

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 19 JULY 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, Pete Mundell

Also present: 5 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press
Val Cooper Parish Clerk
Peter Vail)
Jim Lowe) Isle of Wight Steam Railway
Steve Castle)
Di Ackers)

Matters raised during the Open Forum

- Councillor R Murphy thanked Councillor Ken Morris (Chairman) for the work he had put in to the Island Games.
- Lynda Smith, previous Parish Clerk, thanked the Parish Council for the opportunity of attending the Royal Garden Party. This was in recognition of her past services to the local community.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

11/247. Apologies for absence were received from PC Nick Massey and Councillors Rob Ashley & Sarah Fulford.

2. MINUTES.

11/248. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE 2011 BE CORRECTED AT 11/224 TO READ:-

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. Councillor Hailstone raised a point of contention that advice given to Councillor Abraham by Peter Hayward was inaccurate.

11/249. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE 2011, AS CORRECTED, BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

11/250. Councillor R Murphy declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to the WICI.

Councillor B Abraham declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to the Youth Service reorganisation.

Councillor S Porter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Brannons Tea Room and in matters relating to Natural Enterprises.

Councillor D Doran declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to Wootton Common when discussing the Isle of Wight Steam Railway.

4. STEAM RAILWAY 40TH ANNIVERSARY APPEAL FOR WOOTTON STATION

11/251. Presentation from the Isle of Wight Steam Railway regarding plans for the historic rebuild of Wootton Station.

The team from the Steam Railway talked about their 40th Anniversary Appeal for Wootton Station. They want to replace the current station buildings on a like for like basis but

portraying the Isle of Wight Central Railway of the late 1800s. Of the £40,000 needed around £15,000 has been raised so far. There is an opportunity for funding from the Natural Enterprise. If the Steam Railway are successful in their 40th Anniversary Appeal it is hoped that work can be completed for March 2012.

Wootton Station has been neglected and there is a lack of awareness about its existence. Due to these factors the majority of visitors are doing a round trip ending up at Havenstreet Station rather than disembarking at Wootton. A small working group from the Parish Council met after the last Parish Council meeting to look at ways of giving people an interesting way of getting into the village and places for them to visit.

Wootton Station is not keeping pace with the rest of the Steam Railway. The platform is too short, limiting the size of train that can come to Wootton, and needs to be extended. The large locomotives gifted to the Steam Railway, currently under restoration, would not be able to be shunted around without this extension. It was pointed out that Wootton Station is a public site, with there being statute limits on what can be done. It is hoped to work with local residents so that they feel this site is part of the community. A suggestion was made to set up a group called Friends of Wootton Station, with an Open Evening to be held at Havenstreet Station sometime in August, possibly transporting interested parties from Wootton by train.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL SUPPORT THE STEAM RAILWAY'S PLANS FOR WOOTTON STATION AND WILL OFFER ASSISTANCE IN THE GRANT FUNDING APPLICATION.

5. VILLAGE PLAN

11/252. To formally approve the new Village Plan.

An Action Plan was included at the back of the Village Plan based on previous public consultations and will need to be reviewed annually. Lynda Smith (previous Parish Clerk) was thanked for her work on completing this Village Plan.

The Village Plan was showcased at Party in the Park on 16 July 2011. The majority of people spoken to felt it was a good idea to have a plan. The work carried out in the village to date will stand Wootton Bridge in good stead when deciding what is required in the village over the next decade.

RESOLVED – THAT THE VILLAGE PLAN BE APPROVED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL.
- THAT THE APPROVED VILLAGE PLAN BE SENT TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL PLANNING DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR COMMENTS.

6. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

11/253. Play area at the Recreation Ground – progress on grant funding application.
(Minute 11/234.)

The grant funding application was sent to Awards for All on 16 June. A letter had been received confirming they will shortly be starting their assessment.

11/254. Toilets at Brannon Way (Minute 11/225.)

The cleaning contract had been returned to the IW Council. This is for a total of £1,800.57. The Solicitor had sent the Parish Council the draft lease with suggested changes and a report on the lease. Both of these had been read and a letter was sent back to the Solicitor requesting they go ahead with the completion of the lease.

11/255. Erosion of the frontage at the holiday park site at Woodside (Minute 11/235.)

Representatives of the Parish Council had a site meeting with Andrew Turner (local MP) on 17 June 2011. Mr Turner subsequently met with the agent (Christopher Scott) when they engaged in a useful discussion about the current situation and the ongoing negotiations with the Isle of Wight Council and Natural England. Mr Scott is to draw Andrew Turner into the negotiations, particularly with Natural England, a little further down the line.

The local member had met the agents of the new owners (Darwins) as well as Natural England. He had also met with Mr Marsden from the Isle of Wight Council Coastal Protection Department on site. At this site meeting there was a useful conversation about the slipway and the need to retain this as a local amenity and to see what could be done to protect the sides from erosion. Mr Marsden was quite receptive to the slipway remaining as he was aware of how long a slipway had been in place. There are issues with the other protective measures required. If these are not put in then the erosion is likely to go round behind the slipway. Natural England and Coastal Protection want to retain this part of the north Wight coast as natural as possible. Natural England are a consultee who have considerable powers and whilst the Isle of Wight Council can look to them for advice and take this into account, they can override this, although Natural England could pursue this further.

Councillor Hailstone felt this was contradictory information. He referred to Natural England's dictate to allow coastal erosion to occur and for precautionary measures to protect property not being allowed, whilst in Holland there are huge dykes in place that are increasing in size with permission from the EU. He felt this pointed to double standards and felt there was a need to put pressure on the Isle of Wight Council and anyone else involved to protect the interests of Wootton residents. Councillor Mundell pointed out that 400 yards along the coast a wall was rebuilt and boulders were put in place to hold the shore back. The local member was to take up this issue with the Isle of Wight Council.

11/256. Island Plan Core Strategy Submission (Minute 11/214.)

The Island Plan Core Strategy was submitted to the Secretary of State on the 24th June 2011 for a public examination. The public examination is likely to occur in September 2011.

11/257. Community Payback Scheme (Minute 11/237.)

Linda Shorter (Isle of Wight Council) and Jane Swan (Probation) were due to visit the proposed sites on 6 July 2011. This had to be cancelled as Jane was ill and is due to be rescheduled. The volunteers from Kent looking for hard labour projects were interested in carrying out work to the Old School building in New Road. Permission was being sought from the Isle of Wight Council before this could go ahead.

11/258. Party in the Park feedback (Minute 11/238.)

Party in the Park was adversely affected by the wet weather in the morning. Things improved in the afternoon and the stallholders that still attended did fairly well. The evening music/picnic was a great success and was well attended. The raffle made £198.50, which is approximately £100 down on last year. The collection buckets were not a great success. Voluntary donations from stallholders and contributions from attractions were still being collected.

Special thanks were given to Madge and Brian Reeves for their hard work, as well as the other volunteers and Councillors who attended and worked so hard in particularly trying circumstances in the morning. A "wash up" meeting is to be held in the next few weeks to look at what went well on the day and what could be done differently next year. There was disappointment that the Fire Service did not turn up with their Smoke Filled Room. Due to the lack of funds that were collected this year, Doreen Gazey offered to allow her aerial photograph of Wootton to be reprinted for sale. The Clerk will liaise with Doreen about this.

11/259. Wootton Traffic Order (Minute 11/220.)

The plans for the draft traffic order had been advertised in the County Press. The local member reported that the Isle of Wight Council are concerned at the number of requests for yellow lines. Councillor Murphy reported that a comment had been received to say that speed will increase in Rectory Drive due to the planned yellow lines, which the Parish Council had objected to.

11/260. Lettings from the Youth Club building (Minute 11/226.)

The local member had spoken to Councillor Porter about this. There is a meeting with the Youth Service tomorrow when this will be discussed.

11/261. Footpath New Road to the Sloop. (Minute 11/240.)

An email had been received to confirm that Rights of Way will be sorting out this overgrown footpath. They are not sure if the hedgerows belong to houses either side of the footpath and are looking into this. If so it would be the householders' responsibility to cut them back. The only other thing is nesting birds which may mean hedges cannot be cut back until later in the year. The Clerk will chase the situation regarding the footpath as the same thing happened last year.

11/262. Parking on the lane from the Sloop Car Park to the New Road Footpath. (Minute 11/246.)

The Local member was waiting for a reply from Property Services about this.

11/263. Advertising signage in the village (Minute 11/215)

The Clerk was endeavouring to find out how to contact the owner of Bumbles Lane to see if they can address the quality of advertising signage in the village outside Bumbles Lane. Doreen Gazey offered to contact the Clerk with details of the owner of Bumbles.

11/264. Parking on the slipway (Minute 11/221.)

The Clerk had written to the Manager at the Sloop requesting they put up their board about where people can park who are using the Sloop. The local member had an email from IWC to say that the matter of parking on the slipway is currently with the PFI lawyer who is considering whether Highways can adopt slipways outside of the PFI which would then allow them to enforce penalty charge notices. At present nothing can be enforced.

11/265. High Street Signage for the Car Park, Toilets etc. (Minute 11/219)

The Clerk had contacted Highways on 16 June 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. They were also informed that the sign on the other side of the High Street is bent. The Clerk had chased Highways for a response on 8 July 2011 and the local member was also chasing Highways for this information.

11/266. Police Matters

PC Nick Massey was unable to attend the Parish Council meeting. He requested the Clerk advise the meeting that police patrols are being stepped up of parks, beaches etc., now that schools are breaking up. They already pay particular attention all year round to weekend nights. They broke up an underage party at Woodside Beach of about 50 young people and poured away a large quantity of vodka, beers & alcopops. More kayaks had been stolen belonging to PGL. A solution is being sought regarding how to make the kayaks more secure.

11/267. Victorian Fountain (Minute 11/216).

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

11/268. WICI

Councillor D Doran reported that work will be starting on upgrading the WICI, with some of the money budgeted needing to be spent.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following planning applications:-

11/269. P/01884/09 /11 TCP/12446/A

Ivy Hall, Mill Square, Wootton Bridge Alterations; 1st Floor extension to form ensuite bedroom; replacement flat roof over Sun room to pitched; reconstruction of front elevational wall (additional information received - elevations and floor plans received)(readvertised application).

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01884/09 TCP/12446/A.

11/270. P/00744/11 TCP/23052/F

Woodside Farm, Upper Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge

Proposed agricultural workers dwelling; retention of egg packing station, and agricultural building housing nesting boxes and livestock pens; implement store.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00744/11 TCP/23052/F.

11/271. P/00893/11 TCP/30622

7 St Edmunds Walk, Wootton Bridge

Proposed alterations and two storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAVE CONCERNS REGARDING PLANNING APPLICATION P/00893/11 TCP/30622 AS THE BEDROOM WINDOW MAY LOOK INTO THE WINDOWS AT 7 WOODLAND CRESCENT. A LETTER WILL BE SENT TO PLANNING IN THIS RESPECT.

11/272. P/00896/11 TCP/30624

44 High Street, Wootton Bridge

Alterations and extension at 1st floor level on rear elevation to form bedroom with juliet balcony.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION P/00896/11 TCP/30624.

11/273. P/00836/11 TCP/24679/D

Fairlight, Lower Woodside Road

Retention and completion of decking.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION P/00836/11 TCP/24679/D.

11/274. P/00873/11 TCP/30642

7 Woodlands Crescent, Wootton Bridge

Proposed shed in front garden.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION P/00873/11 TCP/30642.

11/275. P/00901/11 TCP/30637

Land at Briddlesford Reserve, Wootton Bridge

Formation of 5 wildlife ponds

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION P/00901/11 TCP/30637 AND WILL WRITE TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL TO SUPPORT THE FORMATION OF 5 WILDLIFE PONDS AT BRIDDLESFORD RESERVE.

11/276. Decisions

P/00534/11 – Approved (Fair Oak Farm)

P/00591/11 – Approved (128 High Street)

P/00557/11 – Approved (Copse end, Lower Woodside Road)

P/01690/10 – Approved (Land to rear of Courtlands – Pontoon)

Concern was raised about P/01690/10 being approved due to its size and position, with objections being sent in prior to approval. Concern was also raised about the approval of the application at Oaklands for a boathouse, with the size of the construction being of concern. It was agreed that a meeting needs to be held with representatives from Wootton Creek Fairway Association prior to speaking to Planning as it seems WCFA are not being notified about planning applications on the Creek.

11/277. Tree Preservation Orders

TPO/1969/3 – Oakfield, Station Road, Wootton Bridge.

8. MONTHLY REPORT OF ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ISSUES AFFECTING THE VILLAGE
Report by Local Member

11/278. New Doctors Surgery – Brannon Way

The Local Member reported that the agreements are now in place between the Isle of Wight Council and the PCT in respect of the new doctors surgery to be built in Brannon Way. It is now down to the committee to release the money.

11/279. Toilets on the Recreation Ground.

The toilets in the Recreation Ground have now been demolished by the Isle of Wight Council at a cost of £3,888. This is a shame as the Parish Council would have liked to renovate these but could not afford the monies required to bring them up to current standards.

11/280. Overgrown Hedges.

The Local member had emailed Peter Hayward for an update of the hedges that were meant to have been cut back. Photographs of hedges still needing to be dealt with were forwarded to Mr Hayward, which he felt related to different properties and one was new. Mr Hayward is to arrange for the Highways Superintendent to go out and inspect the hedges in question. Councillor Hailstone disputed that these are all different properties, with one hedge in particular being an ongoing issue. Indeed he had discussed the same with two members of Highways at a site meeting in November 2010, therefore being fully appraised, and he disputed the comment “new” which was clearly incorrect and misleading. Councillor Hailstone was more than happy to meet with Mr Hayward or the superintendent to point out hedges that are a hazard. Councillor Murphy wished to support Councillor Hailstone as he felt there needs to be a record of what is requested and the action taken. The Local Member was to progress this issue.

9. YOUNG PEOPLE’S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

11/281. To welcome the Youth Club member to the meeting and to discuss youth issues in the village.

There were no Youth Club members at the meeting.

11/282. To consider the response to the Youth Service Consultation.

Councillor Porter had looked at the papers regarding the reorganisation of the Youth Service. A full and frank discussion had been held with the Isle of Wight Councillor responsible for the Youth Service reorganisation. Whilst there is agreement on a lot of the issues, there are also fundamental flaws on what youth work should be. Councillor Abraham reported that the Isle of Wight Council is concentrating on its statutory duties. Councillor Porter will submit a response to the consultation. Councillor Porter referred to the Junior night numbers standing at around 30 plus every week whilst the Senior night numbers stand at around 10 – 15.

10. COMMUNITY BUS SERVICE

11/283. To receive a presentation on the Community Bus Service including route and times.

The community bus service is proceeding well. Volunteer drivers are attending medicals and training is due to commence. More volunteers have come forward since the Open Day. It is hoped that the volunteer driven buses will commence on 5 September 2011, the date the Wightbus finishes. One issues that still needs addressing is the need to make a contribution to a service coordinator who will be based at the Southern Vectis office. If the extra fares do not raise sufficient revenue the Parish Council may need to find £100 a month to pay for this. This issue is still up for discussion.

Councillor Doran referred to this scheme being a good example of cooperation between the Isle of Wight Council, the Parish Council, Southern Vectis and the volunteers. He urged residents to use the service to avoid losing it. The timetable will hopefully be finalised in the next month. He felt that fund raising and sponsorship could be a possibility for extra services. Councillor Doran was thanked for his hard work in getting this scheme up and running.

11. GATEWAY SIGNAGE

11/284. To receive the quotation from the graphic designer for the new village signs as well as for any other quotations received.

Two designs had been received for the new village sign which were shown to the meeting. Designs are still awaited from the Primary School, Youth Club and Isle of Wight College.

RESOLVED – THAT THE DECISION ABOUT WHICH DESIGN TO USE FOR THE VILLAGE SIGN WILL BE POSTPONED TO THE SEPTEMBER MEETING TO ALLOW TIME FOR THE OTHER DESIGNS TO BE RECEIVED.

12. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

To discuss any outstanding Highway issues.

11/285. Pedestrian Crossing at Harwoods

Concern remains about the visibility at this crossing. Various suggestions had been made to Highways which were turned down. Councillor Abraham had written to Peter Hayward on 8 July 2011. He understands officers are investigating this matter and will come back with their response once they understand the practicalities.

11/286. Request for Pedestrian Crossing at the Sloop

Councillor Murphy will be taking up the need for a pedestrian crossing near the Sloop with PC Massey at the next Local Action Group meeting.

11/287. Lights at the end of Fishbourne Lane

Councillor Murphy reported that this was an issue escalated to level 2 following the last Local Action Group meeting. These lights are dangerous, which Councillor Ballard agreed with and felt the need for action should be supported.

11/288. Footways

Yellow lines are to be implemented in Footways. A complaint was made about the state of the road in Footways and New road. These issues have been reported.

13. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS

To report on the following meetings:-

11/289. IWALC Executive

The next IWALC Executive meeting is on 21 July 2011. Councillor Doran had attended a meeting of the National Association of Local Councils, with there being a discussion on the potential additional powers and budgets that may be transferred to Parish Councils and the opening up of services. IWALC are to act in an advisory capacity.

11/290. BIFFA

Councillor Murphy reported that he will be attending the next meeting at BIFFA on Thursday.

11/291. Wootton Creek Fairways Association

Councillor Ballard had attended a meeting, when the concern about planning permission for the pontoon on the Creek was discussed (already referred to above under Planning).

11/292. Youth Club Committee Meeting

Councillor Porter referred to this being in limbo at the moment. A “wash up” meeting will be held in due course.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

For information only.

11/293. Proposal for Parish Level Volunteering Promotion Project from the RCC

The Rural Community Council is promoting volunteering opportunities to provide services to communities, support individuals and as a rewarding way for people to contribute to life on the island. They would like to explore ways of supporting and increasing the number of

volunteers. They are looking for agreement for Parish Councils to contribute £500 - £600 to print costs for parish volunteering leaflets.

15. ACCOUNTS

11/294. To consider and approve the accounts for payment

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £5,064.23, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

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

11/295. Items to be included on the next agenda:-

- Boundary Commission Recommendations.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Signed

Dated