

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY  
20 MARCH 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 Brian Ballard, Pete Mundell, Roy Murphy, Sarah Fulford & Daryll Pitcher

Also present: 7 Members of the Public  
PC Nick Massey  
Gill Salter, Tree Warden  
Val Cooper Parish Clerk

**Matters raised during the Open Forum**

- The Tree Warden referred to the next Tree Walk which was to take place on Wednesday 28 March 2012 at 10.30 a.m. commencing at the Park Road gates.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

**12/080.** Apologies were received from Councillors Barry Abraham, Dick Doran and Barrie Hailstone.

2. MINUTES.

**12/081.** RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2012 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

**12/082.** RESOLVED – THAT THE EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2012 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

**12/083.** Councillor Sarah Fulford declared a personal & prejudicial interest in matters relating to the planning application for 49 Station Road, Wootton Bridge.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

**12/084. Play Area – Recreation Ground** (Minute 11/443)

The fencing and gates had been installed. The new play equipment was due to be installed on 23 March 2012. Once the work is completed the end of grant report will need to be submitted to the Big Lottery Fund. Modifications are needed to the fence, with the contractor to be contacted.

**12/085. Darwins revised planning application – Woodside Holiday Park** (12/043)

The Clerk had been in contact with the agent about the date for the Public Meeting. The board are deciding on the final options for the Park on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2012, with further information to be made available to the Parish Council by the April meeting.

**12/086. Older Persons Phone** (Minute 12/044)

The Clerk had spoken to Orange about disconnection of the contract mobile phone and changing this to Pay As you Go. Arrangements for this are in hand.

**12/087. Theatre Group Play on how to avoid Scams (Scambuster)**

A request had been made by the Police for a contribution from the Parish Council of £40 for refreshments at the play they are arranging, in conjunction with Trading Standards, about the different sorts of scams currently doing the rounds and how to avoid them. The Parish Council had agreed to this request as money was available in the Community Chest reserve fund.

**12/088. State of New Road (High Street end)** (Minute 12/045)

New Road had been resurfaced from the High Street end to St Edmunds. Other parts of the road will be patched. It was pointed out that the resurfacing consisted of a 70 mm covering, so was a temporary solution. Councillor Pitcher was thanked for making local residents aware of this work by way of a leaflet drop.

**12/089. Economic Improvement Fund – Isle of Wight Council.** (Minute 12/047).

The Parish Council had been successful in its bid for the Economic Improvement Fund for the old school building. This funding has to be spent in the 2012/2013 financial year. It had been hoped that more money would be made available as not every Parish Council submitted an application for this grant funding and some had yet to be approved. The Clerk reported that the three Parish Councils not applying for money may be given the opportunity to have the money without match funding. IWALC have ruled this as Out of Order and have written to the Isle of Wight Council accordingly.

RESOLVED – THAT A LETTER WOULD BE SENT TO COUNCILLOR DAVID PUGH EXPRESSING THE PARISH COUNCIL'S OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL TO OFFER ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT FUNDING WITHOUT THE NEED FOR MATCH FUNDING.

**12/090. Progress made regarding the possibility of taking on the old school building in New Road as a community asset.** (Minute 12/046)

Councillor Steve Porter and Astrid Davies (Commission Manager for Building Community Capacity – IW Council) had communicated on this. The Parish Council are waiting for a meeting to be set up to ascertain the terms and duration of the lease on offer.

**12/091. Local Housing Needs Survey** (Minute 12/048)

A meeting was to be held on 22 March 2012 with Wendy Perera from Planning Services at the IW Council. If the Parish Council are satisfied that the Local Housing Needs Survey is the correct way forward, this will be progressed by way of tender documents. The Clerk was to liaise with Peter Griffiths from Planning Services regarding assistance with tender documentation.

**12/092. Cleaning of Public Conveniences – Brannon Way** (Minute 12/049)

Top Mopps had won a 12 month contract with the IOW Council for cleaning the public conveniences. They will take over fully on 26 March 2012, which will allow deep cleans of all toilets prior to the Easter holidays. The lease had been received from the Solicitor for signing.

**12/093. Risk Assessment Review** (12/068)

Councillor Abraham checked the Risk Assessments following the last meeting. The only item that needed clarification was the panic alarm in the office. The Clerk was awaiting a quotation for more frequent checking than the current annual procedure. The other risk assessments had been signed off.

**12/094. Best Kept Village Awards** (12/063)

A litter pick was set for Tuesday 27 March 2012. Children from the primary school were due to join in again as last year. The Clerk requested assistance with the litter pick as there had been a low turnout last year from the village.

**12/095. Open Evening at Steam Railway** (12/067)

No date was available for the open evening for the Friends of Wootton Station. The Steam Railway were to be offered the loan of the second WICI Kiosk to tie in with the alterations to Wootton Station. The Clerk was to contact Peter Vail about this.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following planning applications:-

**12/096. P/00251/12 TCP/04306/B**

The Shieling, New Road, Wootton Bridge

Alterations; extension at first floor level to convert bungalow into house to include Juliet balcony on east elevation and dormer window on south elevation; alterations to detached garage.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00251/12.

**12/097. P/00262/12 TCP/12331/D**

49 Station Road, Wootton Bridge

Partial demolition of extension at 1<sup>st</sup> floor level; proposed two storey rear extension and alterations to provide additional treatment rooms.

*The neighbours of 49 Station Road expressed concern about this revised planning application. Whilst the uninterrupted vision has increased to the rear of No.47, the owner of No.51 was concerned that the plans for the extension adjacent to his property had been enlarged considerably and is totally out of scale and proportion and is overpowering in what is primarily a residential area. Parking was also raised as an issue as it seems clients of No. 49 are not using the Church Car Park as had been stated by the owners of the clinic.*

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD ASK FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMMENT ON APPLICATION P/00262/12.

**12/098. Decisions**

P/01898/11 – Approved – Wootton Community Primary School, Church Road

P/00051/12 – Refused - 48 St Edmunds Walk

**12/099. Tree Preservation Orders**

TPO/1991/12 – Lower Ponds, New Road

TPO/2012/08 – 128 High Street

6. MONTHLY REPORT OF ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ISSUES

**12/100. Report by Local Member.**

The Local Member was unable to attend the meeting but he had provided the Clerk with an update on the new Doctors Surgery planned for Brannon Way. Negotiations had stalled on the conveyancing, but it was hoped that this would be resolved shortly.

7. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

**12/101. To discuss youth issues in the village.**

Councillor Porter reported that the current Youth Club provision was due to end on 31.3.12. The new arrangements for 14-19 year olds, which includes street work, were not felt to be satisfactory. The Parish Council had laid on an extra Junior night from accumulated funds transferred to them, with measures in place to continue this provision using qualified youth workers from PGL and unpaid volunteers.

The Parish Council had been successful in its bid for match funding to take over the old school building as a Youth and Community provision, with the Parish Council being determined to keep the building open so that the young people in the village have somewhere to go.

8. WAR MEMORIAL

**12/102. To consider whether the Parish Council should contribute to the restoration of the War Memorial and to report on fund raising.**

Councillor Ballard handed round the leaflet requesting donations to the War Memorial. This was being delivered to every household in the village. Councillor Ballard requested the Parish Council consider making a contribution of up to £1,000 for this restoration work, provided this is match funded by contributions from local residents. The work will probably commence after this year's memorial service in November.

RESOLVED - THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL MAKE A CONTRIBUTION UP TO £1,000 TOWARDS THE RESTORATION OF THE VILLAGE WAR MEMORIAL PROVIDED THIS IS MATCH FUNDED BY DONATIONS FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS.

9. QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

**12/103. To report on the progress of the Tea Party set for Tuesday 5 June 2012.**

Arrangements for the old fashioned 1950's Tea Party to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee had started. Tickets are available from the Parish Council office and Brannons Tea Room (£2.50 adults/young people over 14 - £1.50 for children 5 – 13, Free for 4 & under or family ticket £6 (3 adults & up to 3 children).

Continued .....

**12/104. To decide whether the Parish Council should contribute to Jubilee Coinage for children at Wootton Bridge Primary School.**

The school had yet to get firm figures for Jubilee coinage but were working on £420 (200 children at £2 per coin plus ten extra).

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD CONTRIBUTE £150 TOWARDS JUBILEE COINAGE FOR THE PUPILS AT WOOTTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL.

**12/105. To hear progress on Planting a Tree for Jubilee and to decide whether the Parish Council wish to fund this.**

The Tree Warden spoke about the need to ensure the chosen tree is suitable for the site, including water supply, climate and longevity. Suggestions for the most appropriate tree ensued, including a suggestion for fruit trees at Pump Lane and a Cedar of Lebanon at the Recreation Ground.

RESOLVED – THAT THE TREE WARDEN WOULD OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION FOR THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IN RESPECT OF WHICH TREE/TREES WOULD BE MOST SUITABLE FOR PLANTING TO CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.

- THAT THE CLERK WOULD SEEK THE PERMISSION OF THE PARKS DEPARTMENT FOR A TREE TO BE PLANTED AT THE RECREATION GROUND AND ALSO PERMISSION FROM SOUTHERN WATER FOR TREES TO BE PLANTED AT PUMP LANE.

10. BUMBLES LANE

**12/106. To discuss the suggestion for a mural outside of Bumbles and to receive an update on any funding opportunities for improvements to the Bumbles side of the High Street.**

Information had been emailed to members on 23.2.12 regarding the landlord's suggestion for a mural outside Bumbles Lane. It had been hoped that further funding would be made available from the Economic Improvement Fund which could have been considered for improvements to Bumbles side of the High Street but it does not seem as if this funding will be made available.

RESOLVED – THAT THE OWNER OF BUMBLES WILL NEED TO SORT OUT THE MURAL OUTSIDE BUMBLES LANE AS THE PARISH COUNCIL CANNOT GET INVOLVED IN A COMMERCIAL ENTITY.

**12/107.** At this point the old Lloyds Bank Building was mentioned, with this being near to completion. Councillor Porter felt it would be a good idea for a plaque to be considered for the owner as the building had been a blight on the village for twenty five years.

RESOLVED THAT THE SUGGESTION FOR A PLAQUE FOR THE OWNER OF THE LLOYDS BANK BUILDING WOULD BE PUT ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

11. HIGHWAY ISSUES

**To discuss any outstanding Highway issues.**

**12/108. Bus Stop in Station Road.**

Councillor Murphy had not heard back from Southern Vectis about moving the bus stop in Station Road. He was endeavouring to sort this out.

**12/109. Footways**

Councillor Pitcher mentioned speeding cars in Footways, particularly late at night, and parking when rugby and football matches are on. PC Massey will put Footways back on the list for the speed gun and will feed this subject into the Local Action Group.

12. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**12/110. To decide whether or not to have a guest speaker at the Annual Parish Meeting.**

The Local Member had offered to approach the officer from the PFI Team to see if he would give a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting.

RESOLVED – THAT THE LOCAL MEMBER WOULD BE ASKED TO APPROACH THE OFFICER FROM THE PFI TEAM TO GIVE A PRESENTATION AT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.

13. PRECEPT

**12/111. To decide if sixty per cent of the precept should be kept in the General Fund.**

Councillor Ballard suggested that when calculating the precept this is based not only on income and expenditure but on keeping sixty percent of the precept in the general fund.

**RESOLVED – THAT THE ANNUAL PRECEPT WOULD BE BASED NOT ONLY ON INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BUT ALSO ON KEEPING SIXTY PERCENT IN THE GENERAL FUND.**

**12/112. Council Tax**

Councillor Ballard referred to the Council Tax information sent to all households with their Council Tax bill. Page 7 showed the cost for Band D in each Parish and Town Council. Councillor Ballard felt it was important to remember that Wootton Bridge had taken on the Public Conveniences in the village, as well as putting money aside to match fund the Economic Improvement Grant from the IW Council and putting money aside for Local Planning.

14. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS

To report on the following meetings:-

**12/113. IWALC Executive**

Councillor Doran had emailed members with information about the IWALC Executive Meeting he attended on 17 March 2012. This included information about Localism and increased responsibilities for Parish and Town Councils.

**12/114. Local Action Group.**

Councillor Murphy reported that Beats 4 and 10 have merged. This was due to common similarities coming forward when setting priorities and will make it easier to manage and administer.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

For information only.

**12/115. LCR (Quarterly magazine by NALC)**

The free subscription has ended. The cost for renewal is £15.50 for 4 issues.

**RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD RENEW ITS SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE LCR.**

**12/116. Tree Warden Walk**

The Tree Warden had invited the Clerk on the next guided walk on Weds 28<sup>th</sup> March. The Clerk was to attend with a view to writing a report for the website and The Bridge. The Tree Warden extended this invitation to Councillors.

**12/117. Quality Council Workshop**

The Clerk had applied to attend the Quality Council Workshop on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May at the Riverside Centre. This is particularly relevant as reaccreditation for Wootton Bridge as a Quality Council is due next year.

**12/118. Wootton Primary School Car Park**

An email had been received from the primary school to say that as from 16<sup>th</sup> April the school gates will be locked from 4.30 p.m. to 7.00 a.m. This decision was made by the school governors. Anyone hiring the hall is responsible for opening and locking the gate and the gate must not be left open during the letting period. People attending any events will need to park off site.

16. ACCOUNTS

**12/119. To consider and approve the accounts for payment**

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

**RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £7,741.43, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.**

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

**12/120. Items to be included on the next agenda**

- Planting of a tree/trees for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
- Public Meeting at Darwins and foreshore protection.

At this point fly tipping was mentioned at Palmers Road and Lower Woodside Road. This will be followed up.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

**Signed** .....

**Dated** .....