

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2012 AT 7.00PM IN WOOTTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD, WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present : Councillor Ken Morris Chairman
Councillors Barry Abraham, Brian Ballard, Pete Mundell, Dick Doran, Roy Murphy, Daryll Pitcher

Also present: 1 Members of the public
0 Members of the press
Val Cooper - Parish Clerk

No matters were raised during the Open Forum.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

12/376. Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Fulford, S Porter and B Hailstone

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2012

12/377. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2012 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

12/378. Councillor Doran declared a Personal & Prejudicial interest in matters relating to Item 14 in respect of accounts for payment.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

12/379. New Medical Centre, Brannon Way (Minute 12/322)

A meeting had been held with Andrew Turner (MP) to try and progress the building of the new Medical Centre. Mr Turner wrote to the Chief Executive of the SHIP PCT; but no reply had been forthcoming from them. Property Services (IW Council) are also in the process of arranging a meeting with the Terrence Higgins Partnership in an attempt to address the hold ups. The local member will contact Mr Turner and Property Services to try and chase up the progress of the Medical Centre, stressing that the current surgery will probably have to be vacated in approximately 18 months.

12/380. Local Housing Needs Survey (Minute 12/326)

The Parish Council had received a number of tenders for the Local Housing Needs Survey, with a meeting set for Friday 19th October to score them. The successful tender needs to be signed off by the Parish Council on 2 November 2012.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLORS BRIAN BALLARD AND DARYLL PITCHER WILL BE DELEGATED THE POWER TO DECIDE WHICH LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY TO USE ONCE THESE HAVE BEEN SCORED.

12/381. Coastal Erosion – Darwins Holiday Site (Minute 12/327).

Councillor Morris and the Clerk had met with Councillor Edward Giles (Isle of Wight Council) to look at the extent of the erosion on the beach in front of the holiday site. It was agreed that considerable erosion had occurred in the last year, with Councillor Giles to liaise with Councillor Abraham about measures that could be taken to try and slow down any further erosion.

12/382. Venue for Parish Council Meetings (Minute 12/331).

Mr Morris, Chairman, had looked into the possibility of the Parish Council using the renovated Church Hall at the Methodist Church for Parish Council meetings. The room is already booked out on a Tuesday evening. This matter will be considered further once the Parish Council takes on the Old School Building in New Road.

12/383. Seating/Shelter outside Wootton Station (Minute 12/332).

Councillor Abraham had been advised that maintenance and refurbishment of bus shelters on the Island will be subsumed within the PFI contract. Unless the shelter is in a dangerous condition there are no resources to replace this.

12/384. Grass encroaching on to the pavement (minute 12/338).

The Local member had been informed that in the event of a trip or fall the IW Council would only be found liable if they had not kept up with their inspection regime and addressed problems identified or raised with

them. They would like to know the areas that are perceived to be a problem so that they can be inspected and action taken where necessary.

12/385. Disabled Access – Pavements/Pedestrian Crossing (Minute 12/339).

The Design and Traffic Team from IW Council had inspected the crossing point near Tesco's with regard difficulty using the dropped crossing point with a disabled scooter. There were no recommendations to either alter or adjust the crossing point. Graham Waters checked the gradients and confirmed that it had been constructed to the design recommendation.

12/386. Footpath N97 (Minute 12/340).

The Local Member had been advised that the issue of garden waste being dumped on/adjacent to footpath N97 would be regarded as fly tipping and has been passed to the waste team leader.

A discussion took place about new signs being placed to alter a footway/cycle path down a private road. The local member stated that is similar to when the council put up signs for footpaths and bridleways; it does not mean they own the land the footpath or bridleway runs across. The council will carry out some work to make sure the footpath or bridleway is up to a certain standard,

12/387. Private Roads – Police Situation (Minute 12/342).

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.

12/388. Brannon Way (Minute 12/365).

Councillor Abraham had chased the possibility of extending the yellow lines opposite the entrance to the car park to make it easier for the Community Bus to exit the car park.

12/389. Crossing at Sloop (Minute 12/365).

Councillor Abraham was going to a meeting on 17 October with Councillor Edward Giles regarding a request for a crossing at the Sloop Inn.

12/390. External Audit (Minute 373).

The Parish Council had been sent a letter appointing an external auditor from 2013/2014 for five years. (BDO LLP in Southampton). Auditing of Parish Council accounts is in a five year transitional period.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following applications:-

12/391. P/01363/12 TCP/169/G

Woodside Hall Nursing Home, Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge

Proposed upgrading of sewage treatment system including removal of existing tank and filter bed (revised scheme).

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL REITERATE THEIR REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE ON APPLICATION P/01363/12 TCP/169/G THAT THERE WILL BE NO FINANCIAL OR SEWAGE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE NEIGHBOURING PROPERTY – UNDERTWOOD COTTAGE.

12/392. P/01345/12 TCP/31235

75 Rectory Drive, Wootton Bridge

Proposed Conservatory.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01345/12 TCP/31235.

12/393. Decisions.

P/00554/12 – Approved (Fernhill Farm, High Street, Wootton Bridge)

P/00956/12 – Approved (Lushington Garage, High Street, Wootton Bridge).

P/01077/12 – Approved (59 Lushington Hill, Wootton Bridge)

P/01142/12 – Approved (Solent View, Woodside Road)

12/394. Tree Preservation Orders

TPO/1990 – Foxwood, 15 Glendale Close.

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

12/395. Report by Local Member.

Councillor Abraham reported that he would not be standing after the next elections for the Isle of Wight Council. Including Medina Borough Council he had served the council for twenty six years. It had been a

hard decision to take. He had enjoyed his time in office and had met some wonderful people, with most people being appreciative of his efforts. Councillor Ken Morris, Chairman of the Parish Council thanked Councillor Abraham for all of his years as an Isle of Wight Councillor and all that he does for Wootton.

Councillor Abraham referred to an advertisement for School Governors, with a request made for anyone who is interested to make contact.

7. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

12/396. To discuss youth issues in the village.

There were no youth issues to discuss.

12/397. To receive an update on the proposal to take over the old school building in New Road.

A meeting was held with Astrid Davies and Barry Cooke of the Isle of Wight Council on 10 October 2012. They are happy for the Parish Council to take on the Old School on a 5 year lease for a peppercorn rent of £1.00 p.a. The Parish Council can sublet the office with the permission of the IW Council and hire out the building as they wish. It is hoped there will be a completed lease and keys by the end of February 2013. Solicitors are now being instructed. This five year lease will enable the Parish Council to come up with a viable and sustainable option to either rent or purchase the Old School Building for the longer term.

8. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

12/398. To decide whether to use the new General Power of Competence.

The General Power of Competence 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.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL USE THE NEW GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE.

12/399. 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). Eligibility to use this power means that eligibility will need to be confirmed at the first Annual Meeting of the Parish Council after an Ordinary Election.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL CONFIRMS ITS ELIGIBILITY TO USE THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE.

9. PARK ROAD, WOOTTON BRIDGE

12/400. To consider how to address the traffic issues in Park Road

Park Road is subject to a 6'6" width restriction and a 7.5 tonne weight limit. A few years ago a 40 mph speed limit was introduced for the main section of the road, but no specific enforcement action seems to have been taken, with a minority of drivers going at extremely excessive speeds. A local resident who has lived in the road for twenty five years had spoken to the Police on three occasions. A speed camera was used on one occasion but no one was prosecuted, despite part of the road being 30 mph and many people driving in excess of this. Access in and out of driveways is dangerous. Councillor Abraham had emailed Peter Hayward of Highways requesting Speed Strips be put across the road. A speed reactive sign was put up in Park Road at the time of the Bestival, with information to be requested from this. The speed reactive sign in Station Road has been effective and a request will be made for this to be moved to Park Road to ascertain the peak times for speeding, which the Police can then target. The possibility of purchasing an appropriate speed reactive sign was raised.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL WRITE TO PETER HAYWARD TO REITERATE COUNCILLOR ABRAHAM'S REQUEST FOR SPEED STRIPS ACROSS THE ROAD IN PARK ROAD.

- THAT INFORMATION WILL BE REQUESTED FROM THE SPEED REACTOR SIGN USED AT THE BESTIVAL WEEKEND IN PARK ROAD.
- THAT A REQUEST WILL BE MADE FOR THE SPEED REACTIVE SIGN IN STATION ROAD TO BE MOVED TO PARK ROAD.
- THAT COUNCILLOR MURPHY WILL ASK PC NICK MASSEY TO USE THE MOBILE SPEED CAMERA IN PARK ROAD.

10. BEST KEPT EXTRA LARGE VILLAGE AWARD

12/401. To report on the Award Ceremony that took place on 27th September and to decide how to spend the £100 received for the benefit of the village.

Councillor Morris and the Clerk had attended the Best Kept Village Award Ceremony. A Trophy, Certificate and cheque for £100 had been received. A discussion took place about the best use of the £100, which it was felt should be towards the look of the village.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL PUT THE £100 RECEIVED FOR BEING THE BEST KEPT EXTRA LARGE VILLAGE TOWARDS THE VILLAGE IN BLOOM SCHEME NEXT YEAR. THE CLERK WILL LIAISE WITH COUNCILLOR PITCHER WHEN FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ABOUT THE SCHEME.

11. HIGHWAY MATTERS

To discuss any outstanding Highway issues.

12/402. St Edmunds.

Councillor Murphy referred to the issue of cars parking on a blind bend in St Edmunds. Cars have to drive on the wrong side of the road to get round these, with the problem being exacerbated by the new fence that has been installed that comes out to the edge of the pavement which has now created a serious hazard. Councillor Murphy reiterated his request for 20 mph on all peripheral roads. Councillor Abraham will take the issue raised about St Edmunds up with Peter Hayward and ask him to have a look at where the fence is. A suggestion was made for the Planning Department to be advised of the concerns raised about them allowing this fence to be installed in the hope that this type of problem does not occur again.

12/403. Traffic Lights in the High Street

Councillor Murphy referred to people asking him why there are two sets of traffic lights in the High Street, when there is nothing at the Sloop which is dangerous. Councillor Abraham is liaising with the IW Council about the possibility of a crossing at The Sloop.

12. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

12/404. IWALC Executive.

Councillor Doran attended the IWALC meeting that took place just after the last Parish Council Meeting. The key issues discussed included a re-run of training for Councillors, a few events in November and detailed aspects of Planning. A further meeting of IWALC is due on 18 October. Representatives from Hampshire will be attending the IWALC meeting in November about pooled services. Councillor Doran will be travelling extensively in the new few months so someone may need to attend IWALC meetings in his place.

12/405. Wootton Creek Fairways Association.

Councillor Mundell reported that the issue of people living on houseboats was raised. Councillor Abraham is chasing this up with Planning.

13. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

12/406. SOLO (organisers of the Isle of Wight Festival)

PC Nick Massey had sent an email to say that Dave Steele (a representative from SOLO) had asked if he could have a slot to present to the Parish Council to describe publically the problems which occurred with the Isle of Wight Festival in 2012 and what is being done for 2013 to ensure it does not happen again.

SOLO also want to poll local residents' thoughts and concerns before the planning for 2013 starts.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM SOLO TO BE INVITED TO THEIR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, WITH THIS AGENDA ITEM TO BE ADVERTISED.

12/407. Support for Community Sports Clubs

Ventnor Sea Kayaking club sent an email about Sported, the leading UK sport for development charity. Sported are about supporting organisations that engage young people, particularly from disadvantaged and deprived backgrounds, those socially excluded or in danger of offending. Sported requested the help of Councillors in making any budding or existing grass roots sports organisations aware of them.

RESOLVED – THAT INFORMATION ABOUT SPORTED WILL BE PASSED ON TO THE HEAD TEACHER AT WOOTTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Continued

12/408. The Bridge, Newsletter

The Parish Council had been approached about whether they want to continue with their four newsletters a year in The Bridge.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WISH TO CONTINUE WITH THEIR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS IN THE BRIDGE MAGAZINE AS THIS WORKS WELL AND MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF QUALITY STATUS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL.

- A SUGGESTION WAS ALSO MADE FOR THE CLERK TO CONTACT THE EDITOR OF THE RYDE AND WOOTTON ISLAND MAGAZINE TO DISCUSS SOME INPUT FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL.

12/409. Village Litter Pick

PGL Little Canada had made twenty five members of staff available to litter pick the village on 2 November 2012. The Parish Council were very grateful for their input.

RESOLVED – THAT REFRESHMENTS AT THE TEA ROOM OR COMMUNITY CENTRE WILL BE OFFERED TO THE PGL STAFF ON THEIR LITTER PICKING MORNING ON 2ND NOVEMBER IN THE VILLAGE.

12/410. One Show

The Clerk had investigated the possibility of the Old School Building being a project for the One Show, who are running an initiative about getting the community involved in projects. The One Show have been inundated with requests to be involved but hopefully there may be more information available by the time of the next meeting.

14. ACCOUNTS.

Councillor Doran declared an interest in this item and left the room.

12/411. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £3,759.56, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the invoice for the cleaning of the toilets in Brannon Way had not been included in the payments. The amount requested had been queried with the IW Council and new invoices are being sent out to Parish Councils who had taken on toilets that would otherwise have been closed. The Isle of Wight Council are currently out to tender for next year's cleaning costs and some of the Parish Councils involved are also obtaining quotations. A suggestion was made to consider one company to be used for both the public conveniences in Brannon Way and the Old School Building. The Clerk will look into this once progress has been made with the lease on the Old School.

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

12/412. Items to be included on the next Agenda.

No requests for specific Agenda items for the next meeting were received.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Signed

Date