

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 14 JUNE 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, Barry Abraham, Sarah Fulford, Pete Mundell

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

Matters raised during the Open Forum

- No matters were raised in the Open Forum.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

11/211. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rob Ashley.

2. MINUTES.

11/212. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2011 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

11/213. Councillor R Murphy declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to the WICI.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

11/214. Island Plan Local Regulation 27 Proposed Submission Core Strategy - Period for Representation (Minute 11/188)

The working group had met to prepare a draft submission. This was circulated to all Councillors for their comments and additions. The amended submission was sent electronically on 27 May 2011, with confirmation received that the Parish Council's comments had been processed (were valid).

11/215. Advertising signage in the village (Minute 11/190)

The Clerk had ascertained that there are no reserve funds set aside for Bumbles Lane.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL WRITE TO THE OWNER OF BUMBLES TO RAISE THEIR AWARENESS OF THE CONCERNS ABOUT THE QUALITY OF THE ADVERTISING SIGNAGE IN THE HIGH STREET OUTSIDE BUMBLES LANE.

11/216. Victorian Fountain (Minute 11/196)

Councillor Murphy was still endeavouring to get a reply from the house owner about the wording required for a plaque on the wall about the Victorian Fountain.

11/217. Mill Pond – Tyres in the water at Lakeside. (Minute 11/207)

The Clerk had been in touch with staff at the Lakeside Inn requesting the tyres be removed from the Mill Pond. This was dealt with promptly by Lakeside.

11/218. Pump Lane – Table, Benches and infilling of land underneath (Minute 11/208).

The Clerk had received a quotation for all of the work required arising from the Health & Safety check on land and assets owned by the Parish Council. A quotation had been received for the work in the sum of £404.00, excluding re-turfing around the noticeboard at the Slipway (about

£30). In addition a quotation was given for staining all of the village seats not included in the main quotation at a cost of £46 per seat including labour and materials.

RESOLVED – THAT THE QUOTATION FOR THE MAINTENANCE WORK ON THE PARISH COUNCIL'S ASSETS SHOULD BE ACCEPTED.

- THAT A MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE WILL BE DRAWN UP SO THAT FUTURE WORK CAN BE BUDGETED FOR.

11/219. High Street Signage for the Car Park, Toilets etc. (Minute 11/209)

The Clerk had contacted Highways to remind them that a sign still needs to be erected in the High Street (on the Ryde to Wootton side) giving details about car parking, toilets, the Community Centre and the Help Centre. The meeting was informed that the sign on the other side of the High Street is bent.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL CONTACT HIGHWAYS REGARDING THE SIGNAGE REQUIRED IN THE HIGH STREET FOR THE CAR PARK, TOILETS ETC.

11/220. Wootton Traffic Order (Minute 11/192)

The working group sent a response to the Traffic Technician at the Isle of Wight Council on 31 May 2011 regarding the final traffic order plans for Wootton Bridge. A reply was received to say that the additional requests from the Parish Council will be kept on file for future reference. It is now the intention of the Isle of Wight Council to advertise the Wootton Traffic Order.

11/221. Parking on the Slipway (Minute 11/210)

The local Member was waiting for a reply from the Isle of Wight Council to his email about cars parking on the slipway at the Creek. Concern was expressed about the long-standing nature of this issue. Some of the car parking was thought to come from people using the Sloop Inn.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL WRITE TO THE MANAGER AT THE SLOOP INN TO MAKE THEM AWARE THAT PARKING ON THE SLIPWAY MAY BE BY PEOPLE USING THE SLOOP INN AND ASK THEM TO RE-ERECT THEIR BOARD GIVING DETAILS OF WHERE PEOPLE CAN PARK.

- THAT THE LOCAL MEMBER WOULD CHASE THE REPLY TO HIS EMAIL ABOUT PARKING ON THE SLOOP.

11/222. No Cold Calling Zone (Minute 11/113)

The Clerk had spoken to two of the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators. They felt that "piecemeal" no cold calling zones will not be successful and referred to Seaview where the whole village was made a no cold calling zone about four years ago. There was a considerable cost involved in this.

The Parish Council discussed the merits of certain roads in Wootton Bridge benefitting more from this scheme than others.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL CONTINUE TO TRY AND CONTACT THE REMAINING NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH COORDINATORS TO TRY AND PROGRESS MAKING THE MORE VULNERABLE ROADS A NO COLD CALLING ZONE.

11/223. Woodside Nursing Home – Planning Condition regarding the road upgrade (Minute 11/170)

The local Member had spoken to Planning about the planning conditions. A condition was put on the planning application about the state the road should be in when the nursing home was finished but not how it should be maintained afterwards.

11/224. Cutting Back of Hedges in New Road (Minute 11/173).

The local Member reported that a site visit has taken place and letters are being sent out to home owners whose hedges are overhanging the road/pavement requesting they cut back the offending hedges.

11/225. Public Toilets – Brannon Way (Minute 11/112)

The Parish Council had received an estimate of charges from their Solicitor for work in connection with the Parish Council taking over the lease on the public toilets. The estimate is for £1,124 including V.A.T. The Parish Council will be able to recover the V.A.T.

RESOLVED – THAT THE SOLICITORS TERMS AND CONDITIONS LETTER BE SIGNED GIVING THEM PERMISSION TO PROCEED ON THE LEASE FOR THE PUBLIC TOILETS.

11/226. Lettings from the Youth Club Building (Minute 11/176)

The Local Member had been in contact with the Isle of Wight Council about the money the Youth Club should have received from the lettings of the Youth Club building. It seems there is confusion about the policy on this matter, which is still being looked into. It was pointed out that the Youth Club need as much money as possible to fund the extra Monday evening sessions. RESOLVED – THAT THE LOCAL MEMBER WOULD CONTINUE TO TRY AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE LETTING MONEY THE YOUTH CLUB SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following planning applications:-

11/227. P/01690/10 TCP/28080/J

Land to rear of Courtlands, Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge
Pontoon (corrected certification)(readadvertised application).

The meeting heard that the original jetty was approximately four feet wide. This planning application is for a jetty four or five feet wide with a pontoon on the end of seven feet wide. The sum total of it extends further than the original jetty.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01690/10 TCP/28080/J DUE TO THE SIZE AND SCALE OF THE APPLICATION. THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD NOT OBJECT IF THE PONTOON REMAINS THE SAME SIZE AS THAT ADVERTISED IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR.

To receive any notices of planning decisions, appeals, Tree Preservation Orders, etc.

11/228. Decisions

P/00464/11 Approved.

P/00392/11 – Approved.

11/229. Tree Preservation Orders

TPO/1991/99 – Houseboat Rena, New Road.

TPO/20118/8 – 1 Glendale Close.

6. MONTHLY REPORT OF ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ISSUES AFFECTING THE VILLAGE.

11/230. Report by Local Member

The Local Member had nothing to report apart from the Youth Club Service reorganisation referred to in Item 7.

7. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

11/231. To welcome the Youth Club member to the meeting and to discuss youth issues in the village.

No one attended from the Youth Club.

11/232. To receive the Local Member's report on the Youth Reorganisation.

The Local Member reported that the paper on the youth reorganisation has now been published, with a further consultation starting at the end of June through to September 2011. Once this consultation has taken place a decision will be made. Young people in the village need to be invited to make their views known. Discussion took place about nine to thirteen year olds being an important age group for the youth service to capture. The view of the Isle of Wight Council is that nine to thirteen year olds can be education based but a lot of the young people in this age group will not want to go into a school to use the youth service, with them liking the café club culture. The Local Member referred to the plan for youth club staff to go out into the community to talk to young people. Discussion took place about how this could give the wrong message and how parents like to know where their children are. The Local Member will do a tour with officers from the Isle of Wight Council around the Youth Centres and obtain feedback from the young people.

Concern was raised that this reorganisation may be taking place due to the cost of the Youth Club Buildings. The local member acknowledged that the Isle of Wight Council would like to see some of the buildings being better used, otherwise they will not be sustainable. Other income is generated from the Youth Club building in the village and the local member felt confident that the community of Wootton Bridge can show the building should be retained. Whether it is better to have the Old School in New Road as a community owned building or not is something that will need to be explored, with a plan required on how to retain this building.

8. COMMUNITY BUS SERVICE

11/233 . To discuss the progress on the bid submitted for a community bus.

The Parish Council had made a joint bid with Havenstreet & Ashey Parish Council for one of the community buses. The application was submitted on 26 May 2011 with a decision being imminent. The plan is for buses to be up and running from early September, when the Wight Bus service stops. The timing is tight as the volunteer drivers need to be trained. It is hoped that the situation should be much clearer by the time of the July Parish Council meeting. Management of volunteers is an issue that needs to be addressed. The route was discussed, with an hourly service being planned so that bus users know where a bus will be at certain times. The funding for this venture goes up to 2012, with the situation after this time being unknown.

Councillor Dick Doran was thanked for his hard work on this issue.

9. PLAY AREA AT THE RECREATION GROUND

11/234. To receive an update on the grant funding for the proposed improvements to the play area.

The application to Awards for All for funding for the fencing and additional equipment in the play area is in the process of being completed.

RESOLVED THAT THE CLERK AND COUNCILLOR BALLARD WOULD LIAISE ON THE APPLICATION FORM WHICH WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY PRIOR TO THE CLERK GOING ON ANNUAL LEAVE.

10. EROSION IN FRONT OF NEW HOLIDAY PARK DEVELOPMENT AT WOODSIDE

11/235. To report on the site visit on 1 June 2011 with representatives from Darwin and Natural England in an effort to save the public access in front of the Darwins Development.

The Local Member referred to the serious erosion that had occurred since the large slipway had been removed. Darwins want to keep the smaller public slipway and up until Natural England got involved they had been prepared to put decent sized granite in along the shore line. Although the representative from Natural England was sympathetic to a degree he would not comment on this and he seemed opposed to the action Darwins want to do. Darwins are so concerned about the erosion that they will probably have to restrict public access in front of their holiday park as they do not want to face litigation from injuries. Following an invitation from the Parish Council, the local MP, Andrew Turner, will be coming to a site visit with members of the Parish Council on Friday 17th June 2011.

Discussion took place about the local Planning Department being able to override Natural England. David Long, the agent for Darwins, wants to make a prompt planning application to retain the slipway and to do some beach replenishment if possible. The Local Member referred to Natural England being hugely powerful, with environmental legislation on their side – much of which is European and overrides English law. Reference was made to Natural England taking great store in the overwintering birds on mud flats when the tide is out. When challenged the representative from Natural England acknowledged no over wintering birds had been affected by the large slipway when in place. This needs to be stressed in any future discussions.

11. GATEWAY SIGNAGE

11/236. To receive the quotation from the graphic designer for the new village signs prior to ordering the signage as previously agreed.

The graphic designer had been given amended measurements for the village sign. Her design was still awaited. A suggestion was made at the meeting to obtain designs for the village sign from the Technical College, Youth Club and the Primary School.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD APPROACH THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, YOUTH CLUB AND THE PRIMARY SCHOOL TO SEE IF THEY WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT A DESIGN FOR THE VILLAGE SIGN.

12. COMMUNITY PAYBACK

11/237. To report on the site meeting held on 8 June 2011 regarding suggestions made for utilising the Community Payback Scheme.

The Clerk had met with Jane Swan, Placement Manager from the Probation Service, to discuss the suggestions made for use of the Community Payback Scheme. Jane will be visiting the sites where work has been suggested on 6 July with the Community Officer and will then report back on the viability and timescale for the work. Subsequently the Rural Community Council had produced a Newsletter referring to volunteers from Kent looking for a hard labour project on the Isle of Wight in July. The Clerk provided the RCC with details of the work required as the work by the volunteers would be free of charge. It is unknown if the Parish Council will be successful in its bid for the work to be carried out by the Kent volunteers so investigations with the Probation Service are to continue.

13. VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP

11/238. Report from the Social Committee meeting for Party in the Park held on 7 June 2011.

The Clerk referred to a lot of new attractions taking place this year including Havenstreet Falconry, old Fashioned Swing Boats and different music as well as old favourites.

Assistance was requested in several areas, with offers coming forward from the Parish Councillors.

13A. STEAM RAILWAY – WOOTTON APPEAL

11/239. Councillor D Doran referred to the Steam Railway viewing Party in the Park as an important venue to exhibit their plans for the Wootton Appeal and capture feedback on their plans for Wootton Station. The Steam Railway are putting in a bid for match funding, with the Parish Council looking to support their application. Following lengthy discussion it was agreed to set up a working group to work on the community angle of the prospective grant submission. Peter Vail from the Steam Railway had been invited to the July Parish Council meeting.

Discussion took place about a formal complaint to the Steam Railway about cars using Packsfield Lane. Upon investigation it was ascertained that this is a Public Bridleway and only vehicles with permission from the landowner can use this lane. This information had been fed back to the Steam Railway.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL SET UP A MEETING FOR THE WORKING GROUP TO MEET TO DISCUSS THE WAY FORWARD ON THE COMMUNITY ANGLE OF THE PROSPECTIVE GRANT SUBMISSION BY THE STEAM RAILWAY TO FUND THEIR PLANS FOR WOOTTON STATION.

14. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

11/240. Footpath – New Road to the Sloop

It was reported that this footpath is overgrown.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD CONTACT THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL AND ASK FOR THE FOOTPATH BETWEEN NEW ROAD AND THE SLOOP TO BE CLEARED OF OVERGROWTH.

15. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS
To report on the following meetings:-

11/241. IWALC Executive

Councillor Doran had sent an email to Members following the Executive Meeting held on 19 May 2011. This meeting had been largely procedural. Some of the other issues discussed included the IW schools reorganisation capital budgets and the proposed volunteer bus service. A further IWALC Executive meeting is due on Thursday 16 July 2011.

11/242. BIFFA

Discussion took place about the consultation regarding wheelie bins. Although it is early days, people seem to be in favour of recycling. If this is the result of the consultation then wheelie bins will come into operation next February.

16. CORRESPONDENCE
For information only.

11/243. Support requested for a proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act regarding planning applications for major developments.

Leiston Town Council had drafted a proposal requiring applicants of major developments to:-

- i. attend a meeting of the local Town or Parish Council to answer question on the application for development: and
- ii. Fund the council meeting to commission an independent report on the application.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL DO NOT WISH TO TAKE ANY ACTION ON THE PROPOSAL UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT REGARDING PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS.

17. ACCOUNTS

11/244. To consider and approve the accounts for payment

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £3,191.08, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

11/245. To remind members that the 2010/2011 accounts must be approved and signed off by 30 June 2011.

The 2010/2011 accounts approved at the last meeting were signed by the Clerk and the Chairman. The accounts will be sent to the external auditor on 17 June 2011.

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

11/246. Items to be included on the next agenda:-

- The Lane from the Sloop Car Park to the footpath up to New Road (known as The Drudge). A query was made as to whether there is an issue with parked cars as a No Parking sign has been put up. The local Member will ascertain if the Council own this land.
- Land Clearance at Packsfield Lane
It was agreed that the Parish Council would keep an eye on this land as lots of trees have been cut down and a gateway put in.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed

dated