

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 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, Dick Doran, Sarah Fulford, Roy Murphy, Daryll Pitcher

Also present: 1 Members of the public
Dr Kaiser – General Practitioner, Wootton Bridge Surgery
Mr M Slater – IOW Ramblers Association
Val Cooper - Parish Clerk

Matters raised during the Open Forum

- **War memorial.** Work had started on the restoration of the War Memorial and should be completed within the next four weeks. It is hoped that there will be a re-dedication of the War Memorial prior to Remembrance Day this year.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

12/319. No apologies for absence had been received.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 AUGUST 2012

12/320. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 AUGUST 2012 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

12/321. Councillor Doran declared a Personal & Prejudicial interest in matters relating to the NHS. Councillor Abraham declared a prejudicial interest in matters relating to the Doctors Surgery.

4A. NEW MEDICAL CENTRE – BRANNON WAY (Brought forward from Item 8)

12/322. To receive an update on the progress with the new medical centre.

Dr Kaiser thanked the Parish Council for all of the years of hard work they had put in to try and move things forward with the new Medical Centre planned for Brannon Way. Before the Isle of Wight PCT moved to the SHIP Cluster (Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight & Portsmouth) the new surgery was signed off. In January there were discussions and disagreements between the developer and district valuer about the value of the car parking spaces. The SHIP Cluster took over on 1 April this year and tried to resolve this issue, with it taking four months to sort out. The last hitch came in August in connection with an environmental impact assessment on all new NHS buildings which have to be excellent or outstanding. This has yet to be resolved. Of major concern is the expiry of the lease on the existing Doctors Surgery in 2014. The local Member and the Clerk of the Parish Council had sent an email to Caroline Giles of the SHIP PCT requesting her help in moving things on but had not received a response.

RESOLVED – THAT THE LOCAL MEMBER WILL REQUEST A MEETING WITH THE LOCAL MP, ANDREW TURNER, IN A BID TO PROGRESS THE BUILDING OF THE NEW MEDICAL CENTRE FOR THE VILLAGE.

4B. PROPOSED ISLAND COAST PATH (Brought forward from Item 13)

12/323. To decide whether to respond to the consultation about the future Wight Coast Trail.

Mike Slater from the IOW Ramblers Association had agreed to come to the meeting for an informal discussion on the above. In 2009 the Marine Coastal Access was passed. This gave a legal framework for Natural England to provide a coastal path all round England and, where ground condition allows, for a strip of access to the coast. The situation on the Isle of Wight is that there is a coastal path but about half is not an actual coastal path but runs along the road or inland. The Marine & Coastal Access Bill has the ability to change this but the Isle of Wight were not automatically included in this. An Order has to be signed to be included. DEFRA decided to carry out a consultation as to whether the Isle of Wight should be included and what the priorities should be. This Consultation started in July this year and ends on 16 November 2012. Concerns were raised at the meeting about Coastal erosion, areas of Special Scientific Interest, highly populated areas as well as who would have responsibility and pay for the upkeep of the

new coastal footpaths. Mr Slater stated that the Isle of Wight Council would be responsible, which raised concerns at the meeting due to the cut backs they are already making.

RESOLVED – THAT INDIVIDUAL COUNCILLORS WOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO RESPOND ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS TO THE DEFRA CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE WIGHT COAST TRAIL RATHER THAN RESPONDING AS A PARISH COUNCIL.

4C. MATTERS ARISING.
Progress reports only.

12/324. Signage – High Street end of Recreation Ground (Minute 12/263).

Councillor Pitcher had inspected the site and felt the aluminium/vinyl sign would be most appropriate. The cost of this is approx. £85 plus VAT.

RESOLVED – THAT A NEW ALUMINIUM SIGN WOULD BE PURCHASED FOR THE HIGH STREET END OF THE RECREATION GROUND SO THAT THIS RECREATION AREA IS CLEARLY MARKED.

12/325. Jubilee Tree Plaque (Minute 12/264)

Councillor Pitcher was in the process of erecting the plaque for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee tree that was planted in the Recreation Ground.

12/326. Local Housing Needs Survey (Minute 12/265).

The Parish Council had gone back out to tender as no suitable tender was identified from the ones received in July. New Tender documents were sent out on 13 September 2012, with the closing date being 12 October 2012.

12/327. Coastal Erosion – Darwins Holiday Site (Minute 12/267).

Councillor Abraham was in the process of arranging a meeting with the Portfolio Holder for Coastal Erosion and Mr Marsden (Coastal Protection Officer) before any challenge is made to the Isle of Wight Council's stance regarding coastal erosion.

12/328. Caravan Park – Woodside.

An email had been received from a caravan owner at Woodside to say that all 49 caravan owners have been given notice to quit by the end of February next year or possibly by November this year. Their leases do not expire until 2016. The Parish Council contacted Darwins to find out why, with an email being received to say that Darwins now wish to upgrade the park and make it a high quality caravan park. Darwins stated that existing contracts include a clause that allows Darwins to terminate on six months' notice. Arrangements are in place to offer owners a number of options.

RESOLVED – THAT THE MATTER OF THE LEASES ON THE CARAVANS AT WOODSIDE IS BETWEEN THE OWNER OF THE LAND AND THE CARAVAN OWNERS, NOT THE PARISH COUNCIL.

12/329. Woodside Holiday Park – Darwins

Darwins had advised that there is no change to the main Woodside site. Darwins will redevelop this into a new holiday park once their design development is finished and the economic outlook becomes more favourable. They will set up a meeting to discuss the proposals with the Parish Council when the situation is clearer.

12/330. Noticeboard – Corner Church Road/High Street (Minute 12/268).

Councillor Pitcher had obtained a quotation for a new Noticeboard to be fixed on the corner of Church Road/High Street. This was to be A2 in size and Moss Green in finish.

RESOLVED – THAT THE NEW NOTICEBOARD FOR THE CORNER OF CHURCH ROAD/HIGH STREET WOULD BE PURCHASED AT A COST OF £126.99 NET OF V.A.T.

- THAT THE CLERK WOULD COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO DISPLAY AN ADVERTISEMENT FORM AND RETURN THIS TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL.

12/331. Venue for Parish Council Meetings (Minute 12/270).

Mr Morris, Chairman, was investigating the possibility of the Parish Council using the renovated Church Hall at the Methodist Church for Parish Council meetings.

12/332. Seating/Shelter outside Wootton Station (Minute 12/247).

Councillor Abraham had emailed Peter Hayward at the Isle of Wight Council about a possible exchange of shelter outside of Wootton Station.

12/333. Dog Mess at Recreation Ground (minute 12/274).

The Clerk had "walked" the Recreation Ground with the Dog Warden on 23 August 2012. At this time no dog mess was observed. There are three litter bins on site and ordinary litter bins can also be used for

dog waste. The Isle of Wight Council will put signs on each the Easygates at the Children's Play Area about the need for people to pick up dog waste.

12/334. Table Top Sale/Evening of Musical Entertainment in lieu of Party in the Park (Minute 12/287).

Both events on 4 August were a success and the people running the charity stalls were very grateful to be invited. Another musical evening may be held in December. Consideration will be given to another Table Top Sale next year.

12/335. Isle of Wight Music Festival – Impact on Traffic Movement (Minute 12/292)

The Local Member reported that a meeting is to be held in early November at the Isle of Wight Council when the Scrutiny Committee will have all the evidence required regarding the impact on traffic movement from this year's Isle of Wight Music Festival. Members of the Public will be able to speak at the start of the meeting and ask questions.

12/336. Trophy – Old Lloyds Bank Building (Minute 12/299).

The glass trophy was at the Help & Information Centre awaiting presentation to Mr Carson.

12/337. Grass Cutting (Minute 12/299).

Grass cutting is approximately in line with the number of cuts for this time last year, with about two weeks difference. 16 cuts were paid for last year.

12/338. Grass encroaching on to the pavement (minute 12/314).

The Local member was awaiting information from the Isle of Wight Council about the legal situation with grass encroaching on to pavements.

12/339. Disabled Access – Pavements/Pedestrian Crossing (Minute 12/315).

Highways had been contacted with a request for a site meeting at the crossing near Tesco's due to reports of a mobility scooter running back into the road at this crossing. This meeting will be chased up.

12/340. Footpath N97 (Minute 12/299).

The Local Member had contacted Peter Hayward about sending letters out to householders who were putting garden waste over their fences and blocking ditches at the side of Footpath N97.

12/341. Bestival

The press release from the Police about the Policing operation at the 2012 Bestival had been emailed to members. There was very little road congestion and the Isle of Wight Council were complimented in taking the lead on an efficient and effective traffic management plan.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD WRITE TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL AND COMPLEMENT THEM FOR THEIR MANAGEMENT OF THE TRAFFIC OPERATION REGARDING THE BESTIVAL.

12/342. Private Roads – Police Situation

There had been a couple of traffic issues that the Police had not been able to get involved in as they occurred on private roads. The Local Member was going to take advice on this matter.

Councillor Fulford left the meeting due to another commitment.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following applications:-

12/343. P/01142/12 TCP/0455/M

Solent View, Lower Woodside Road

Retention of 4 existing static caravan/mobile homes (A,B,C & F) for holiday accommodation in association with existing residential property.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD SENT A LETTER TO PLANNING PRIOR TO THE CLOSING DATE ON APPLICATION P/01132/12 TCP/0455/M. THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED CONCERN ABOUT THIS APPLICATION BEING OUTSIDE OF THE VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT ENVELOPE AS WELL AS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE CARAVANS MAY BE BEING OCCUPIED FOR TWELVE MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

Continued

12/344. P/01218/12 TCP/04378/D

17 Church Road, Wootton Bridge

Demolition of conservatory, alterations; single storey rear extension to form kitchen/lounge area.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01218/12 TCP/04378/D.

12/345 P/01128/12 TCP/31191

1 Rectory Close, Wootton Bridge

Remove existing decking; Proposed conservatory on rear elevation.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01128/12 TCP/31191.

12/346. P/01153/12 TCP/29905/C

Pt OS Parcel 0002, land at junction of Upper Woodside Road and Palmers Road, Wootton Bridge

Replacement of existing 13.85 monopole with a 17.53 metre monopole, installation of one equipment cabinet and associated fencing and works.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO SEE A CONDITION MADE ON APPLICATION P/01153/12 TCP/29905/C THAT THE DEVELOPER MAINTAINS THE CONDITION OF CHURCH ROAD DURING THE WORKS.

12/347. P/01257/12 TCP/31203

87 Mary Rose Avenue, Wootton Bridge

Removal of shed; single storey side extension to provide enlarged lounge.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01257/12 TCP/31203.

12/348. Decisions.

P/01056/12 – Approved (Little Copse, Park Road)

P/01060/12 – Approved (Marina, New Road)

12/349. Appeals

P/00255/12 – 47 Station Road – Formation of vehicular access and hardstanding

P/00733/12 – 87 St Edmunds Walk – Retention of boundary fence.

12/350. Tree Preservation Orders

TPO/2011/02 – Woodside House, Woodside Road.

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

12/351. Report by Local Member.

Councillor Abraham reported that he had retired from being a Cabinet Member of the Isle of Wight Council after nearly eight years. A vote of thanks was given to Councillor Abraham by the Chair for his efforts for the village whilst in post.

Residents had raised the issue of speeding in Park Road with Councillor Abraham. The Parish Council was active in getting the speed limit down to 40 mph and speed strips had been requested by Councillor Abraham as the speed limit is being exceeded by some road users. This issue will be put on the next Agenda.

7. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

12/352. To discuss youth issues in the village.

The Youth Club sessions on Mondays and Tuesdays are going well, with good attendance numbers

12/353. To receive an update on the proposal to take over the old school building in New Road.

Meetings had been set for 20th September and 10th October to progress the lease on the Old School Building. Further information should be available for the next meeting.

8. NEW MEDICAL CENTRE – BRANNON WAY (This was moved to Item 4A above).

9. PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE

12/354. To receive a new quotation for an increase in the Official Indemnity Insurance cover.

Due to concern raised about the level of Officials Indemnity Insurance from the current insurers for the Parish Council, an alternative quotation was sought from Zurich Insurance. The premium for this was

£1,446.28 or £1,325.28 if a 3 year long term agreement is taken out. This is for £10 million cover for public liability and Officials Indemnity.

12/355. To receive details of the renewal of the existing insurance.

Came & Company's insurance renewal with Aviva is for £1,452.31. To increase the Officials Indemnity cover from £250,000 to £500,000 would cost an additional £420 plus IPT or £470 if the cover is increased to £1,000,000. Came & Company will not release the Parish Council from the 3 year long term agreement as Aviva feel their quotation is fair and the level of Officials Indemnity cover at £250,000 is sufficient. They would release the Parish Council from the long term agreement if the 40% loss ratio has to be applied.

12/356. To decide which company to use at renewal of the Parish Council Insurance.

Discussion took place about the Localism Bill and the implications for this in respect of the Officials Indemnity cover. The majority view was that £250,000 cover is sufficient at the moment but this would need to be looked into again if the Parish Council takes on further liabilities.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL ACCEPT THE RENEWAL QUOTATION FROM CAME & COMPANY FOR A PREMIUM OF £1,452.31 BUT WILL LOOK INTO THE ISSUE OF NOT BEING ABLE TO BREAK THE 3 YEAR LONG TERM AGREEMENT IF THE COVER DOES NOT MEET THEIR NEEDS.

10. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

12/357. To receive a report from the Clerk regarding the General Power of Competence.

The Clerk had attended training on the new General Power of Competence, and had subsequently passed module 7 of CiLCA. This power gives a local authority the ability to do anything that an individual may do, providing no other laws are broken. It is the first power to consider above all others but there are restrictions. The General Power of Competence replaces the Power of Wellbeing.

12/358. To confirm eligibility to use the General Power of Competence.

Two thirds or more of Councillors must be elected (not coopted);

The Clerk must be qualified (must have passed CiLCA or equivalent and have passed Section 7 of CiLCA – The General Power of Competence.

12/359. To formally minute the decision regarding the General Power of Competence.

If the Parish Council wish to use this new power, their eligibility must be formally minuted. Their eligibility to use this power also needs to be confirmed and minuted at the first annual meeting of the council after the ordinary election.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD DEFER MAKING A DECISION ON WHETHER TO USE THE NEW GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

- THAT THE CLERK WOULD CIRCULATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE TO MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING.

11. QUALITY COUNCIL REACCREDITATION

12/360. To discuss information received about a review of the Quality Council Scheme.

The Clerk had commenced work in August, as agreed, on accumulating the evidence required for reaccreditation as a Parish Council. Subsequently, information was received about the Quality Parish Scheme being frozen at the moment, whilst a review of this takes place. Quality Parish status of those councils whose current accreditation is due to end will remain in place and they will be given at least 3 months to reaccredit once the scheme is re-launched.

12/361. To report on the progress made with obtaining reaccreditation of Quality Status.

It had been reassuring to the Clerk that a lot of the procedures required for Quality Status were in place. Some gaps were found, which were raised at the working group meeting. The Clerk will continue to collect evidence and information in readiness for when the scheme is re-launched.

12/362. To report on the meeting of the working group held on 5th September 2012.

Councillor Ballard and the Clerk had looked at Community Engagement, Democracy & Citizenship and Training. Some of the ideas put forward will be looked into further by the Clerk.

12. COMMUNITY BUS

12/363. To report on the meeting of the Havenstreet and Wootton Bridge Community Bus Joint Management Board meeting held on 5th September 2012.

A lively discussion had taken place about a possible Saturday Service. This would need to be paid for out of bus takings, not by the Parish Councils. If a volunteer bus driver is unable to cover a Saturday, then

this would cost £115 for a driver and bus. Passenger numbers were going up as were donations, which the volunteer drivers were instrumental in encouraging. There had been an unfortunate incident when a driver had been verbally abused. It was agreed that volunteer drivers should be treated to the same respect as Southern Vectis drivers.

12/364. To receive feedback from the one year celebration for the Community Bus held on 5 September 2012.

Rex Goldsmith, Volunteer Bus Driver, had been instrumental in arranging the one year celebration for the Community Bus at the IW Steam Railway. Three more potential volunteer drivers had come forward and a lot of people had enquired about the bus and been given timetables. New blue busses were being rolled out, which look very smart and will be on the new timetable when printed. An invitation had been sent from the Chairman of the Bus Museum for the Community Bus to be at their running day on 14th October. Mr Goldsmith was thanked for his help on promoting the bus. The whole of the Community Bus Scheme on the Isle of Wight is up for a possible National Award.

13. PROPOSED ISLAND COAST PATH (This matter was discussed under Item 4B).

14. HIGHWAY MATTERS

12/365. To discuss any outstanding Highway issues.

- **St Edmunds.** The fence and parking problem at St Edmunds was raised. People are parking on the blind bend. Councillor Murphy will speak to PC Massey and will ask Highways to walk the road with him.
- **Proposal for Crossing at the Sloop.** Councillor Abraham will take the request for a crossing at the Sloop up with the Cabinet Member.
- **Brannon Way.** The new Community Bus is slightly lower and longer than the old one which is causing problems when it comes out of the car park due to a car being parked opposite. It was queried whether yellow lines could be extended. Councillor Abraham will take this issue up with the Cabinet Member.

15. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

12/366. IWALC Executive.

Councillor Doran was unable to attend the IWALC Executive meeting in late July. Councillor Pugh gave a presentation and officers were elected for the year for IWALC, with Gill Kennett kindly agreeing to remain Chair for another year. The next IWALC Executive meeting is on Thursday 20th September when closer working with Hampshire will be looked at.

12/367. Wootton Creek Fairways Association.

Councillor Mundell referred to the issue of people living on houseboats full time. The WCFA had written to Planning about this issue. Councillor Abraham will look into this matter.

12/368. BIFFA meeting

Councillor Murphy had attended a meeting at Lynbottom Tip to see how waste was handled.

16. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

12/369. Friends of the Crematorium

Literature and leaflets had been received about a new group whose aim is to work in conjunction with the council's Bereavement Services staff in maintaining the beauty and peace of the crematorium grounds. An area of the Crematorium is dedicated to babies/young children, with there being a serious issue of flooding over the last few years. The Council will pay for the drainage of the crematorium whilst the Friends of the Crematorium will raise money to maintain the area. This is a good service to support and leaflets will be held in the Help & Information Centre and will be put on the website.

12/370. Park Road, Wootton Bridge

A letter had been received about the 40 mph limit in Park Road. This road is used at the main route through to East and West Cowes and often by commuters wishing to avoid traffic hotspots. Peak traffic coincides with ferry arrivals. There has been a substantial increase in the number of coaches, lorries, large camper vans and caravans using this road, which is particularly problematic at the narrow end of Park Road in the area of the bridge at the Lushington end. Park Road will be on the Agenda for the October meeting as mentioned under Item 12/350 above.

Continued

12/371. Use of Recreation Ground

An email had been received from a local resident who had noticed he rarely sees any children playing games outside of the new play area but there are a lot of dogs being exercised. He had tried to play ball games with his children but they no longer play in the Recreation Ground as dogs were jumping up and taking the ball. In the spirit of the Olympics and Paralympics wondered if it would be a good opportunity for the Parish Council to see if there are ways to make the Recreation Ground more accessible to children without preventing owners being able to exercise their dogs.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD NOTE THE CONTENTS OF THE EMAIL RECEIVED ABOUT USE OF THE RECREATION GROUND.

17. ACCOUNTS.

12/372. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £3,767.21, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

12/373. To receive as report on the external audit.

Members were informed that the external audit was successfully signed off on 17 July 2012 and received back in the office on 16 August 2012. The statutory completion notices were displayed appropriately.

The Clerk was to investigate the situation regarding the Audit for next year as Auditing of Local Council accounts is undergoing a period of change.

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

12/374. Items to be included on the next Agenda.

- **Park Road.** Issues of speeding and overweight vehicles using the road.
- **General Power of Competence.** Does the Parish Council wish to use this new Power?

12/375. General Discussion.

- The meeting was informed that Mike Sheppard had passed away. Condolences were to be sent to his family. Mr Sheppard was a past Councillor and Chairman of the Parish Council and was extremely well thought of in the village.
- A query was raised about whether a contribution should be requested from Mr Giddings to the village due to the upheaval that was experienced at this year’s Pop Festival.
- The possibility of an Orchard at Pump Lane was raised. Concern was raised about this as bark gets damaged when strimming.

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

Signed

Date