

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 18 JANUARY 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: 6 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press
PC Nick Massey
Val Cooper Parish Clerk
Julie Woodhouse) Trading Standards
Sue Hughes)

Matters raised during the Open Forum

- No matters were raised in the Open Forum.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

11/001. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rob Ashley.

2. MINUTES.

11/002. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2010 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

11/003. Councillor R Murphy declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to the WICI.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

11/004. Community Wind Turbine (10/470)

The local landowner is not yet in a position to provide further information on this matter.

11/005. Overhanging hedges, bushes and shrubs (10/490)

An officer from the Rights of Way department of the Isle of Wight Council will be walking all of the footpaths between Cowes and Seaview and will serve notices on householders where hedges and shrubs are not being cut back.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following planning applications:-

11/006. P/01868/10 TCP/00043/N

Woodside House, Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge

Demolition of detached garage, proposed detached building to form garden room, utility room and garden store.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION P/01868/10 TCP/00043/N.

11/007. P/01690/10 TCP/28080/J

Land to rear of Courtlands, Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge

Pontoon.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION P/01690/10 TCP/28080/J

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

11/008. No other planning applications had been received.

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

11/009. Decisions

Members were informed of the following decisions received since the last meeting.
P/01597/10 TCPL/00922/N – Approved.
P/01595/10 LBC/00922/M – Listed Building Consent

6. NO COLD CALLING ZONE

11/010. Presentation by Trading Standards regarding the possibility of making Wootton Bridge a No Cold Calling Zone.

The representatives from Trading Standards explained the merits of an area being a No Cold Calling Zone. The whole idea of the scheme is to protect householders and encourage them to follow advice given and report cold callers.

RESOLVED – THAT THE IDEA FOR MAKING AREAS OF WOOTTON BRIDGE A NO COLD CALLING ZONE WOULD BE PUT FORWARD TO THE VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP MEETING ON 25 JANUARY 2011.

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

11/011. Report by Local Member

- Isle of Wight Council are going through their budgets, which will have an impact on the Parish Council, such as their plans to close the toilets in Brannon Way.
- The issue of road conditions was raised, with the Local Member reporting that the Isle of Wight Council have a policy of Patch and Repair until the PFI money becomes available. A new type of tarmac was mentioned, which the Local Member will take up with Highways.
- Progress regarding the Medical Centre was raised and it seems this is progressing and money has been released by the PCT.

7A. NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PANEL

11/012. PC Massey referred to his email (sent to members on 20 December 2010). The Neighbourhood Action Panel will concentrate on three priorities to be taken forward, with the aim being to try and address community issues.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLOR MURPHY WILL BE THE PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSIBLE FOR REPORTING BACK THREE PRIORITIES TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PANEL.

8. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

11/013. To investigate ways of keeping the old school building in New Road open for the community

There is still uncertainty about the Isle of Wight Council's plans for the old school building. It is hoped that this building can be kept open if it is deemed surplus to requirements, with funding needing to be explored.

RESOLVED – THAT EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO KEEP THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING OPEN FOR THE COMMUNITY IF THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL DEEM THIS SURPLUS TO REQUIREMENTS.

11/014. To inform members of the plans for putting the Youth Club funds into a separate reserve account of the Parish Council for the benefit of the young people in the village

With the uncertainty regarding the future of the Youth Club it is important that the monies raised by members are kept for youth activities in the village as this is not Isle of Wight Council money.

RESOLVED – THAT THE YOUTH CLUB FUNDS WILL BE PLACED INTO A SEPARATE RESERVE ACCOUNT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE, IF THIS IS THE DECISION OF THE YOUTH CLUB COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

9. PROPOSED TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT JUNCTION OF HIGH STREET & NEW ROAD AND RESULTANT REMOVAL OF LAYBY.

11/015. Progress report by Local Member.

Correspondence had been received confirming that the Isle of Wight Council no longer require signalisation of the junction at New Road/High Street or removal of the layby. They will be pursuing other solutions to improve the visibility at this junction. David Moore, a local resident, had been extremely helpful in resolving this matter due to his knowledge and expertise.

RESOLVED – THAT DAVID MOORE WOULD BE SENT A LETTER THANKING HIM FOR HIS HELP WITH RESOLVING THE ISSUE OF THE PROPOSED TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT THE JUNCTION OF THE HIGH STREET AND NEW ROAD.

10. IMPACT OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL BUDGET CUTS ON SERVICES IN THE VILLAGE.

11/016. To consider the impact of the Isle of Wight Council's decision to close the toilets in the village square and ways of keeping these open. Also to discuss any other cuts in service known at this time.

Residents spoken to had been unanimous in wanting the toilets in the village square to be kept open, even though this would have an impact on the precept. The Parish Council had sent in their expression of interest about taking on the toilets now the Isle of Wight Council have deemed the toilets surplus to their requirements. The Parish Council are in the process of investigating buying into the cleaning and maintenance contracts currently in place at the Isle of Wight Council.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL NEED TO TAKE OVER THE TOILETS IN BRANNON WAY WHEN THE ISLE OF WIGHT CEASE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM FROM THE 1ST APRIL 2011.

- THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE INVESTIGATING HOW TO BUY INTO THE CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS CURRENTLY IN PLACE FOR THE TOILETS,

11. PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT 2011/2012

11/017. To consider the budget estimates submitted for 2011/12

Members attending the meetings at the HIC on 9 December 2010 and 11 January 2011 had been provided in advance with the budget estimates. These had been subject to considerable discussion due to the cuts in service by the Isle of Wight Council and the resultant cost to the Parish Council, with it being important to keep adequate reserves.

11/018. To agree the council tax precept for 2011/12.

The recommendation from the meeting held on 11 January 2011 was that the precept should be set at £57,800. This is an increase of £10,000 and is based on the Parish Council taking on the toilets in the village square, with the exact cost being unknown at this time. A precept of £57,800 results in an increase of 12 pence per week for a Band D household. If the toilets do not cost as much as this then an adjustment could be made to the precept for 2012/2013, once a reserve has been set aside for any unforeseen maintenance issues.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL RELUCTANTLY HAVE TO PUT THE PRECEPT UP TO £57,800 TO COVER THE COST OF KEEPING THE TOILETS OPEN IN THE VILLAGE SQUARE.

12. HIGHWAY ISSUES

11/019. To discuss any outstanding Highway issues.

• Wootton Traffic Order - Now that the situation regarding the proposed traffic lights at the junction of New Road/High Street has been resolved another meeting needs to be held at the Help & Information Centre to progress the Wootton Traffic Order regarding yellow lining in the village. Once this meeting has been held a meeting will be requested with Highways. Yellow lines in Rectory Drive and Station Road (near Gravel Pit Road) need to be looked at again.

RESOLVED – THAT THE SMALL GROUP WHO MET BEFORE WILL MEET AGAIN TO PROGRESS THE WOOTTON TRAFFIC ORDER.

- THAT THE CLERK WOULD CONTACT HIGHWAYS AFTER THE SMALL GROUP HAD MET TO ARRANGE A MEETING SO THAT THE WOOTTON TRAFFIC ORDER COULD BE TAKEN FORWARD.

Cont'd

- Harwoods Crossing – The illuminated sign has not yet been installed by Highways.
RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD APPROACH HIGHWAYS TO SEE WHEN THE ILLUMINATED SIGN WAS GOING TO BE INSTALLED.

13. QUEEN ELIZABETH 11 FIELDS CHALLENGE

11/020. To consider whether to participate in the network of 2012 permanently protected outdoor recreational spaces that are being created to mark her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics.

This Challenge is being led by its Patron, Prince William, as a permanent, tangible, grassroots legacy from these events. The target of 2,012 sites is targeted at town and parish councils every bit as much as the higher tier Local Authorities.

RESOLVED – THAT A WATCHING BRIEF WILL BE KEPT ON THE QUEEN ELIZABETH 11 FIELDS CHALLENGE FOR MORE INFORMATION SO THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL CAN DECIDE WHETHER THIS IS SOMETHING THEY WISH TO PURSUE.

14. RISK ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING REGIME

11/021. To review the Parish Council Risk Assessments.

This is an annual procedural matter. The Clerk has looked at the Risk Assessments and Monitoring Regime which are largely unchanged from the review carried out last January.

Members were then asked to sanction the Risk Assessments for 2011.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL GO THROUGH ALL THE PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENTS WITH THE CHAIRMAN WHO WILL THEN SIGN THEM OFF.

11/022. To review the monitoring regime in respect of the following:-

- Parish Council land
- Seats and litter bins.

Larry Laws, past Parish Councillor, has again volunteered to monitor the Parish Council land's seats and bins in connection with Health & Safety.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL LIAISE WITH LARRY LAWS IN RESPECT OF THE ONGOING HEALTH AND SAFETY MONITORING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL LAND, SEATS AND LITTER BINS.

- Help and Information Centre.

The assistant Parish Clerk has carried out the regular checks required in respect of Health & Safety at the Help and Information Centre.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ASSISTANT PARISH CLERK WILL CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY MONITORING REGIME AT THE HIC.

15. VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP – PROGRESS REPORT

11/023. Christmas Festival

It was reported that the festival had been a success, although snow on the Saturday resulted in not as many people turning out as last year. This had an impact on the raffle and refreshment donations which raised just over £120 which will be put towards next year's Christmas Festival. A full report will be in the February edition of The Bridge. The Village Partnership meeting on the 25th January 2011 will be reviewing the success of the event and considering any improvements that can be made for this year's festival.

RESOLVED – THAT THE VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP WILL REVIEW THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2011 CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL.

11/024. Next date of the Village Partnership Meeting

Members were reminded of the date of the next Partnership Meeting due to be held on Tuesday 25 January 2011 at 7.00 p.m. at the Help and Information Centre.

16. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

11/025. IWALC Executive.

Meetings had been held with the Chief Executive and Leader of the Isle of Wight Council regarding the budget cuts. There is an IWALC meeting on 20 January to coordinate Town & Parish Councils and an IWALC Workshop has been set for 26 January at the Riverside Centre. This is an open invitation and members' attendance was requested where possible.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD EMAIL INFORMATION TO MEMBERS

11/026. Biffa Waste

The member who attended the Biffa Waste meeting had nothing to report back to the Parish Council.

17. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

11/027. Royal British Legion Great Poppy Party Weekend

A letter and brochure had been received encouraging individuals and groups to hold Poppy Parties across the nation over the weekend of 10th – 12th June 2011. As this is close to the Party in the Park on 16th July 2011 a letter has been sent to the RBL inviting them to have a stall for the poppy appeal.

11/028. Little Herons Pre-School

Email received from the Head Teacher at the Primary School to say they are looking to recruit three new directors for Little Herons Pre-School. (Information emailed to members 18.1.11).

18. ACCOUNTS.

11/029. To consider and approve the accounts for payment

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS PRESENTED TOTALLING £3,192.79 BE PAID, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS **APPENDIX A** OF THESE MINUTES.

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

11/030. Items to be included on the next agenda:-

- QE Fields Challenge
- Diamond Jubilee – should there be a Street Party? (This is to be taken to the Village Partnership for discussion).

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.

20. STAFF MATTERS

11/031. To approve the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2010.

RESOLVED – THAT THE EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2011 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

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

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