/2022/07616: 34 Marshmead – enclosed porch extension to include a WC and cloakroom

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

### **Decisions**

PL/2022/03013: Church Farm, Church Street

Replacement of windows and external doors, replacement of existing flue with chimney pot. Installation of roof light into existing roof, installation of solar PV panels onto existing roof. Installation of French doors into existing north elevation, replacement of existing attached barn with single storey extension and construction of single storey extension – Approval given.

PL/2022/06360: 7 Cedar Close

Works to protected trees – T1 Cherry, side prune back to fence line maintaining good shape. T2 Horse Chestnut, side prune back to fence line maintaining good shape – Approval given.

PL/2022/02156: 17a Horse Road

Replacement and raising of roof and associated vertical extension to create bedrooms on the first floor and replacement garage (re-submission of PL/2021/09030) and retrospective permission for a garden room, single storey infill addition to rear – Approval given.

PL/2022/05371: 40 Newhurst Park

Two-storey side extension with associated internal alterations, proposed garage. - Application refused.

PL/2022/06104: Oriel House, 74 Hill Street

Works to trees in conservation area – no objection.

## 10. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

## 11. PUBLICATIONS

a) CPRE Wiltshire – e-Newsletter for October, 2022.

## 12. ACCOUNTS

### a) Completion of the Audit for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022

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

### b) Payments authorised since the last meeting

Wiltshire Citizens Advice – Section 137 grant	£500.00
St. John Ambulance – Section 137 grant	£300.00
Id Verde – planters and maintenance for September, 2022 (including £20.26 VAT)	£121.59
PKF Littlejohn – External audit fee (including £40.00 VAT)	£240.00

### Payments authorised this meeting

Clerk's Salary for October, 2022	£533.00)	
Clerk's Expenses	£185.25)	£718.25

## 13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were none.

## 14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 (apologies received from Cllr. Hayes).**

## 15. MATTERS OF A POSSIBLE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE

The Clerk gave details of last year's four recipients, each of whom received £25. The Chairman said that if members had any other names to add to the list, they should bring details to the November PC meeting.

**The meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.**

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

