

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 7.00PM 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, Peter Mundell,
Roy Murphy, Barry Abraham, Sarah Fulford

Also present: 61 Members of the public
Val Cooper Parish Clerk
David Everest & David Brannon Darwin representatives - Woodside Bay Development
PC Nick Massey

Matters raised during the Open Forum

- The issue of Gravel Pit Road footpath being used as a car park/rat run was raised. *This had already been raised with Planning and Rights of Way and a progress report on any action they are to take will be on the Agenda for October 2010.*
- The impact of the new Tesco store on the residents of Rectory Drive was raised. This included lights shining through windows at night and the desire to have shrubbery planted on the land outside Tescos to minimise this, as well as the noise pollution. There was also a suggestion to make Rectory Drive a cul-de-sac, as speeding in the road has increased. *Councillor B Abraham and Councillor K Morris are to meet with the representative from Rectory Drive to talk through the concerns and possibly meet with Tescos.*

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

10/345. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Ashley.

2. MINUTES.

10/346. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JULY 2010 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN

10/347. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 AUGUST 2010 BE CORRECTED AT 10/339 TO READ:-

PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL – COUNCILLORS B ABRAHAM AND D DORAN – MATTERS RELATING TO LAKESIDE.

10/348. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 AUGUST 2010, AS CORRECTED, BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

10/349. Councillor S Porter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to New Road/Woodside Development.

Councillor S Porter declared a personal interest in matters relating to use of the room at the HIC/Community Tea Room.

Councillor B Hailstone declared a personal & prejudicial interest in matters relating to New Road/Woodside Development.

Councillor D Doran declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Rectory Drive.

4. WOODSIDE DEVELOPMENT

10/350. Update on the progress of the old Warners site by the Project Engineer.

David Everest, Project Manager for Darwin's, gave an overview of the development at Woodside including the ecology and tree surveys as well as the road survey. Darwin expect to submit drawings to the Isle of Wight Council in October of this year and expect to start the work in March/April 2011. The existing Planning Permission is for 186 units and 2 leisure buildings, with only one change envisaged (one leisure building instead of two). The development is to be built in two or three phases, with the first consisting of 60 units and the leisure building. This first phase has a time scale of twelve to eighteen months.

The three road elements were discussed (the unadopted section, the adopted section and the High Street). The existing Planning consent requires work to the junction of New Road and the High Street, by way of traffic lights/pedestrian crossing and the removal of the layby opposite. The Isle

of Wight Council are adamant they want this work to take place, which has to be completed prior to the first occupancy of the holiday park. More information on this item is given below at Item 4A.

The concrete slipway was discussed, with Planning consent requiring this to be removed in total and the area returned to a beach. The Isle of Wight Council have been approached about keeping this but the majority of it has to go. The ownership of the development stops at the high water level so Darwin would not stop people using the slipway if part remains. The work on this has to be carried out this winter to meet the deadline. Mr Everest stressed that the road and slipway planning conditions are something they have inherited and they are happy to try and resolve these issues if possible.

The Parish Council welcomed the fact that the site has been sold and felt it will be good to see investment in the village. However, concern was expressed over the road situation. (See Item 4A). The barbed wire blocking off the path was also discussed and it was queried if the developer would be prepared to make the seaward side a Public Right of Way, which would be appreciated by the village as it has had a lot of use over a number of years and there is a need to get this put on the Definitive Map.

The Woodside Beach Caravan Park was also discussed as Darwin purchased this as part of the package. The residents have a number of concerns, with Mr Brannon to investigate why no one had returned the call to the Residents Association.

4A. PROPOSED TRAFFIC LIGHTS – NEW ROAD

10/351. To consider the implications of the proposed traffic lights at the Junction of New Road/High Street. (Brought forward from Highways progress report (Item 13).

The local member had met with Highways last week regarding the proposed traffic lights at the end of New Road and the associated removal of the layby which would be detrimental to the Butchers and the Launderette. A meeting was held with Planning five years ago to try and stop planning consent, but unfortunately it was passed. The owner of the butcher and launderette premises pointed out that he gave the land for the layby to the local authority at nil cost with the express condition it be used for the purpose given. A petition has been set up at the Butchers and it is hoped that this will reach the number required so that a debate can be requested. A show of hands at the meeting saw one hundred percent of those present feeling the lights are not wanted and a comment was made that the Planning Department are “flying in the face of the public and the developer”. Councillor B Ballard proposed a formal motion to ask the Planning Department to rescind that particular part of the planning requirement for the development, with unanimous agreement by the Parish Council. Discussion took place about the Parish Council being kept out of discussions by the Isle of Wight Council, which is disenfranchising and unconstitutional.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD MAKE A FORMAL MOTION TO ASK THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO RESCIND THE PLANNING REQUIREMENT FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE LAYBY AND THE INSTALLATION OF THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT THE END OF NEW ROAD AT THE WOODSIDE DEVELOPMENT.

- THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD WRITE TO THE COUNTY PRESS OUTLINING THEIR CONCERNS.

- THAT A DEBATE WILL BE REQUESTED IF THE PETITION TO KEEP THE LAYBY REACHES THE SET NUMBER.

5. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

10/352. Online Planning (10/344).

A letter of objection was sent to the Senior Planning Officer regarding the proposal not to send out hard copies of planning applications.

10/353. Community Wind Turbine (10/298).

The Working Group has yet to be set up, with no one coming forward to be part of this group. Talkback Panels used at Party in the Park suggest that 63% of those who used the panels feel a community wind turbine should be explored.

10/354. Community Flood Plan (10/300).

Hampshire have a flood plan which includes the Isle of Wight. Also the Environment Agency has outlined an 85 million pound investment plan to reduce the risk of flood and coastal erosion in Southern England, including the Isle of Wight, in the next financial year.

10/355. Old School Building (10/301).

The future of the building is needed before investigating the possibility of applying for listed status.

10/356. Community Allotment (10/299).

Enquiries have been received regarding the possibility of having an allotment.

10/357. Proposed Constituency Boundary Changes (10/303).

This was about the possibility of part of the Isle of Wight being added to a mainland constituency. A letter was sent to the Deputy Prime Minister requesting the Isle of Wight Constituency be identified as an exemption to the proposals to establish party of electorates. A reply was received to say that any exemption for the Isle of Wight would result in electors there being under-represented. The Boundary Commission would therefore not have discretion to make an exception for the whole of the IOW as in the past. However, the letter goes on to say that local people, MP's and local authorities will still have their say on how the boundaries are to be drawn and they are extending the consultation period from one to three months. If proposals are revised the Boundary Commission will consult once more on the revised proposals.

10/358. Double Yellow Lining (10/307).

There is still a moratorium on the introduction of new yellow line parking restrictions, unless they can be introduced on the grounds of road safety. If so, this needs to be put in writing to Kevin Burton at Highways.

10/359. Annual Report.

This was delayed due to the changeover of Clerks in July. This was sent to the designer in August and is with the printers and will be distributed shortly.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following applications:-

10/360. Application No. P/01086/10 LDC/30264

Copse End, Lower Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge.

Lawful Development Certificate for continued use of property as a dwelling.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION P/01086/10 LDC/30264

For information only as this is considered to be a minor revision and further comments are not required:-

10/361. Application No. P/00977/10 TCP/00193/R

Land to the west of Woodside Cottage, Brocks Copse Road.

Proposed Construction of three tree house holiday units & parking (revised site plan & certificate).

Urgent planning matters: Any other planning applications received after the Agenda was published:-

10/362. No other planning applications received.

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

10/363. Tree Preservation Order

TPO/1994/7 - Rowlands, 25 Station Road.

TPO/1990/37 – Bodwen, Woodside Road.

10/364. Decisions.

Members were informed of the following decisions received since the last meeting.

P/00933/10 TCP/01221/B – Approved.

P/00959/10 LBC/12184/M – Approved.

P/00958/10 TCPL/12184/N – Approved.

P/01030/10 – TCP/06470/C – Approved.

P/00990/10 – TCP/19567/B – Approved.

P/00774/10 – TCP/28080/H – Approved.

P/00871/10 – TCP/29416/B - Approved.

P/00764/10 – A/02381/C - Approved.

P/00763/10 – A/02381/B - Approved.

P/00732/10 – TCP/22290/J - Approved.

10/365. Appeals

No Appeals had been received.

7. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE.

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

10/366. There were no Youth Club representatives at the meeting.

8. MEDICAL CENTRE, BRANNON WAY

10/367. Progress Report.

Property Services at the Isle of Wight Council had been approached for information on the situation with the proposed medical centre. It seems there has been some movement on this, with the Practice still wishing to proceed and the doctors being keen to move this forward.

9. SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

10/368. To report on the draft SMP and complete the Consultation Response form following a meeting at the HIC and the Public Exhibition at the Community centre.

Members of the Parish Council and Woodside Residents Association had attended the Public Exhibition at the Community Centre. On talking to representatives from the Environment Agency and Natural England, their remit seemed to focus on birds, fauna and animal life rather than residents who would be affected by any rising sea levels and their human right to protect their property. The 1997 strategy was for most of the creek and entrance to have a policy of 'hold the line' whereas the new policy is now 'no active intervention'. It seems that residents with existing defences can continue to defend their properties at their existing level but anyone without an existing defence will be prevented from putting one in and Natural England's advice to the Isle of Wight Council will be natural regress.

RESOLVED – THAT THE GROUP WHO MET PREVIOUSLY MEET AGAIN TO COMPLETE THE CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM ON THE DRAFT SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

10. RECREATION GROUND TOILETS

10/369. Decision required on the future of the toilets at the Recreation Ground.

The Parish Council had been unable to secure funding to renovate the toilets.

RESOLVED – THAT PROPERTY SERVICES WOULD BE ADVISED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL IS UNABLE TO RAISE THE FUNDING REQUIRED TO RENOVATE THE TOILETS AT THE RECREATION GROUND BUT A REQUEST WOULD BE MADE FOR THE SERVICES TO BE CAPPED OFF UNDERGROUND ON DEMOLITION.

11. WAY FORWARD WITH THE HELP & INFORMATION CENTRE

10/370. Having declared a personal interest Councillor Porter left the room before the next item was discussed.

10/371. Report on proposals received for maximising the use of the Help & Information Centre.

Two meetings had been held since the last Parish Council Meeting to discuss ways of utilising the second room at the Help and Information Centre. As a result of the first meeting a notice was put up on the window at the HIC and on the Noticeboard inviting proposals to be made in writing for use of the second room at the HIC. Two proposals were received for a Community Tea Room. These proposals were discussed at the end of the meeting regarding the most competitive bid.

12. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW & POLLING DISTRICTS & PLACES REVIEW

10/372. Consider proposals received about boundaries.

Discussion took place regarding proposals received from residents who believed their properties should be in the parish of Wootton, rather than Newport.

RESOLVED – THAT NO ACTION CAN BE TAKEN ABOUT THE PROPOSALS FOR PROPERTIES TO BE IN THE PARISH OF WOOTTON RATHER THAN NEWPORT DUE TO NEWPORT HAVING PROTECTED STATUS.

10/373. Consider formulating a submission regarding boundaries and electoral arrangements.

RESOLVED – THAT NO SUBMISSION WOULD BE MADE REGARDING BOUNDARIES AND ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS.

13. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

10/374. Progress Report.

- Harwoods Crossing. Highways had informed the Parish Council that the internally lit warning sign on the west bound approach would be installed as soon as possible.
- Brocks Copse Road. The traffic count took place in August. Results are awaited.
- Footways. Speed monitoring will be carried out in early October. If there are problems then police intervention levels could be considered.
- New Road. Concern was expressed that no one from Highways had yet 'walked the road' with Councillor Hailstone. Discussion took place about the lack of response from the Isle of Wight Council to concerns raised by Parish Councils. A letter was to be sent to the Isle of Wight Council regarding the concern about the lack of response from Highways.
- Station Road. It was requested that the proposed traffic survey be kept on the agenda.

14. REDUCTION IN BUS SERVICES

10/375. To consider how to lessen the impact of the reduction in bus services.

The local member had attended the meeting at the Rural Community Council about the impact of the reduction in bus services. Elderly residents at St Edmunds Walk have voiced concerns about being unable to get to Ryde, which needs to be looked into. Discussion took place about solutions, including volunteer car sharing and people clubbing together to get preferential taxi fares.

Information had been received about Optio, the Island's voluntary car scheme, which urgently needs volunteer drivers in all areas of the Island including Wootton. Details of this will be placed in the November issue of The Bridge and on the WICI.

15. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

10/376. IWALC Executive.

- i) Report on recent meeting. There is to be a discussion on issues of closer collaboration between Local Councils and the Isle of Wight Council.
- ii) Precept Capping. There is a minimum level precept capping would apply to. Therefore Wootton Bridge may not be affected.

10/377. Any Other Meetings

There were no other reports.

10/378. Village Partnership Meeting.

- i) To report on the debriefing meeting held on 17 August 2010 following Party in the Park.
Matters raised at the debriefing meeting included:-
 - The event gets better every year. A lot of compliments were received.
 - Restricted parking on the recreation ground is to be investigated.
 - It was suggested that stallholders have badges.
 - Evening music entertainment is to be reviewed.
 - Next year's Party in the Park is 16 July 2011.
 - Voluntary donations were suggested from stallholders, and buckets are to be used for donations from visitors.
- ii) Date of the next Village Partnership meeting.
The date set for the next meeting of the Village Partnership is Tuesday 5 October 2010 at 7.00 p.m.

16. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

10/379. Greening your Community

A free seminar is being held on Thursday September 23rd on local environmental action and launch of the Green Towns project.

10/380. IW Citizens Advice Bureau – Invite to AGM

An open invitation to all Councillors had been received from the Citizens Advice Bureau regarding their AGM on Tuesday 28th September 2010 at the Riverside.

17. ACCOUNTS.

10/381. To consider and approve the accounts for payment

Members were presented with the accounts for payment for August and September 2010.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS PRESENTED TOTALLING £9,735.91 BE PAID, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS **APPENDIX A** OF THESE MINUTES.

10/382. To report on the Audit of Accounts for 2009/2010.

Members were informed that the external audit was successfully signed off on 26 August 2010. The statutory completion notices have been displayed accordingly.

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

10/383. Items to be included on the next agenda:-

- The Footpath at Gravel Pit Road. It seems that the footpath is being used by a business as a road and parking area.
- Parking on the slipway at the Sloop.
- Consideration was to be given to inviting Highways to the next meeting.

10/384. Other general matters raised included:

- The date for the December Parish Council Meeting was discussed. It was agreed that the December meeting would be held on **Wednesday 15 December 2010** as the third Tuesday would be too near Christmas.
- A letter of commendation was to be sent to the people who had renovated Ivy Hall.
- Explanation sheet to be devised to explain to electorates what a Parish Council can and cannot do.

IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED IT IS ADVISABLE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS BE TEMPORARILY EXCLUDED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEM AND THEY ARE INSTRUCTED TO WITHDRAW – IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 S1(2) AND STANDING ORDER NO. 57.

19. STAFF MATTERS

10/385. To approve the Exempt Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 July 2010.

RESOLVED – THAT THE EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JULY 2010 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

20. FINANCIAL MATTERS

10/386. Having declared a personal interest Councillor Porter left the room before the next item was discussed.

10/387. To consider the financial aspects of the use of the second room at the HIC.

The two bids for the Community Tea Room were discussed. The successful bidder had agreed to all of the terms requested by the Parish Council whilst the second bidder had put in a lower counter bid. Purely on financial grounds the Parish Council unanimously agreed to go with the best financial deal.

RESOLVED – THAT THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER FOR THE COMMUNITY TEA ROOM AT THE HIC WOULD BE WRITTEN TO, ADVISING THEM THAT THEIR BID HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL.

- THAT THE UNSUCCESSFUL BIDDER WOULD BE WRITTEN TO ADVISING THEM THAT THEIR BID TO OPEN A COMMUNITY TEA ROOM AT THE HIC HAD NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL DUE TO BEING OUTBIDDED

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Signed.....dated.....