

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 21 APRIL 2009 AT 7.00PM IN WOOTTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD, WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present: Councillor K Morris Chairman  
Councillors B Abraham B Ballard Mrs W Jacobs L Laws  
Mrs E Loughlin R Murphy.  
Also present: 9 Members of the public  
1 Member of the press  
Linda Shorter Environment and Neighbourhood Officer  
Mrs Lynda Smith Parish Clerk

*Open Forum: -*

- *It was pointed out that the bench in Rectory Drive is damaged and the plaque has come off. This is not a Parish Council seat but it will be reported.*

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

**09/067.** Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Ashley A Coles and S Porter.

2. MINUTES.

**09/068.** RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 17 MARCH 2009 AND 30 MARCH 2009 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

**09/069.** There were no declarations of interest received.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

**09/070. The Big Tidy Up** (Minute 09/025)

The Big Tidy Up is to be held on Tuesday 28 April 2009 meeting at 9.30am by the Scout Hut in the recreation ground. Gloves and litter pickers will be provided.

**09/071. Parish Team** (Minute 09/026)

Members had been provided with the summary of responses received further to the consultation on the changes to the Parish Team. The IW Council has agreed to include County Training Partnership administration of training courses as a 'must do' and this will replace the IWALC treasurer as a must do. IWALC will be appointing a treasurer itself.

**09/072. Village Open Day** (Minute 09/043)

The comments have now been collated and can be viewed at the HIC. It was also mentioned that the School and Youth Club have been contacted asking for the views of the youngsters on the future of the village.

5. PLANNING.

i) To comment on the following applications:-

**09/073.** P/00399/09 TCP/29551

Single/two storey extension and conversion of dwelling into two self contained flats  
62 Mary Rose Avenue

Members were informed of one letter of objection received which was read out in full. During ensuing discussion members expressed concerns that the proposal would set a precedent, which could lead to a doubling of the houses on the estate. Parking would also be an issue.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL REGISTERS ITS OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00399/09 TCP/29551 ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE PROPOSAL IS INAPPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT AND WILL SET A PRECEDENT FOR SIMILAR APPLICATIONS IN THE FUTURE WHICH COULD, IN EFFECT, LEAD TO DOUBLING THE NUMBER OF DWELLINGS.

**09/074.** P/00417/09 TCPL/00922/K

Conversion of building into two dwellings; construction of pair of semi-detached houses with single storey glazed link to existing building; landscaping (revised scheme)  
33 High Street

P/00418/09 LBC/00922/J

LBC for conversion of building into two dwellings; construction of pair of semi-detached houses with single storey glazed link to existing building; landscaping (revised scheme)

33 High Street

Members were informed that the main changes are; additional velux windows and impact on neighbours and additional footprint. As this is a listed building the views of Conservation will be one of the main considerations.

Discussion ensued when concerns were raised over the length of time this proposal was taking and that the time limit for commencement of the work should be reduced from that previously conditioned.

**Councillor B Ballard entered the meeting at this point.**

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATIONS P/00417/09 TCPL/00922/K AND P/00418/09 LBC/00922/J ON CONDITION THAT THE FRONT OF THE PROPERTY IS COMPLETED BEFORE THE BUILDINGS TO THE REAR ARE OCCUPIED. FURTHERMORE, GIVEN THE LENGTH OF TIME THIS PROPOSAL HAS NOW TAKEN, (WHICH HAS EXCEEDED THE ONE YEAR LIMIT FOR COMMENCEMENT), THE PARISH COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THAT THE TIME LIMIT FOR COMMENCEMENT OF THIS PROPOSAL IS CONDITIONED TO 6 MONTHS.

**09/075.** P/00365/09 TCP/22290/H

Installation of a canopy & service yard gates

Land at junction of High Street and Rectory Drive (Tesco)

Members noted that usually an applicant is unable to apply for an extension to a building that has not been built. It is normally considered by way of a resubmission so that overall impact can be assessed.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAS CONCERNS OVER THE UNORTHODOX WAY THIS APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUBMITTED AND IS OF THE OPINION THAT IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH BY WAY OF A REVISED APPLICATION SO THAT THE IMPACT OF THE GATES AND CANOPY COULD BE PROPERLY ASSESSED. MEMBERS ALSO QUESTION THE LEGALITY OF THE SUBMISSION. ACCORDINGLY THE PARISH COUNCIL REGISTERS OBJECTIONS.

**Urgent planning matters: Any other planning applications received after the agenda was published.**

**09/076.** There were no urgent planning applications to consider.

**09/077. TCP/14385/F P/00364/09**

**Proposed polytunnel, Footprint organics, New Road.**

To inform members of further information received in respect of this application.

Further to the Parish Council's comments at the last meeting members were informed that Planning is not allowed to delay determining a proposal on the basis of any ongoing potential breaches. Also the applicant has clarified the situation regarding the caravan on this site. The caravan is not being used to live in and is used as a store for machinery and produce and as a shelter when the weather is bad. Without the caravan the business could not operate. With regard to the wormery this does not yet exist but will be in a green wheely bin which is movable. An invitation has been extended to the Parish Councillors to visit the site if they so wish.

Members agreed that in the light of the above information they would raise no objections.

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

**09/078. Alterations; extension to form sitting room, study & utility room on ground floor with 2 bedrooms & bathroom over in roofspace to include dormer window on front elevation; alterations to roof, Orchards, Packsfield Lane.**

Notice of an appeal received.

6. PROPOSED NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT – WOOTTON RECREATION GROUND.

i) To inform members of additional information received regarding the Play Builder funding bid.

**09/079.** Councillor B Ballard attended a meeting on the Play Builder scheme this afternoon. Main points that arose from the meeting included:-

- There is nearly £2million available.
- All projects must be complete by 31.3.10.
- The money cannot be held over.
- The scheme is in respect of 8-13 year olds.

- The schemes must be based on imaginative play and test children so that they learn to assess risk.
- Planning application for the Wootton Bridge Scheme needs to be in as soon as possible and contracts issued by September 2009.
- Play Builder will not fund fencing.
- Hampshire has completed 20 schemes and it was suggested that it may be worth visiting these successful projects.
- IW Council will take care of insurance liabilities.
- Risk assessments will be needed.

The Parish Council is only one of two play areas on the Island which is almost ready to proceed and therefore can be included for consideration in the first round of Play Builder funding. However, further information has now been received regarding the criteria for the funding. As a result the original design of the play area has been reassessed to meet the new criteria. The theme is now leaning towards creative play with a nautical theme.

**09/080. To consider and approve the updated design of the proposed play area.**

As a result of the changed criteria since the original plans were drawn up, revised plans have now been drawn up, which were received this afternoon. Copies of the plans were then circulated amongst members. Issues raised during discussion included using local contractors for the work and asking the children what they wanted but generally members were happy with the concept of the updated design.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PROJECT GROUP, THE CHAIRMAN, COUNCILLOR R ASHLEY, MEET NEXT WEEK TO FURTHER CONSIDER THE PLAY AREA UPDATED PLAN AND AGREE AS A MATTER OF URGENCY THE NEXT STEPS FORWARD.

7. PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETINGS.

**09/081. To inform members of the date and arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting.**

Members were informed that the Annual Parish Meeting is usually held in April but due to the election this year has been deferred until May. The date of the meeting has been set for Tuesday 19 May 2009 and it will commence at 6.30pm to give time for the May Parish Council meeting to follow. This year Ray Allen, who wrote Some Mothers Do Ave Em, has agreed to come along to the meeting to recount some of his entertaining stories. Refreshment will be provided. The meeting also includes Clerk's and Chairman's reports along with Tree Warden and Village Partnership reports. Details of the Annual Meeting will be included in the next edition of The Bridge and on the web site.

**09/082. To inform members the date and arrangements for the Annual Parish Council meeting.**

Members were informed that, due to the election, this year's Annual Parish Council meeting can be held in June (normally it must be held in May). The meeting will also be the first meeting of the newly elected Parish Council and is set for Tuesday 16 June 2009.

8. TO CONSIDER A SUGGESTION PUT FORWARD REGARDING THE JOINING TOGETHER OF WOOTTON BRIDGE AND FISHBOURNE PARISH COUNCILS.

Councillor Barry Abraham to lead.

**09/083.** Councillor B Abraham has put forward a suggestion that the merits of Wootton Bridge and Fishbourne Parish Councils joining together be considered. He remarked that Wootton Bridge and Fishbourne share common issues such as the Creek, Wightlink and Woodside. Also many Fishbourne residents use the facilities at Wootton Bridge. With more people, there can be greater weight given to issues and it was suggested that there could be benefits from the Wootton Bridge and Fishbourne areas coming together.

During ensuing discussion the following points were raised:-

- There would have to be consultation with the residents of both Wootton Bridge and Fishbourne before such a suggestion could proceed.
- There was some support for the suggestion but a referendum would have to be held and there would also be financial issues to consider.

*Public comments included:-*

- *This is a good idea. Kite Hill residents feel part of Wootton.*
- *Has there been any informal comment between the two councils?* It was replied that there had.
- *Concern was expressed over the suggestion and it will dilute rather than increase effectiveness.*
- *It would be better to develop a more formal working relationship rather than combining the Parish Councils. There currently exists a good working relationship between the two councils.*
- *It was commented that a decision cannot be made without obtaining the views of the electorate.*

Members then generally agreed that it would be best to raise this question again after the June election and that a joint working relationship with Fishbourne could be considered.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CONSIDERATION OF A MORE FORMAL WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH FISHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL BE CONSIDERED AFTER THE JUNE 2009 ELECTIONS.

9. HIGHWAYS MATTERS.

**09/084. Mary Rose Avenue – To consider representations received regarding vehicle speeding and the need for traffic calming measures.**

Members were informed that representations have been received from local residents over traffic safety issues in Mary Rose Avenue following two accidents which recently occurred. The residents are asking whether there has been any progress regarding the possible introduction of traffic calming measures through the estate.

This matter has been taken up by the Local Member and subsequently the Head of Highways has stated that the results of speed monitoring showed low mean speeds and that it is felt that speed is not a significant problem in terms of speed limit compliance. Also the accident record gives no cause for concern. Furthermore Mary Rose Avenue does not meet the national guidance on 20mph limits.

Discussion ensued when it was asked why Pan Estate can have traffic calming yet Mary Rose Avenue does not qualify. It was suggested that clarification be sought from the Head of Highways.

The question of 20mph speed limits again rose and it was responded that an Islandwide Policy for this is still being processed.

*Public comments included:-*

- *Mary Rose Avenue is a rat run, there is irresponsible parking and it will take a serious accident before any action is taken.*
- *People do speed along this section of road.*
- *The PCSO agreed it was a rat run and that she and the Beat Officer were planning to carry out a street mapping exercise to establish what the residents would like to see done to help alleviate this problem.*
- *Suggestions that might be considered to help solve this problem are; making the road one way or blocking it off at one end.*

RESOLVED – THAT AN INFORMAL MEETING BE ARRANGED WITH THE BEAT OFFICER, PCSO, RESIDENT OF MARY ROSE AVENUE AND MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL TO DISCUSS MEASURES WHICH MAY BE INTRODUCED TO CONTROL TRAFFIC SPEED IN MARY ROSE AVENUE.

**09/085. Station Road - Response from the IW Council further to the pavement mounting and speeding problems.**

The IW Council Highways Engineer has now responded to the Parish Council's comments further to traffic overrun problems in Station Road as follows:-

- Lowering the speed will not alter this problem.
- New speed data recording equipment is due to be installed in Station Road in April. After reviewing the up to date data from this, consideration will be given to the installation of an additional speed reactive sign in this area.
- The road does not meet the criteria for a speed camera.
- In the next financial year some passively safe bollards will be installed where possible on this section of footway (bearing in mind they must be set back from the kerb by 500mm)
- The request for the Park Road Scheme to be again considered has been passed on to the relevant Highways Engineer.
- The IW Council will continue to monitor the area and if the problem still exists, will consider what necessary action can be taken to meet its obligation for the safe passing of vehicles on this section of Strategic Highway.

*Public comments included:-*

- *It was commented that the IW Council has more interest in keeping traffic moving rather than safety of pedestrians.*

**09/086. New Road - Speed limits/bollards update.**

There has been no further information received to date but this matter will be pursued by the Local Member.

At this point attention was drawn to the situation around the legalities of the 10mph speed limit in New Road. It was suggested that the limit be increased to 20mph.

**09/087. The Bridge - Proposed bridge improvements including a possible pedestrian crossing outside Sloop - Update.**

The proposed cycleway over the Bridge has recently been considered again by the IW Council. The present draft scheme is for a cycle track on the south side of the highway using an increased width path plus dropped kerbs at Lakeside and Bridge House. The Clerk explained to Highways that the Parish Council has also raised the need for a pedestrian crossing in this vicinity. As a result the matter is being explored further and the Parish Council will be informed accordingly.

During ensuing discussion it was urged that the Parish Council pushes for a cycleway on the north side of the Bridge. Attention was drawn to the amount of traffic coming out of the Lakeside Hotel and that the Plane tree impairs visibility. Some form of notice or warning is required.

*Public comments included:-*

- *Fishbourne Parish Council would support a pedestrian crossing on the Bridge.*

10. PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AT CREEK GARDENS.

**09/088. To inform members of information received regarding the Public Open Space at Creek Gardens.**

Members had been informed in advance of information received from the IW Council appertaining to the public open space at Creek Gardens as follows in summary:-

- The space should have been dedicated as open space by the developer and it should remain so.
- There are no requirements to have this area maintained except that access should be provided to members of the public.
- Until such time as Legal has confirmation that the reserved matters were granted then it cannot be said conclusively that the agreement takes effect.
- A land registry search will be undertaken to ascertain if this covenant has been registered.

Subsequently Planning has been contacted and the original permission was implemented so the agreement appears binding. However an original or certified copy has not been located so it is still unlikely that the IW Council could fully enforce the agreement. If the agreement is registered however this may allow IW Council to enforce.

It was then mentioned that Land Registry is keen to help Parish Councils register land and that they could be contacted for assistance with this matter.

**At this point it was agreed to take the following urgent item:-**

10a. RECREATION GROUND COACH PARKING ON MATCH DAYS.

**09/089.** Representations have been received regarding coaches blocking the car park in the recreation ground on match days. It was suggested that the coaches drop off only in the car park and not stay for the duration of the match. PCSO Katy Berry, who was present, agreed to take this matter up with the Rugby Club.

11. PUMP LANE IMPROVEMENT WORKS.

Progress report and to agree the cost of installing the bollards.

**09/090.** The seat and picnic table have now been purchased and are due to be installed within the next few weeks. The bollards are due to be installed and will cost £400 which is within the budget allowed.

A working party will be meeting on 6 May 2009 to install the seat and picnic table and the associated materials will cost approximately £70.00.

**RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL APPROVES THE PRICE RECEIVED OF £400 FOR INSTALLATION OF THE BOLLARDS AND £70.00 FOR THE COSTS OF MATERIALS ASSOCIATED WITH INSTALLING THE SEAT AND PICNIC TABLE.**

12. VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP/REGENERATION - PROGRESS REPORTS.

**09/091. Sports and Fitness Centre.**

The letter of intent regarding the lease of the land is still awaited from IW Council. The Football Foundation will be visiting the Association on 7 May 2009. The Association will meet once every two months. It will probably be formed as a company limited by guarantee and it must obtain charitable status which will open up more funding streams. The association is now looking for patrons.

**09/092. Party in the Park.**

A meeting is due to be held tomorrow and an update will be given at the next meeting.

**09/093. Wootton Bridge Plan latest news.**

All the comments submitted at the Open Day have now been collated and are being analysed. The School and Youth Club have since been contacted asking for general views and comments on the future of the village and these will be incorporated into the first draft plan. A progress report will be given at the next Partnership meeting, due to be held on Tuesday 5 May 2009, and it is hoped that some suggestions will be put forward as to how the findings can be displayed at the Party in the Park in July.

13. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

**09/094. IWALC Executive.**

Members had been provided in advance with a written report of the IWALC meeting held on 19 March 2009 a copy of which forms **APPENDIX A** of these minutes.

**09/095. Youth Club and to inform members of the Youth Opportunities Fund & Youth Capital Fund.**

Councillor R Ashley had reported via email that the last meeting had been productive and the Club is going to increase the provision for junior nights which are proving quite popular. It is hoped that the Youth Club will be involved with Party in the Park.

**Any other meetings.**

**09/096. Woodside Residents Association.**

Several members of the Parish Council had attended and the main business had been the state of New Road. Attention was also drawn to the latest plans which are due to be submitted for the extensions to the Woodside Nursing Home, which could include a partial upgrade of the road.

14. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

**09/097. St Mark's Church.**

Details of centenary events.

**09/098. Election 2009 – Guidance notes on publicity.**

Information emailed to members regarding publicity during the run up to the elections.

**09/099. IWRCC.**

News and information available at HIC including information on new Community Support Teams.

**09/100. IW County Training Partnership.**

Training calendar up to July 2009.

**09/101. Public Sector Equality Duties.**

Information received from the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

**09/102. Cycle Rack Locations.**

Information received from IW Council asking for suitable locations for cycle racks. It was suggested that the area near the chip shop be submitted as a possible site, given that there was a cycle rack there in the past and also a rack for Brannon Way car park.

15. ACCOUNTS.

To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

**09/103.** Members were presented with the accounts for payment a copy of which forms **APPENDIX B** of these minutes.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS PRESENTED AS **APPENDIX B** TO THESE MINUTES BE PAID.

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

**09/104.** Matters for next agenda:-

**Creekside Open Space.**

At this point concern was voiced over vandalism to the trees in the recreation ground. Also members were reminded of the election and that nomination papers must be submitted by 4 May 2009.

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