

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2011 AT 7.00 P.M. IN WOOTTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD, WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present: Councillor Ken Morris (Chairman)
Councillor Steve Porter (Vice Chairman)
Councillors Dick Doran, Brian Ballard, Barrie Hailstone, Roy Murphy, Pete Mundell, Sarah Fulford & Daryll Pitcher

Also present: 0 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press
Val Cooper Parish Clerk

Matters raised during the Open Forum

- No matters were raised in the Open Forum.

1. TO RECEIVE THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED PARISH COUNCILLOR.

11/386. The declaration of acceptance of office of the newly appointed Parish Councillor, Daryl Pitcher, was signed and received by the Clerk. The Chairman welcomed Councillor Pitcher to the Parish Council.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

11/387. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor B Abraham.

3. MINUTES.

11/388. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 OCTOBER 2011 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

11/389. Councillor D Doran declared a personal interest in matters relating to housing issues at Lushington Hill.

5. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

11/390. Community Wind Turbine (Matter raised in Open Forum at last meeting.)
Councillor Abraham was still investigating how a planning application can be made for a community wind turbine.

11/391. Overgrown hedges – New Road (Minute 346).

Representatives from the Parish Council had met with Highways who are continuing to monitor the situation with overgrown hedges. Highways will send further letters to homeowners whose hedges still exceed the boundary line. The next scheduled walk round the village is scheduled for April 2012. Any concerns can be passed to the Highways officers prior to that time, with a suggestion made at the meeting to make contact in January.

11/392. Speeding in New Road (Minute 11/352).

Councillor Murphy will liaise with the Police at the Local Action Group next week regarding the progress of the speed monitoring in New Road.

11/393. Pump Lane/Noticeboard at the Steam Railway (Minute 11/354).

A quotation had been received for weather treating the Noticeboard at the Steam Railway. The cost of this was between £65 and £75. Instructions had been given for this work to proceed.

11/394. Gateway Signage (Minute 11/363).

A deposit had been paid to the sign maker for three shaped village signs. Work has now commenced. It is hoped that the signs can be erected on completion by the Parish Council.

11/395. Community Speedwatch (Minute 11/364).

The PCSO Katy Berry was ascertaining which roads could be covered by the proposed Community Speedwatch. She was also endeavouring to get statistics from the radar traps in Station Road, Lushington Hill & Kite Hill.

11/396. Rave at Woodhouse Copse (Minute 11/365).

It is hoped that there will be further information available at the December meeting regarding the Rave at Woodhouse Copse. Close liaison is required with Whippingham Parish Council.

11/397. Yellow Lines at the Sloop (Minute 11/367).

Councillor Abraham had contacted Highways regarding the possibility of the yellow lines being removed near the Sloop as they are disregarded by motorists. It was felt that yellow hatching would be needed if the lines are removed to ensure access is maintained to properties and Sloop Lane.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH CLERK WILL CONTACT COUNCILLOR ABRAHAM TO ENSURE HE REQUESTS YELLOW HATCHING BE PUT IN IF THE YELLOW LINES AT THE SLOOP ARE REMOVED.

11/398. Path from New Road to the Sloop (Minute 11/368).

Councillor Abraham had spoken to Tony Buxton of the Isle of Wight Council who authorised the tarmacking of part of this lane. Mr Buxton will revisit this path to see if further action is needed.

11/399. Wildflower Meadow (Minute 11/370)

The Clerk had given instructions to the Parks Department to cut the wildflower area at the Recreation Ground as amenity grass. This will commence after the cut and lift of the wildflower area this winter.

11/400. Fishing – Pump Lane, Wootton Creek (Minute 11/376)

Signage at Pump Lane to say No Fishing remained a work in progress as a Byelaw will be required before this can be erected. Councillor Abraham will continue to address this issue.

11/401. Car Park Signage in the High Street (Minute 11/345).

Car Park/WC signage had been reinstated in the High Street.

11/402. Banners on Lamp Posts in the High Street (Matter Arising after 11/401).

The triangular banners on the lamp posts were mentioned as they are past their best.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL INVESTIGATE HOW TO REMOVE THE TRIANGULAR BANNERS ON THE LAMP POSTS IN THE VILLAGE.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following planning applications:-

11/403. P/01409/11 TCP/29359/A

Silver Sands, New Road, Wootton Bridge.

Replacement of planning permission (P/02349/08 TCP/29359: conversion of house & flat into pair of semi-detached houses to include single storey extension (revised plan) in order to extend the time limit for implementation.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01409/11 TCP/29359/A.

11/404. Decisions

P/00744/11 – Approved (Woodside Farm, Upper Woodside Road).

P/01159/11 – Approved (Fernhill Farm).

P/01171/11 – Approved (41 Lushington Hill).

P/01293/11 – Approved. (Wootton Bridge, High Street)

7. MONTHLY REPORT OF ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ISSUES
Report by Local Member.

11/405. The local member was unable to attend the meeting. He had no issues affecting the village to report on at this time.

8. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

11/406. To discuss youth issues in the village.

Councillor Porter reported that the Monday evening sessions were going well. The Police funding for the new TV set for the Youth Club has yet to be progressed. One of the Youth Workers had mentioned that sessions run by the Council are stopping in March. This will need further clarification.

11/407. To look at the progress made about the possibility of taking on the old school building in New Road as a community asset.

The next Youth Paper is due with Councillor B Abraham (Cabinet Member for the Youth Service) shortly. He hopes to have an update for the next meeting of the Parish Council (20th December 2011).

9. LOCAL ACTION GROUP

11/408. To receive an update from the Representative of the Local Action Group.

Councillor Murphy reported that the Local Action Group meeting had been postponed. This is due to take place on the 22nd November 2011.

10. STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT (SHLAA)

11/409. To decide whether to set up a working group to prepare a Local Housing Needs Survey.

Councillor Doran referred to the email that had been circulated to members regarding the need to respond to the Consultation on the latest Island Plan Core Strategy. It was felt that a working group needed to be set up within the next week to prepare a response. Mention was made about traffic improvements being considered for Fishbourne and East Cowes but nothing in Wootton Bridge, which needs to be included in any discussion. Once this response has been prepared another working group will be set up to develop the Local Housing Needs Survey mentioned at the last meeting.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLORS DORAN, BALLARD AND PITCHER WILL SET UP A WORKING GROUP IN THE NEXT WEEK TO PREPARE A RESPONSE TO THE LATEST ISLAND PLAN CORE STRATEGY.

- THAT A SECOND WORKING GROUP WILL BE HELD TO DEVELOP THE LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY AFTER THE RESPONSE HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE LATEST ISLAND PLAN CORE STRATEGY.

11. PLAY AREA AT THE RECREATION GROUND

11/410. To consider quotations received for fencing and additional items of play equipment.

Tenders had been sought for the new items of play equipment and fencing for the Play Area at the Recreation Ground. Four quotations had been received. It was recommended that the play equipment be purchased from Eibe and the fencing be sourced via James Kingswell who will install both the fencing and the play equipment. The total value of the project will be just over £15,300. A grant had been received from the Big Lottery Fund for £10,000, with the balance to be taken out of Parish Council reserves. A suggestion was made for a penalty clause of £500 a week to be put in if the work is not completed by the end of February. Thanks were extended to Councillor Ballard for his hard work on the play area.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK BE GIVEN PERMISSION TO PROCEED WITH PURCHASE OF THE PLAY EQUIPMENT AND FENCING AT THE RECREATION GROUND AND FOR ITS INSTALLATION, WITH A CONDITION THAT THIS IS INSTALLED BY THE END OF FEBRUARY OTHERWISE A PENALTY CLAUSE WILL APPLY.

12. PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT 2012/2013

11/411. Pre-budget discussion in advance of setting the council tax precept. To receive any suggestions for expenditure to be included in next year's budget.

- Bi-elections. Consideration needed on whether to have poll cards in future. Councillor Ballard and the Clerk will liaise with Clive Joynes from Member Services to try and get a breakdown of the costs involved in a bi-election.
- Neighbourhood Plans – financial implications.
- Costs involved if the Parish Council take on the old school building in New Road.
- Maintenance for the Toilets in Brannon Way.
- Community Bus 34. Consideration needs to be given as to whether to set aside funds for the Parish Council's share of the Community Bus coordinator's salary.

RESOLVED – THAT AN INFORMAL MEETING WILL BE HELD PRIOR TO THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TO LOOK AT ISSUES RAISED REGARDING POTENTIAL EXPENDITURE IN THE YEAR 2012/2013.

- THAT COUNCILLOR BALLARD AND THE CLERK WILL ENDEAVOUR TO FIND OUT THE BREAKDOWN OF COSTS INVOLVED IN A BI-ELECTION AND IF THERE IS ANYTHING THE PARISH COUNCIL CAN DO TO REDUCE COSTS.

13. LOCAL TRADE DIRECTORY

11/412. To consider a suggestion for a directory of local tradespeople.

A suggestion had been made to have a directory of local tradespeople in the office or on the website. The meeting heard that this had been considered previously but had not got off the ground. It was agreed that tradespeople are covered quite well by their advertisements in the village newsletter, The Bridge.

RESOLVED – THAT A DIRECTORY OF LOCAL TRADESPEOPLE WILL NOT BE SET UP AT THIS TIME.

14. CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

11/413. To agree the budget to meet costs involved.

The raffle and refreshments at last year's festival raised £120 (which was down on the previous year due to the snow on the Saturday). This will be used to fund this year's festival. The Clerk stated that she is hopeful that last year's raffle will cover all this year's costs. However it would be helpful to have a contingency approved of around £200 for any unforeseen expenditure. Another raffle will be held at this year's festival.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL SET ASIDE A CONTINGENCY SUM OF £200 TO MEET THE COSTS OF ANY UNFORESEEN EXPENDITURE IN RESPECT OF THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL 2011 THAT CANNOT BE MET BY LAST YEAR'S RAFFLE MONEY.

11/414. To agree the quotation for the Christmas Tree lights.

A quotation had been received for £321.30 for putting up and taking down the Christmas tree lights.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL ACCEPT THE QUOTATION OF £321.30 FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS.

15. HIGHWAY ISSUES

11/415. To discuss any outstanding Highway issues.

Harwoods Crossing – The Clerk had been asked to put the email from Peter Hayward on file regarding the Parish Council's concerns about Harwood Crossing. Councillor Fulford agreed with the concerns as she nearly got knocked down on this crossing two weeks ago and she cannot understand how Highways can say there are no safety issues. Councillor Murphy referred to the increase in the illumination at the crossing, which has made a small improvement to visibility. He referred to a request being made for this crossing to be removed and replaced at the Sloop where crossing the road is dangerous. Alternatively he would like the lights in the middle of the High Street to be moved to the Bridge.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD WRITE TO HIGHWAYS TO ADVISE THEM THAT ONE OF THE PARISH COUNCILLORS WAS NEARLY KNOCKED OVER ON THE HARWOODS CROSSING AND THAT A REMINDER HAS HAD TO BE PUT IN THE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER TWO YEARS RUNNING TO REMIND CHILDREN AND PARENTS ABOUT BEING EXTRA VIGILANT ON THE CROSSING.

16. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS

To report on the following meetings:-

11/416. IWALC Executive

Councillor Doran was unable to attend the IWALC Executive meeting set for Thursday 17th November. He mentioned the opportunity for another Parish Councillor to deputise.

11/417. Havenstreet & Wootton Bridge Community Bus Joint Management Board Meeting.

Councillor Porter and the Clerk had attended the meeting at Havenstreet on the 3rd November 2011. Issues raised included the need to advertise the bus more and low takings compared to the number of people using the bus, particularly as the coordinator will need to be funded. The Steam Railway are proposing to offer residents of Havenstreet, Ashley and Wootton Bridge a season ticket for the Steam Railway for the cost of buying a normal day ticket. The Steam Railway put an article about the bus in their Island Rail News magazine which goes to 1,500 members. Councillor Doran reported that residents have commented on how helpful the bus service is. There was interest in the amount of people using the bus, with the Clerk to copy the Parish Councillors into the weekly report she sends to Southern Vectis.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL INCLUDE THE PARISH COUNCILLORS ON THE MAILING LIST FOR THE WEEKLY BUS REPORT.

- THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO INCLUDING A SUM IN THE PRECEPT TO HELP PAY FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL'S SHARE OF THE COMMUNITY BUS COORDINATORS SALARY.

11/418. Island Plan & PFI

Councillor Doran and the Clerk were to attend the IOW Council & IWALC meeting at County Hall on 17.11.11 to hear the presentation on the update on the Island Plan & the PFI.

11/419. Wootton Creek Fairways Association.

Councillor Mundell had attended the WCFA Meeting. He reported that WCFA would like another representative from the Parish Council if possible. Councillor Mundell will report back to the WCFA that Councillor Abraham is still in the process of trying to address the issue of the No Fishing Sign at Pump Lane.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

For information only.

11/420. No correspondence had been received for the meeting.

18. ACCOUNTS

11/421. To consider and approve the accounts for payment

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £3,933.78, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

19. TO RECEIVE ANY ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

11/422. Items to be included on the next agenda:-

- Quotations are to be sought for replacement of the office blinds.
- Councillor Hailstone was concerned about speeding at Woodside, with no concerns raised by the residents in their response to the new plans by Darwins.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

Signed

Dated