

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 17 JULY 2012  
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, Barrie Hailstone, Pete Mundell,  
Roy Murphy, Daryll Pitcher

Also present: 3 Members of the public  
1 Member of the Press  
Val Cooper - Parish Clerk

*Matters raised during the Open Forum*

- No matters were raised in the Open Forum.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**12/258.** Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dick Doran and Sarah Fulford.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JUNE 2012

**12/259.** RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JUNE 2012 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

**12/260.** Councillor B Abraham declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to the Old School Building in New Road.

Councillor D Pitcher declared a personal and prejudicial interest in matters relating to the planning applications for Glencoe, Red Road and Land at and rear of 25 and 27 High Street.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

**12/261. Best Kept Village** (Minute 12/147).

Wootton Bridge Parish Council were delighted to be judged the Best Kept Large Village on the Isle of Wight. The presentation will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

**12/262. Play Area** (Minute 12/214).

The grass on the slide mound had been mowed and the safety fencing had been removed. The Park Inspector had been contacted for advice about small dogs getting under the Easy Gates. The inspector said this has not been an issue at other playgrounds, with it being the responsibility of the dog owner to keep their dog out of the play area. The Isle of Wight Council will look at putting additional signage up about this.

**12/263. Signage at the High Street end of the Recreation Ground** (Minute 12/215).

Quotations had been sought for the new "Wootton Bridge Recreation Ground" sign. An aluminium/vinyl sign is £84.49 plus VAT and a Foamex Board sign, suitable for fixing on top of the old sign, is £38 plus fitting. Councillor Pitcher was to inspect the sign that is being replaced before a decision is made on which material to use.

**12/264. Jubilee Tree Plaque** (Minute 12/234)

A quotation had been received for the tree plaque in respect of the tree planted to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This was for £37.50 including VAT and delivery. The Clerk was to purchase this sign, with a decision then to be made on when this will be erected.

**12/265. Local Housing Needs Survey** (12/216).

Three sets of tender documentation were sent out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2012. The tender documents have to be back in the office by 31<sup>st</sup> July. Peter Griffiths from the Isle of Wight Council will assist with the evaluation of these tender documents.

**12/266. Jubilee Coins** (Minute 12/218).

Thanks had been received from the Primary School for the Parish Council's contribution towards the helium balloons that the children let off to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

**12/267. Coastal Erosion – Darwins Holiday Site, Woodside** (Minute 12/221).

The Clerk had received a response from Peter Marsden (Principal Coastal Engineer – IWC) regarding the concerns raised with him about the coastal erosion at Woodside. He stated that “the IOW Council’s Shoreline Management Plan identified this as a ‘No Active intervention’ frontage. Consequently they would prefer not to see new defences constructed. Clearly the removal of the old concrete debris, which was a planning requirement (from Natural England) enabling consent to be granted, has contributed to the accelerated erosion. He believes that the rate of erosion will slow once the coast has established a more uniform alignment, but further erosion is likely to occur until that time. The proposed development is all landward of the estimated shoreline 100 years from now, therefore negating the need for new coastal defences”. Significant discussion took place at the meeting about whether this stance should be challenged due to the rapid soil erosion that has taken place.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLOR ABRAHAM WILL ARRANGE A MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH THE COASTAL PROTECTION OFFICER AND THE CABINET MEMBER BEFORE ANY CHALLENGE IS MADE IN RESPECT OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILS STANCE TO COASTAL EROSION AT WOODSIDE.

**12/268. Noticeboard – Corner of Church Road/High Street** (Minute 12/244).

Councillor Pitcher was to investigate the possibility of the new noticeboard being fixed to the wall at the Corner of Church Road/High Street prior to this being ordered. The Clerk will complete the noticeboard consent advertisement forms once the location for the new noticeboard is agreed.

**12/269. Fishing Sign – Pump Lane** (Minute 12/040)

Councillor Abraham was waiting for a response about the advisory sign for Pump Lane

**12/270. Venue for PC Meetings** (Minute 12/257).

The Clerk had contacted the IWC about the possibility of using the Youth Centre in New Road on Tuesday evenings. This is already booked out for the senior night of the Youth Club. The Chairman was to look into whether the renovated church hall in Station Road could be used.

**12/271. Community Bus Annual Celebration** (Minute 12/242)

The Clerk agreed to email members with suggestions for the anniversary of the community bus celebrations.

**12/272. Seating/Shelter Outside Wootton Station** (Minute 12/247).

The local member was waiting for a reply about a possible exchange of shelters outside Wootton Station to include a seat.

**12/273. Dog Bin – Woodside Beach footpath** (Minute 12/147)

Derek Bean (IWC) had identified a bin that could be moved to the footpath to Woodside Beach. One of the two bins in Park Road will be relocated if the Parish Council are in agreement with this. It was felt this was a good idea.

**12/274. Dog mess at the Recreation Ground**

Due to concerns about dog mess at the Recreation Ground, the Clerk will contact the Dog Warden to see if they can “walk” the Recreation Ground to try and find a solution.

4A. SPORTS BURSARY

**12/275. To consider an application from Wootton Cricket Club for a contribution towards equipment for the Ladies XI.**

A letter was read out from Wootton Cricket Club requesting financial assistance towards the projected cost of £1,255 to provide enough equipment for the newly set up Ladies X1. The Parish Council has money set aside in the Sports Bursary fund to help village sports clubs.

RESOLVED – THAT £1,000 SHOULD BE GIVEN TO WOOTTON CRICKET CLUB TOWARDS THE PROJECTED COST OF £1,255 FOR EQUIPMENT FOR THE LADIES X1 CRICKET TEAM.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following applications:-

**12/276. P/00255/12 TCP/31085**

47 Station Road, Wootton Bridge

Formation of vehicular access and hardstanding.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00255/12 TCP/31085.

**12/277.** P/00554/12 TCP/02077/W

Fernhill Farm, High Street, Wootton Bridge

Conversion and alterations to barn to form 3 holiday units; Alterations and extension to main dwelling; carport; landscaping and parking.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00554/12 TCP/02077/W.

**12/278.** P/00646/12 TCP/04001/B

48 Station Road, Wootton Bridge

Formation of vehicular access and harstanding.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00646/12 TCP/04001/B.

**12/279.** P/00874/12 TCP/0886/N

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

Proposed alterations and single storey rear extension to form additional accommodation to veterinary surgery; detached two storey building to form two flats; associated parking and landscaping.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00874/12 TCP/0886/N.

**12/280.** P/00897/12 TCP/31112

Glencoe, Red Road, Wootton Bridge

Proposed two storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00897/12 TCP/31112.

**12/281. Decisions.**

P/00535/12 – Approved (34 Station Road)

P/00290/12 – Approved (Lushington Garage)

P/00579/12 - Refused (Solent View, Lower Woodside Road)

P/00578/12 – Refused (Solent View, Lower Woodside Road)

**12/282. Tree Preservation Orders**

TPO/1988/40, 1990/31, 1995/15 – (Wootton Lodge, Church Road).

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

**12/283. Report by Local Member.**

- **Wootton Bridge** - The parapet was knocked down on the bridge. This will soon be repaired, with Highways having to find bricks to blend in with the existing structure. The issue of safety was discussed as this bridge was previously deemed the second on the Island to be dealt with. The Local Member will look into this but stated that annual assessments are carried out to see if any movement has occurred,
- **Jubilee Coins** – The Isle of Wight Council provided coins to all Primary School children on the Isle of Wight and presented them to children at Wootton Community School during their assembly.
- **Fire Service** – On 18 July 2012 the IWC have the new Integrated Risk Management Plan and Annual Report for the Fire Service. Following the decision in March to merge the Isle of Wight Control room with Surrey, this has been successful and is working well. All of the IOW Council costs have now been met by Central Government. Heavy investment has been made in new equipment and uniforms, with the Isle of Wight being one of the first Fire Services to have the Cobra fire suppressant system and other state of the art equipment.
- **Patching/Highways** – patching of roads was raised, and in particular New Road as this is in an appalling state. Until the roads are addressed by the PFI from 2013 problems will occur. With respect to drains being clogged at either end of new Road, the Clerk will report this matter to IWC. The Local Member stated that prior to next April, Parish and Town Councils will be invited to meet the new PFI contractor.

7. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

**12/284. To discuss youth issues in the village.**

The Isle of Wight Council now run Senior Youth Club sessions only on a Tuesday. The Parish Council fund the Junior Youth Club sessions, with the takings going towards this. These sessions are run by staff from PGL, with the sessions being very popular.

**12/285. To receive an update on the proposal to take over the old school building in New Road.**

A meeting had been held with Astrid Davies and Barry Cooke from Isle of Wight Council. Councillor Ballard had started putting a paper together outlining the plans for the building. It is understood a five year initial lease will be offered at a peppercorn rent of £1 per annum. This will be on a Full Repairing and Insuring lease. The Isle of Wight Council feel this will give time for the Parish Council to develop a sustainable business proposition for the site. This might then lead to a different leasehold arrangement or maybe a freehold disposal at market value. The working group will be meeting to progress the business plan started by Councillor Ballard. The councillors involved in the initial discussions about the school building were thanked for their endeavours in this respect.

8. PARTY IN THE PARK – SATURDAY 21 JULY 2012

**12/286. To report on the Social Committee Meeting held on 10 July 2012**

The wet weather had taken up a considerable amount of discussion time at the social committee meeting. The Clerk and one of the Councillors had arranged to meet with the Parks Inspector early next week to see if the Recreation Ground could take the vehicles that would be required on site.

**12/287. Any other matters relating to Party in the Park.**

Subsequent to the above meeting with the Parks Inspector, the event had to be cancelled as the Recreation Ground would not stand up to vehicles driving on and off and any repairs would be at the Parish Councils expense. It was agreed that a Table Top Sale and musical evening would be held at the Community Centre instead, with the date provisionally given as the 4<sup>th</sup> August.

9. PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE

**12/288. To receive an update regarding Official Indemnity Insurance Cover.**

Councillor Hailstone reported that Came & Company had apologised for not coming back to him regarding his concerns about the premium quoted for increasing the level of liability for the above from £250,000 to £500,000. He expected to get further information later in the week which he would then circulate to members.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL MAKE FURTHER ENQUIRIES FROM THE PARISH COUNCILS NOT USING CAME & COMPANY TO SEE WHICH INSURANCE COMPANY OR BROKER THEY USE.  
-THAT COUNCILLOR HAILSTONE WILL THEN MAKE LIKE FOR LIKE COMPARISONS WITH THESE INSURANCE COMPANIES/BROKERS TO SEE IF A BETTER DEAL CAN BE OBTAINED FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL.

10. CODE OF CONDUCT

**12/289. To formally adopt the new Code of Conduct**

Chapter 7 of the new Localism Act 2011 deals with Standards and Codes of Conduct. This states that all Local Authorities need to adopt a new code of conduct by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012. The Parish Council considered the options available at the previous meeting and concluded that they would adopt the Isle of Wight Council's Code of Conduct once it had been finalised.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL ADOPTS THE CODE OF CONDUCT DRAWN UP BY THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL.

11. REGISTER OF INTERESTS

**12/290. To remind members that they need to complete the new Register of Interests form.**

A new Register of Interests form had been sent to Councillors for completion. This form needs to include spouses/partners' Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (so far as the member is aware). Concern was raised at the meeting about spouses/partners interests having to be declared as this information will be available on the Isle of Wight Council's website and the Parish Council website, with those present at the meeting feeling this was very intrusive as spouses/partners had not signed up to be a Parish Councillor.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES CONCERN ABOUT THE NEW REGISTER OF INTERESTS FORM AS THE INCLUSION OF SPOUSES/PARTNERS INTERESTS IS VERY INTRUSIVE.

- THAT THE CLERK WILL RAISE THE CONCERNS ABOUT THE NEW REGISTER OF INTERESTS FORM WITH THE MONITORING OFFICER.

12. DECORATIVE LAMP POSTS IN THE HIGH STREET

**12/291. To decide whether the Highways PFI Team can take over the decorative lamp posts in the village.**

Information was awaited from the Highways team at the Isle of Wight Council about street furniture and grass areas which are on the public highway, as these will be maintained by the PFI Service provider from 1 April 2013.

13. SPORTS BURSARY

This item was discussed under Item 4A above.

14. ISLE OF WIGHT MUSIC FESTIVAL – IMPACT ON TRAFFIC MOVEMENT

**12/292. To discuss the traffic problems associated with the recent music festival and its impact on the village, as well as further increases pending in the volume of vehicle movement in the High Street,**

Discussion took place about the major traffic problems that occurred this year from cars arriving for the Isle of Wight Music Festival. This was due to the unprecedented wet weather and resulted in roads quickly becoming gridlocked. Councillor Murphy felt the Parish Council should take a stand for Wootton and ask the Isle of Wight Council what they intend to do for the village in the future. It was pointed out that there were issues prior to the festival that caused Fishbourne Lane and Kite Hill to be blocked. As a result of these issues the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee will be holding a session in public about what has happened. Recommendations can then be made about what can be done to address the concerns raised in future. The benefit of the music festival to the Island was also discussed, with there being differing views about this.

15. HIGHWAY MATTERS

**12/293.** No Highway matters were raised.

16. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

**12/294. IWALC Executive.**

The next meeting of the IWALC Executive will be on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

**12/295. Wootton Creek Fairways Association.**

Councillor Mundell reported that the last Wootton Creek Fairways Association meeting was on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012. There were no matters that needed to be raised at the Parish Council meeting.

**12/296. Local Action Group (LAG).**

Councillor Murphy attended the LAG meeting on 11 July 2012. Issues raised included Scams, Speeding, Police visits to schools in the area, Rural High Visibility Patrols and Neighbourhood Watch. The Action Plan from the meeting had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

17. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

**12/297. Proposed Base Station Site-Share – Palmers Road, Wootton Bridge**

A letter had been received from Daly International about the proposed Base-Station site-share at Palmers Farm, Wootton Bridge. Telefonica UK Ltd has entered into a network sharing agreement with Vodafone Ltd which means the two companies plan to share network equipment on a number of sites across the UK. It is proposed to install the required Vodafone equipment at the existing Telefonica site at Palmers Farm. The purpose of the letter was to consult with the Parish Council to seek their views on the proposal before any planning submission is made. They also extended an invitation for the Parish Council to meet with them to discuss the proposal.

**RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAS NO CONCERNS ABOUT THE PROPOSED BASE STATION SITE-SHARE AT PALMERS FARM, WOOTTON BRIDGE.**

18. ACCOUNTS.

**12/298. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.**

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £4,724.93, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

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

**12/299.** The following items were raised, with updates required for the next meeting:-

- **The Trophy in respect of the Old School Building.** The Clerk is dealing with this and will provide an update to the next meeting.
- **Pathway between the Old School in New Road to the top of St Edmunds.** The drainage ditch gets filled with garden rubbish. The Clerk will liaise with Simon Dennis of the Probation Service to see if this ditch can be cleared by using the Community Payback scheme.
- **Medical Centre.** The Clerk will write to the Director of Adult Services and copy this to Caroline Morris for an update of what is happening with the building plans for the new medical centre in the village. Consideration is to be given to inviting the Director of Adult Services to the next meeting.
- **Grass Cutting.** An estimate will be provided of how much has been spent so far on grass cutting in this financial year and how much is likely to be spent by the end of the financial year due to the extremes of weather this year.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signed .....

Date .....