

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 20 APRIL 2010 AT 7.00PM IN WOOTTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD, WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present : Councillor Ken Morris Chairman
Councillor Steve Porter Vice Chairman
Councillors Barry Abraham Brian Ballard Dick Doran Barrie Hailstone Peter Mundell
Roy Murphy Miss Sarah Fulford Rob Ashley

Also present: 3 Members of the public
1 Member of the press
PCSO Katy Berry
Linda Shorter Environment & Neighbourhood Officer
Mrs L Smith Parish Clerk
Ms Val Cooper Acting Parish Clerk

Matters raised during the Open Forum

- Responsibility and condition of the footpath near The Sloop. The footpath is overgrown and bottles and bags of rubbish have been left there.
The Neighbourhood & Environment Officer was at the meeting and said she would take up this matter.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

10/132. Due to an IW Council commitment, Councillor B Abraham would not be attending until later in the meeting.

2. MINUTES.

10/133. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 MARCH 2010 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

10/134. Councillor D Doran personal and prejudicial:
Matters which may be raised relating to Tesco Express.
Councillor R Murphy personal and prejudicial:
Matters which may be raised regarding the WICI due to sharing the same web designer.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Progress reports only.

10/135. Creek Gardens (Minute 10/099)

Councillors had been emailed on 21 March 2010 about the frontage area of public land. Information was given at the meeting about an offer of help regarding this land which is to be followed up.

10/136. Chinese Visit (Minute 10/115)

Representatives from the Parish Council attended Wootton Bridge Primary School to present the picture of Wootton Bridge to the Chinese delegate. The children put on a very entertaining show during their morning assembly which was enjoyed by all.

10/137. Recreation Ground Toilets (Minute 10/110)

The asbestos survey had been looked at. On contacting a local builder the advice given was that it will be expensive to renovate the existing toilets. A quotation had also been sought for a modular toilet. Costs and available funding is an issue and it was felt this matter needed to go on the agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting in May to decide on the way forward.

10/138. Playground seating and statue (Minute 10/096)

The bin has now been erected at the new playground. The dog sign is still awaited, which is being designed by the children of Wootton Primary School. It was reported at the meeting that the new bin has not been emptied. The Environment & Neighbourhood Officer was present at the meeting and said she would follow this up.

10/139. Lloyds Bank Building (Minute 10/097)

Councillor B Abraham reported on this when he arrived later in the meeting. The bank building is currently up for sale, with a business being very keen to purchase it. It is a Grade 2 Listed Building, with the planning officers not being in support of the building being pulled down and rebuilt. Councillor Abraham had been given the opportunity to see inside the building and was shocked at its condition. Councillor Abraham would like to see the building developed as a business but felt it was more likely to become residential.

10/140. Purchase of Marquee (Minute 10/114)

The purchase of the marquee is in hand, with competitive prices still being sought.

10/141. Help & Information Centre / Isle of Wight Council helpdesk (Minute 10/133)

The future use of the space at the Help and Information Centre is still being considered. The reduction in the IOW Council service remains a concern for villagers, as well as for the Parish Council staff at the HIC.

10/142. Proposal for the Community Wind Turbine (Minute 10/054)

No further information has been received as yet.

5. PLANNING.

To comment on the following applications:-

10/143. P/00436/10 TCP/ 28910/A

Alterations; conservatory; single storey extension to provide additional living accommodation; Proposed dormer windows on front and rear elevations; replacement porch (revised scheme)
72 High Street, Wootton Bridge

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION
P/00436/10 TCP/28910/A

10/144. P/00460/10 TCP/29743/A

Proposed construction of pontoon/landing stage to include associated piling works.

Creek Cottage, New Road, Wootton Bridge

The applicant made contact with Natural England who indicated they would probably object to this application due to the issue of worms and birds. The only concern raised at the meeting was the need for this pontoon to be no longer than the adjacent pontoon.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION
P/00460/10 TCP/29743/A

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

10/145. P/00320/10 TCP/03925/J

Demolition of detached garage/store; alterations; single storey side extension to form additional living accommodation to include hobby room within roofspace; conservatory; car port/log store.

Oakhanger, Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge

Members were informed that this property is outside the Village Development Envelope. An application in January 2008 was refused by reason of position, size, design, appearance and incursion into the countryside amongst other things. This latest application is for a single storey extension. Concern was again raised about the property being outside the Village Development Envelope but to counter this the size of the land is considerable and it is not a new build.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION
P/00320/10 TCP/03925/J

10/146. P/00483/10 TCP/00886/M

Two detached houses with parking.

Land at and rear of 25 and 27 High Street, Wootton Bridge.

Members were informed that the Parish Council registered objections to an application for a terrace of 3 houses on this site in December 2007 on the grounds that the proposal constitutes overdevelopment of the site and gives rise to an undesirable arrangement of the buildings. The application was refused and then subsequently dismissed at appeal. Another application for a revised scheme for a pair of semi-detached houses was subsequently approved, although the Parish Council did register objections on the grounds that the proposal constituted overdevelopment of the site and would give rise to an undesirable arrangement of the buildings. Also, the Wootton Bridge Village Design Statement advises that new builds should strictly respect the scale of the setting.

Although concern was raised at the meeting regarding this new application, on the grounds of it adversely affecting the business fronting the site, the majority of members felt the application should be approved, with it being on a large plot of land.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00483/10 TCP/00886/M

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

10/147. Decisions.

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

P/00167/10 TCP/18086/F - Approved

P/00066/10 TCP/00090/C – Approved

P/00135/10 TCP/04906/C – Approved

P/00128/10 TCP/29623/A – Approved

P/01822/09 TCP/02342/F – Approved

P/00212/10 – TCP/02429/U – Approved

P/00169/10 – TCP/29905/B – Approved

10/148. Tree Preservation Order

TPO/1990/15 – Oaklands, New Road, Wootton Bridge

6. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

10/149. To welcome the Youth Club Leader and Members to the meeting and to discuss youth issues in the village.

There was no one present from the Youth Club.

7. WOOTTON WICI.

10/150. Progress report including community involvement so far.

The WICI had been discussed at the recent Village Partnership meeting, with people being asked to write up items for the content. There is another Village Partnership meeting on Monday 26 April 2010 when information to be included on the WICI will be received. The bulk of the computer hardware has been ordered and delivered, with the WICI scheduled to go live by the end of May with interactive material.

10/151. To inform Parish Councillors of how they can be involved in the content development.

In the various interactive forums of the WICI, individual councillors were requested to post some information on to the site on the area they have been asked to take responsibility for, on either a weekly or monthly basis. It was agreed that a monthly contribution was a good idea and members will be reminded of this on a monthly basis.

8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS.

Update following the Highways meeting on 19 March 2010.

10/152. Community Speed Watch

Four volunteers have come forward to far, with four more required as Community Speed Watch cannot be progressed unless there are eight volunteers.

A complaint had been made to a member about road safety in New Road. This had already been discussed at the meeting with Highways and it was agreed to take this issue up with Highways again. The issue of coaches mounting the pavement in New Road was also raised. PGL have a Code of Conduct with the coach companies and Councillor R Ashley requested he be notified if this reoccurs.

Woodside Nursing Home was raised at this point as New Road is deteriorating significantly and it is understood that there was a condition in the planning application for the nursing home that they had to maintain the condition of the road. This is being followed up with the Planning Office.

10/153. Highways Issues associated with speeding in Station Road and Mary Rose Avenue

The intelligent sign in Station Road has not yet been moved. Highways say that once they have access to the budget for this they will get the sign relocated.

10/154. Harwoods Crossing

- A new, internally lit, illuminated warning sign is to be erected on the westbound approach to the crossing by Highways.
- Highways are liaising with the Road Safety Engineer to see if any other authorities have experienced similar visibility difficulties with a zebra crossing and if so what remedial works they carried out.
- A night time safety audit will be undertaken by Highways.

10/155. 20 m.p.h. Policy

Highways are forwarding on a request regarding support for a local policy that promotes the introduction of a 20 m.p.h. speed limit in all residential areas.

Other Highways Issues as follows:-

10/156. Brocks Copse Road. Following the concerns raised by residents to report on the speed check carried out recently.

On contacting Highways, the information is that no speed check has been carried out recently. Concern was raised about traffic and speed increasing in Brocks Copse Road. A traffic count will be requested.

10/157. S106 Funding regarding traffic improvements – to inform members of information received.

Regarding advice received to apply for S106 funding for improvements that might be needed in Brannon Way and the surrounding roads in connection with the new Doctor's Surgery, the Planning Officer at the Isle of Wight Council has advised that such a contribution would not be reasonable given the size of the development.

At this point Councillor R Murphy raised the following matter:-

10/158. Meeting at Fishbourne regarding the Island Plan

Councillor R Murphy is to attend the meeting at Seaclose as an observer about the joint presentation to the inspector about the ferry associated issues/Island Plan Core Strategy. He will report back at the next Parish Council Meeting.

9. PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE REVIEW

10/159. To receive the Parish Clerk's report on the quotes obtained for the Parish Council insurance.

Having looked at the quotations again from the Parish Council's existing insurer and a specialist Parish Council Insurer, the specialist company is more competitive and has offered a 5% reduction for a three year binding agreement, with the only increase being the sums assured being index linked.

10/160. To agree which insurance company to use, to be effective from the renewal date of the 1st June 2010.

It was agreed that the quotation from the specialist Parish Council Insurer is competitive, although the possibility of an increased discount for the three year binding agreement will be requested. The cover is the same and even bettered over the existing insurer under some areas of the policy.

RESOLVED – THAT THE INSURANCE COMPANY FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE CHANGED TO CAME AND CO WITH EFFECT FROM 1 JUNE 2010, WHICH IS THE PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE RENEWAL DATE.

10. BIFFA – KERBSIDE COLLECTION

10/161. To inform members of representations from residents in Red Road who have been advised that their refuse will not be collected unless they take this to the junction of the High Street or the junction at the other end of the road. The council are visiting Red Road on 12 April to give their final decision.

On telephoning the Isle of Wight Council it seems that the refuse collector will be going down Red Road. The comprehensive document about where to put refuse has not been received by all householders. Copies of this document will be made available at the Help & Information Centre. The issue of vermin was brought up, with residents being required to clean up any of their own rubbish which may be scattered by rodents etc.

11. DOG POO BAGS

10/162. To consider whether the Parish Council wish to provide dog poo bags around the village, following the Environment and Neighbourhood Officer's advice that dog bags are no longer to be provided in the dispensers.

Dog poo bags cost £16.00 per box. The general feeling was that people should take responsibility for their dogs and purchase their own bags. Also as the Pet Shop sells dog poo bags the Parish Council did not want to set itself up in competition.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL NOT PROVIDE DOG POO BAGS.

12. VILLAGE SIGN

10/163. To inform members of advice received regarding the Wootton Bridge sign that was sited on the Bridge being beyond renovation.

The Parish Council has been advised that the existing sign is rotten and beyond repair.

10/164. To consider the possibility of reproducing the sign in glass fibre, further to investigations made by the Clerk.

The Clerk took the sign to see if it could be reproduced in glass fibre. Unfortunately this is not possible due to its poor condition. After some discussion it was stated that an attempt will be made to contact the original sign maker to see if they can assist.

13. NEW ROAD – AREA AROUND THE RIVERSIDE WORKS

10/165. To inform members of concerns that have been raised by local residents regarding extra traffic congestion in the vicinity of the junction with St Edmunds Walk and New Road.

There are significant concerns about parked cars outside the garage that has started up at the Riverside Works. This is making it dangerous to see past parked cars as well as preventing people getting in and out of their houses. Although the yellow lines that were removed at the time of the road works will be reinstated this will not solve the issue as cars are being parked on yellow lines and the pavement. PCSO Katy Berry will look into this matter. The issue of a possible "change of use" at the Riverside Works is also being investigated with Planning.

Councillor B Abraham joined the meeting at 8.19 p.m.

14. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

10/166. IWALC Executive.

Councillor D Doran had attended two IWALC meetings. The matters he brought to the meeting's attention were:-

- Train the Trainers with an expert from the National Association in view of the ending of the Tripartite Agreement with the Isle of Wight Council.
- The presentation to IWALC regarding Conservation Management.
- The AGM of IWALC set for 17th of June in Newport (venue to be decided). This is open to all and Astrid Davies, lead officer in the Island Plan, will be addressing the meeting.
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10/167. To endorse the Minutes of the Village Partnership meeting held on 26 January 2010. (Appendix A)

RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2010, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE ENDORSED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL.

10/168. Wootton Fairway Association.

The Fairway Association is seeing the Portsmouth Queens Harbour on 5 May 2010. Councillor B Ballard will report back to the next meeting on this.

10/169. Fishbourne Parish Council Meeting.

Councillor R Murphy referred to the presentation on the PFI last week as well as the video presentation by the Police and was impressed at the projector they had. He felt this would be useful for Wootton Bridge Parish Council to consider.

10/170. Youth Service Review.

Councillor B Abraham felt that in a couple of months there will be more information available on where the Youth Service is going. A decision can then be made on how to help the youth in the village.

15. CORRESPONDENCE
For information only:-

10/171. NALC (National Association of Local Councils).

Information received from NALC about the new power for Local Councils to boost affordable rural housing.

10/172. Rural Community Council.

Information received from the Rural Community Council giving an update on voluntary and community sector support service. The RCC is exploring all possible funding sources and will keep us informed of new initiatives and opportunities as they arise.

10/173. Information from the Energy Savings Trust about joining Green Communities.

This gives support to community groups who want to tackle climate change by running their own projects. Membership is free to Parish Councils and their groups.

10/174. Isle of Wight Shoreline Plan Review. The Isle of Wight Shoreline Management Plan Review was held on 19th April. Unfortunately no one came forward to attend. This meeting was to outline plans for public consultation on the draft plan in the summer 2010.

16. ACCOUNTS

10/175. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS PRESENTED TOTALLING £13,313.89, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX “B” OF THESE MINUTES, BE APPROVED.

10/176. To review the Parish Council’s internal audit procedure

This needs to be looked at within the next couple of weeks. A committee of any three Councillors will be set up to look at this.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLORS B BALLARD, K MORRIS AND S PORTER WILL REVIEW THE PARISH COUNCIL’S INTERNAL AUDIT PROCEDURE.

TO RECEIVE ANY ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA.

10/177. No items were received.

At this point Councillor B Abraham gave his report for the Annual Parish Meeting, which he had not been able to attend.

17. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

10/178. Councillor B Abraham provided a verbal report.

A copy of Councillor B Abraham’s report forms APPENDIX C of these minutes.

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

Signed

Date