

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
17 JANUARY 2012 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 Barry Abraham, Dick Doran, Brian Ballard, Barrie Hailstone, Pete Mundell,
Roy Murphy, Sarah Fulford & Daryll Pitcher

Also present: 4 Members of the Public
0 Member of the Press
Val Cooper Parish Clerk
Peter Griffiths – Planning Services - Isle of Wight Council

Matters raised during the Open Forum

• **Yellow lines – Rectory Drive.**

Concern was raised by a local resident about the recent installation of double yellow lines in Rectory Drive which she felt were in the wrong place and dangerous. The local resident expressed concern that letters of objection seemed to have been ignored by the Isle of Wight Council, with the decision being made by one Cabinet Member which she felt was undemocratic. Further discussion took place about this and the Local Member felt this needed to be looked at again in the next Traffic Order which takes place once a year.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

12/001. Apologies for absence were received from PC Nick Massey & PCSO Katy Berry.

2. MINUTES.

12/002. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 DECEMBER 2011 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

12/003. Councillor Doran declared a personal interest in matters relating to Rectory Drive.
Councillor Pitcher declared a personal interest in matters relating to the Strategic Housing Land Allocation Assessment in Lushington Hill.

3A. PLANNING AT LOCAL LEVEL (Brought forward from Item 6 of the Agenda)

12/004. To receive a presentation from Peter Griffiths – Isle of Wight Council Planning Department

Mr Griffiths reported that the Island Plan Core Strategy has now been independently inspected by the Planning Inspectorate and was found sound, with a few minor amendments. The next stage is to get this adopted by the Isle of Wight Cabinet in March 2012. The Core Strategy does not allocate any site for housing, this will be addressed in supporting documentation. Sites put forward are only lodged by developers, they have not been allocated in any way for schemes. A Development Plan document allocates sites. The document deadline is not until 2014 and therefore no land will be allocated until then. As part of the process the Isle of Wight Council have to fully consult with the community and work with Town and Parish Councils on sites in the allocation document. The other part of the process is that developers are free to bring a scheme forward if they want to. This does not mean the site would get planning approval. These are two different things. If a developer puts a planning application in immediately adjacent to the settlement boundary they have to go through a whole raft of policies to get it approved – called a Balanced Mix of Housing. The Isle of Wight Council will expect the development to contribute to the housing need for the local area – with the final mix being based on the most up to date housing need for a local area. If there is no local up to date housing need available then the Island one will be used. If a Local Housing Need Survey is carried out it is much easier to shape the vision of any scheme coming forward. A long document is being worked on by the Isle of Wight Council which will take into account site

access, infrastructure and a whole raft of considerations. The developer will have to pay for an assessment to be carried out and they will have to prove that the site they are putting forward is the most sustainable one for that area. The next level down from the Core Strategy is a much strengthened 106 planning document where developers will have to pay towards education, highways, utilities and waste management etc. Concern was expressed at this stage about the onus being on the developer to prove conclusively that the area they want to develop would be conducive to the area as a whole and what would happen if this information is incorrect. Mr Griffiths felt that the guidance being issued and the level of detail required will address this, as will legal agreements.

Mr Griffiths stated that there is now the opportunity for local residents to get the first option on housing in their area. A whole Island housing needs survey is planned for later this year, but Mr Griffiths recommended that communities undertake their own housing needs survey, including obtaining income data.

Mr Griffiths stated that Section 106 will, in the long term, be replaced by the Community Infrastructure Levy. This will take money for every single house built and commercial build. As part of the process the government are consulting on what to give as a meaningful proportion directly back to Parish & Town Councils.

Mr Griffiths was thanked for his help in making the situation clearer.

12/005. To decide whether or not to establish a Neighbourhood Development Plan or other Local Planning document.

Following the presentation by Mr Griffiths and the urgency in setting up a Local Housing Needs Survey it was agreed to seek professional assistance and set up a working group to take this forward.

RESOLVED – THAT A LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY NEEDS TO BE CARRIED OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

- THAT A WORKING GROUP WILL BE SET UP AND PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE SOUGHT TO PROGRESS THE LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY.

4. MATTERS ARISING.
Progress reports only.

12/006. Gateway Signage (Minute 11/427).

The new village signs had arrived, which Councillor Porter and his colleague erected. Thanks were given for their help. The signs look excellent.

12/007. Fishing – Pump Lane, Wootton Creek (Minute 11/430).

It was agreed that initially an advisory notice would be put up regarding fishing from Pump Lane. The local Member was to take this up with Property Services.

12/008. Banners on Lamp Posts in the High Street (Minute 11/431).

The banners have now been removed from the lamp posts in the High Street. It was agreed that consideration should be given to relocating these in the Village Square.

12/009. Hedges in New Road (11/432).

The Highways Superintendent had advised the Local Member that several letters had been sent out requesting overhanging hedges be cut back in New Road. The majority of the hedge notices were complied with but some householders needed prompting to resolve the issue. The superintendent has accepted that some were cut back but need further attention. Although not perfect, the Superintendent feels there has been an improvement and he will continue to monitor. Councillor Hailstone reported that only two hedges have been cut back and he would be interested to see copies of the letters sent to the residents.

12/010. Darwins revised planning application – Woodside Holiday Park (11/460)

The Clerk had chased the agent for the date of the public meeting, with no date available as yet. It is hoped this will be by the middle of February. The Clerk will place the details on the window at the Help & Information Centre in Brannon Way and on the village noticeboard when the date is known.

12/011. Speeding at Woodside (Minute 11/449).

The Local Member spoke to Highways about the possibility of a 20 mph sign at Woodside (which is a private road). The IW Council could impose a speed limit, provided they get the agreement of the owner, but they would not prioritise their resources to do so in the absence of an accident record.

12/012. Older Persons Phone (Minute 11/458)

The Clerk and Financial Assistant are investigating how much money is left in the fund and if a Pay as You Go Phone would be better.

12/013. Butterfly/Insect Garden – Recreation Ground (Minute 11/447).

The Local Member will try and contact the Head Teacher before the next meeting about the possibility of the children assisting with the planting of the butterfly/insect friendly plants in the Recreation Ground.

12/014. Junior Youth Club night (Minute 11/459).

Sufficient monies were available for funding the Monday evening Junior Youth Club sessions for another year, provided the building can be accessed and staff found. The Monday evening sessions continue to be very popular.

12/015. State of New Road (High Street end)

Councillor Hailstone was under the impression that the Isle of Wight Council Highways Department were going to carry out repairs. Discussion took place about repairs not occurring until the PFI. The Clerk will investigate.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following planning applications:-

12/016. P/01796/11 TCP/30857

Land opposite Alden Nursery on south side of Upper Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge.
Agricultural prior notification for a storage building.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01796 TCP/30857

12/017. Decisions

No decisions had been received.

12/018. Tree Preservation Orders

No Tree Preservation Orders had been received.

6. PLANNING AT LOCAL LEVEL

This was brought forward to Item 3A above.

7. MONTHLY REPORT OF ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ISSUES

12/019. Report by Local Member.

- **Doctors Surgery in Brannon Way** – Dr Kaiser had informed the Local Member that funding has still not been fully released by what was the PCT. It is envisaged that the building process will start this year.
- **Budget Process** – Things are nowhere near as bad as last year for the IW Council budget. It looks fairly certain that money for the Community Buses will be in place again.
- **Youth Service** – The Local Member had signed the Delegated Decision for the Youth Report as the Cabinet Member. The Parish Council need to talk to the Isle of Wight Council about taking on the Youth Club building as it is felt there are a number of things that can be investigated to give the building a sustainable future. The Local Member is in communication with the Leader of the Council about how the Parish Council would take this building on.

Continued

- **Ventnor Botanical Garden** – A couple have come forward who want to run the gardens and someone will come down from Kew. If all of the proposals go ahead it should have an exciting future.
- **Fire Control Centre** – This is on course to be transferred to Surrey on 4 March 2012.

8. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

12/020. To discuss youth issues in the village.

The Local Member had signed the Delegated Decision for the Youth Service as the Cabinet Member.

12/021. To look at the progress made regarding the possibility of taking on the old school building in New Road as a community asset.

See Item 7. This needs further discussion as a matter of urgency.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLORS ABRAHAM AND PORTER BE GIVEN THE REMIT TO FORM A WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF TAKING ON THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING IN NEW ROAD AS A COMMUNITY ASSET AND COOPT ON TO THIS GROUP WHOEVER THEY FEEL MOST APPROPRIATE.

9. ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT FUND – ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL

12/022. To agree on projects suitable for the funding to Parish & Town Councils for the economic wellbeing/improvement of their local parish area on a match funded basis (Deadline for applications is 17th February 2012.

Suggestions for the match funding included taking on the old school building in New Road and signage in Brannon Way and Bumbles. It was felt that the old school building fitted the criteria for the match funding and that all of the funding should be used for this building.

RESOLVED – THAT ALL OF THE ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT FUND AND MATCH FUNDING WILL BE USED FOR TAKING ON THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING IN NEW ROAD.

- THAT COUNCILLORS ABRAHAM AND PORTER WILL MEET WITH THE CLERK TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM FOR THE ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT FUND BEING MADE AVAILABLE FROM THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL.

10. WAR MEMORIAL

12/023. To consider a suggestion for the War Memorial to be relocated whilst it is taken down for repair.

Councillor Ballard requested discussion on the War Memorial be postponed until a later date until more information is available.

11. COMMUNITY BUS

12/024. To consider quotations received for the remarking of the car parking spaces in Brannon way Car Park for the Community Bus.

The Isle of Wight Council had provided quotations for four options as follows:-

1. Burn off all existing letterings and mark a yellow box junction over 4 bays £255.43
2. Burn of all existing lettering and remarking "Community Bus and Mobile Library Parking Only" £405.01
3. Partial burn off of letters & add to text "And Community Bus Parking Only" £264.66
4. Do nothing and bus to lay over in existing cross hatching at rear of Wootton High Street properties. (Property owners have a right of access only from the car park but the bus driver would need to remain with the vehicle in case anyone seeking access £0.

RESOLVED – THAT OPTION 3 BE TAKEN IN RESPECT OF REMARKING THE CAR PAK SPACES IN BRANNON WAY CAR PARK FOR THE COMMUNITY BUS.

12. PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT 2012/2013

12/025. To consider the budget estimate for 2012/2013.

Final budget estimates had been emailed to Members in advance of the meeting on 11 January 2012, which followed meetings at the Help & Information Centre. It was agreed that it was difficult to estimate how to set for the Local Housing Needs Survey and possible Neighbourhood Plan, with £10,000 being the best estimate. Match funding of £7,000 had also

been allowed for to take advantage of the Economic Improvement Fund from the Isle of Wight Council.

12/026. To set the Council tax precept for 2012/2013.

The Responsible Financial Officer provided a report to Members. (See Appendix B). The recommendation was that the precept should be set at £65,000, which will result in an increase of 10 pence per week for a Band D household.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PRECEPT FOR 2012/2013 SHOULD BE SET AT £65,000.

13. HIGHWAY ISSUES

To discuss any outstanding Highway issues.

12/027. Yellow Lining.

The changes to yellow lining from the recent Traffic Order had already been discussed at the start of the meeting under the Open Forum.

14. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS

To report on the following meetings:-

12/028. IWALC Executive

Councillor Doran reported that the next meeting of the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councillors was due on 18 January 2012. The Leader and Chief Executive of the Isle of Wight Council (David Pugh & Steve Beynon) were to attend.

12/029. Island Waste.

Councillor Murphy was to attend a meeting on 19 January 2012 about wheelie bins.

12/030. SLCC Branch Meeting

The Clerk reported that she will be attending the local branch meeting of the Society of Local Council Clerks on 19 January 2012. The Clerk asked for permission for the Parish Council to offer to host one of the quarterly meetings in Wootton Bridge and requested consideration be given for a light snack to be provided to repay the hospitality shown by other Parish Councils.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK BE GIVEN PERMISSION FOR WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL TO HOST ONE OF THE QUARTERLY BRANCH MEETINGS OF THE SLCC AND FOR FUNDING TO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR LIGHT REFRESHMENTS.

12/031. Follow up sessions on Planning and Neighbourhood Planning

An email had been sent to Members on 12.1.12 about three follow up training events at different locations on the Isle of Wight.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

For information only.

12/032. The Bridge

In February 2012 “The Bridge” will be 40 years old. To celebrate the anniversary there will be two events at St Marks Church in Station Road. Saturday 4th February – Big Bridge Breakfast. Sunday 5th February – The Bridge Brunch. Advertisers are warmly invited to join them at these events.

12/033. Queen’s Jubilee Celebrations

An email had been received from the school on 13 January 2012. The School are celebrating the Queen’s Jubilee Celebrations on Friday 1st June in the afternoon, with the Parish Council being invited to join them. The school are looking into buying some memorabilia – maybe coinage and requested the Parish Council consider funding a third of these?

RESOLVED – THAT THE LOCAL MEMBER WILL ASK THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL IF THEY ARE GOING TO PROVIDE AN ITEM OF MEMORABELIA TO SCHOOL CHILDREN FOR THE QUEENS JUBILEE,

- THAT THE LOCAL MEMBER WILL LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL ABOUT WHETHER THEY CAN EXTEND THEIR JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS TO THE WIDER VILLAGE COMMUNITY.

12/034. Super Fast Broadband

Information about a survey had been received regarding the next generation of fibre broadband from the exchange to businesses and residential areas. This would deliver a change in speed

and bring rural areas of the Island, such as Wootton Bridge, up to comparative performance with the best European equivalents. Councillor Doran stated that this survey is worthy of support as the current broadband is only just sufficient.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH CLERK WOULD COMPLETE THE SURVEY ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH COUNCIL SUPPORTING SUPER FAST BROADBAND.

- THAT ENCOURAGEMENT BE GIVEN FOR ANYONE WITH A COMPUTER TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY SUPPORTING SUPER FAST BROADBAND.

16. ACCOUNTS

12/035. To consider and approve the accounts for payment

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £3,869.83, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

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

12/036. Items to be included on the next agenda:-

- Cutting back of hedges in New Road.

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

Signed

Dated