

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
16 JULY 2013 AT 7.00 PM IN WOOTTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD,
WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present: Councillor Ken Morris - Chairman
Councillor Barry Abraham – Vice Chairman
Councillors Edward Giles, Barrie Hailstone, Pete Mundell, Daryl Pitcher, Steve Porter

Also present: 5 Members of the public
1 Member of the press
Val Cooper - Parish Clerk
Mark O'Sullivan – Manager – Age UK Good Neighbour Scheme
Fiona Langborne – Asst. Development Office Age UK Good Neighbour Scheme
Katleen Derytter – Community Action – Brussels.

Items raised in the Open Forum:

A member of the public queried the latest situation with the Rugby Club. Councillor Pitcher reported that a meeting is being held on 5 August 2013 for the group of residents involved to meet with the Isle of Wight Council. A meeting will then be held with the residents group, Isle of Wight Council, the Rugby Club and the Rugby Football Union. Councillor Giles offered to attend the meetings as the Parish Council representative.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

13/262. Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Corinne Corey, Dick Doran and Brian Ballard. Best wishes were sent to Councillor Ballard who was recovering at home after a spell in hospital.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2013 AND EXEMPT MINUTES DATED 11 JUNE 2013

13/263. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 June 2013 & Exempt Minutes dated 11 June 2013
RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2013 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.
RESOLVED – THAT THE EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2013 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION OF A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

13/264. No requests for dispensation of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest had been received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.

13/265. Councillor Pitcher declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning application for Holford Road.

5. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

13/266. Woodhouse Copse (Minute 13/225).

The enforcement officer advised the clerk that the Council's legal team have been instructed to prepare an Enforcement Notice in respect of Woodhouse Copse. The Enforcement team are liaising with the lawyers to ensure that the Notice is correct before it is issued.

13/267. Ash Farm, Upper Woodside Road (Minute 13/226).

The Enforcement Officer advised the clerk that the Local Planning Authority have received a new application with regard to Ash Farm for two sheds to be used as a preparation and packing area in connection with the chick business proposed there.

13/268. Litter Bins (Minute 13/228).

Stuart Marlton, Island Roads, is endeavoring to ascertain if new bins can be placed opposite the Spar Shop and Tesco Express at the bus stops.

Continued

13/269. Dog Bin – Footpath to Woodside Beach (Minute 12/229).

Dave Wallis (Island Roads) had informed the Clerk that the dog bin removed from Park Road will be installed at the top of the footpath to the beach at Lower Woodside Road going down to Woodside beach within the next 28 days.

13/270. Commemorative Plaque (Minute 13/230)

The replacement plaque for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Tree had been received. Councillor Abraham offered to deal with putting this up at the Recreation Ground.

13/271. Doctors Surgery (Minute 13/232).

The Clerk had been informed by Mr Dunne of the Charles Higgins Partnership that the Doctors are awaiting formal confirmation that they will be reimbursed for renting the new building. This is being chased.

13/272. Toilets at the Recreation Ground (Minute 13/246).

The Clerk had emailed Councillor Stubbings (Isle of Wight Council) to enquire if there was any leeway on the specification of a new toilet at the recreation ground if funding can be found.

13/273. Wootton Bridge Sports Bursary (Minute 12/250)

Wootton Youth Football team had invoiced the Parish Council for the items they purchased out of the sports bursary funding given to them. They also thanked the Parish Council for their support.

13/274. Police Crime Reports (13/253).

Those using the Crime Reports website are finding this useful. The Clerk receives automatic emails on a regular basis giving brief details of any crime committed.

13/275. Local Action Group (13/254).

A written report was provided by the Police as they were unable to attend the Parish Council Meeting. Over the last month a Local Action Group Meeting had been held. The Police felt that the combined meeting for Beats 10 and 4 did not meet the needs of the differing communities so it was decided that the general LAG meetings would be put aside and return to the smaller groups within each community. This would be achieved by working closely with each Parish Council and attending quarterly Parish Council Meetings.

Although not the fault of the local Beat Officers, it was felt that the village needed a better Police representation than it is currently getting. Some days there is no Police Officer available for the village, with more Police visibility required. It was felt that people are not reporting criminal damage as they do not feel action will be taken, which then results in the Police feeling there is no crime in the village.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL FOLLOW UP THE CONCERNS RAISED ABOUT LACK OF POLICE REPRESENTATION IN THE VILLAGE AND HOW THE POLICE CAN ENCOURAGE REPORTING OF CRIME BY REASSURING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN.

13/276. Advertising Space – Public Conveniences (13/261).

The Clerk had contacted Admedia via their website regarding the possibility of selling advertising space in the public conveniences in Brannon Way. A response was awaited.

13/277. Planting – Brannon Way Car Park

The Manager at Homebray House had raised concern about the planted area between the entrance and exit at the car park in Brannon Way. Although this has been cut back it does not look attractive as it needs replanting.

RESOLVED – COUNCILLOR PITCHER WILL LOOK INTO OBTAINING SOME PLANTS AT THE ENTRANCE AND EXIT TO THE CAR PARK WHICH WILL BE LOW MAINTENANCE. ONGOING MAINTENANCE COSTS WILL HAVE TO BE FACTORED INTO ANY PLANTING.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following applications:-

13/278. P/00782/13 TCP/31523

37 Palmers Road, Wootton Bridge

Demolition of garage and covered way; proposed single storey side extension to form double garage/workshop, web room and new porch.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00782/13.

13/279. P/00851/13 TCP/3149
31 Holford Road, Wootton Bridge
Proposed boundary fence.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00851/13.

13/280. P/00865/13 TCP/26890/D

Ash Farm, Lower Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge

Proposed construction of two sheds to be used as preparation and packaging unit and equipment and dry food store.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00865/13 APART FROM THE HISTORICAL CONCERNS AT ASH FARM. THE PARISH COUNCIL THEREFORE REQUESTS THAT A CONDITION IS PLACED ON THIS APPLICATION THAT NO RESIDENCY WILL BE APPROVED UNTIL THIS IS AN ESTABLISHED HOLDING.

13/281. Decisions.

P/00291/13 – Refused (Creek Gardens)

P/00596/13 – Approved (Oakhanger, Woodside Road)

13/282. Tree Preservation Orders

TP1992/17 – Land rear of 4 Park View, Wootton Bridge

TPO/1981/37 – Lakeside Park Hotel & Spa

TPO/2013/20 – Rose Cottage, Red Road

13/283. Woodside Beach Caravan Park (Minute 13/236)

The Parish Council had requested that a planning condition be placed on Planning Application P/00611/13 in respect of the access road to the caravan site. An email had been sent from David Long (Agent) to Mike Gildersleeves (Planning Department) to say that the intention of Darwins is to maintain the road to the current standard which has been upgraded over the past months. Through the implementation/construction stage, the wearing course will be retained and repaired where necessary. This will consist of ensuring that no specific points are left to deteriorate and will be repaired when necessary. Once finalised the existing wearing course will be overlaid with further Type 1 and/or compacted gravel which Darwin believes to be sufficient. Thereafter the standard will be maintained as it is obviously paramount to the success of the resort.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD CONTACT MIKE GILDERSLEEVES (PLANNING OFFICER) TO ENQUIRE IF THE MAINTENANCE OF THE ACCESS ROAD TO WOODSIDE BEACH CARAVAN PARK WILL BE MADE A CONDITION ON APPLICATION NO. P/00611/13.

7. AGE UK ISLE OF WIGHT – GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

13/284. To receive an update on the UKIW Good Neighbour Scheme and how this has helped older Island Residents

Mark O’Sullivan gave a presentation to the meeting about how the scheme had gone since he came to the meeting last year. The Age UK Isle of Wight Good Neighbour Scheme is an independent charity and every penny goes back to providing a service to local residents. There are twenty three schemes up and running across the Island plus volunteers in every Island area providing support. A total of 400 volunteers support 450 older scheme users who have no one else to turn to. This provided 31,500 hours of support last year which would not have been available from any other source. A number of volunteers have come forward from the Wootton area, with fifteen being the threshold for launching the scheme here. Mark ran through some success stories including lunch clubs which include partner services going in.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD RE-ADVERTISE THE AGE UK ISLE OF WIGHT GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME AND PUT DETAILS IN THE BRIDGE NEWSLETTER.

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

13/285. Report by local member.

Councillor Pitcher reported on the following items:-

Old School Building – Councillor Pitcher had been liaising with Stuart Love, Isle of Wight Council, in an endeavour to get the lease finalised.

Rugby Club. (Already referred to in the Open Forum at the beginning of the meeting).

Continued

Parish Council rent of for use of the Primary School building for meetings.

Historically the Isle of Wight Council had reimbursed Wootton Primary School for the use of the room for Parish Council meetings as an incentive for schools to let rooms out. Councillor Pitcher was told that this had changed from 1 April 2013 this year.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL ASCERTAIN IF CHARGING PARISH COUNCILS FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS WAS MINUTED BY THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL AND IF SO ASK FOR A COPY OF THE MINUTES.

Items also raised at the meeting included:-

Doctors Surgery. If there is no news a letter will be sent to Stuart Love and an email to Andrea Jenkins at the Isle of Wight Council to chase this matter up.

Japanese Knotweed. This is an environmental issue which Councillor Pitcher is chasing up.

Isle of Wight Festival. This passed off without incident, being a lot quieter than last year. It affected local businesses whose trade was adversely affected. Solo had made a good job of managing the roads.

9. YOUNG PEOPLE'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE VILLAGE

13/286. To discuss youth issues in the village.

Councillor Porter was confident that a second night at the Junior Youth Club would be successful. PGL have a good band of volunteers and young people go there to have fun.

13/287. To receive an update on the position regarding the lease on the old school building in New Road.

The Parish Council's Solicitor and Cllr Pitcher had chased the Legal Department at IW Council to return the lease. Some amendments had been requested by the Parish Council's Solicitor as well as confirmation of acceptance regarding the photos taken for the schedule of condition of the building.

10. PARTY IN THE PARK

13/288. To report on the Social Committee Meeting of the Village Partnership Meeting held on 9 July 2013.

The Clerk reported that the afternoon and evening events had all been arranged. A suggestion was made for Councillors to attend and hold a Parish Surgery in the afternoon. Plans for the new Doctors Surgery will be made available and the Tree Warden was to attend and answer any queries on matters relating to tree problems. Party in the Park had been advertised in the County Press, on Isle of Wight Radio and on the Parish Council website. Kite Hill Farm Caravan & Camping Park had kindly offered to sponsor a large wheelie bin to avoid the repeat of rubbish being attacked by vermin. The bin had been ordered by the Clerk.

13/289. Request for assistance at Party in the Park.

The Clerk asked for assistance, particularly with stewarding duties. A notice asking for volunteers had been placed on the Parish Council office window but no one had come forward.

11. HIGHWAY MATTERS

13/290. To discuss any outstanding Highway issues.

Councillor Hailstone raised the issue of potholes in the village including those in the High Street, Station Road and New Road. The Clerk had already reported concerns to Island Roads that morning.

12. HOLIDAY COVER

13/291. To consider a suggestion to make provision for extra paid hours when the Clerk is on annual leave.

It was felt that the office should be kept open as far as possible when the Clerk takes her annual leave.

RESOLVED – THAT MONEY WILL BE SET ASIDE IN THE NEXT BUDGET FOR EXTRA HOURS TO COVER THE CLERKS ANNUAL LEAVE IN AN ATTEMPT TO KEEP THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE OPEN DURING THE WEEK.

13. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

13/292. IWALC Executive.

Councillor Doran had circulated a report to Councillors regarding the IWALC AGM. The Leader and Deputy Leader of the IW Council attended the meeting and gave the strongest public support yet to working with Town & Parish Councils and urged Parish Councils to make the fullest use of the new partnership and new powers. The latest NALC report was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. The next IWALC Meeting is on 18 July 2013.

13/293. Island Roads

Councillor Morris and the Clerk had attended a meeting at Island Roads on the morning of 16 July. The background of the PFI was reiterated and how they intend to roll out the programme, details of which can be found on their website. Island Roads will be looking for Lay Assessors to go out for a day a month and look at work carried out. The Lay Assessors' feedback will be used to understand residents' perception of the Highway Services. Members of staff are also being given two days off a year to work on community projects. The Clerk had tentatively put forward the Old School and will contact them further once the lease is finalised. Councillor Abraham had raised the issue of the condition of the road outside the Spar shop in the High Street with Island Roads. Unless this is repaired to an acceptable standard, Island Roads will not get paid.

14. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

13/294. IWALC – Council Tax Relief on Public Toilets & Other Public Services

Bembridge Parish Council had raised the issue of council tax relief on public toilets and any other public services taken on by the Town & Parishes from IWC in the spirit of Localism. IWALC are raising this with Councillor Stubbings.

13/295. Help & Care

Documentation had been received from Help & Care (a voluntary organisation) about a telephone support service to offer information, advice and support to those living with Poor Mobility/fear of falls, Incontinence or Leg Ulcers. Information was put up on the noticeboard at the Parish Council office and on the website.

15. ACCOUNTS.

13/296. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £4,927.98, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

13/297. To receive a report on the External Audit

The External Auditor's report stated that on the basis of their review, in their opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation requirements had not been met. The annual return was signed off by the External Auditor on 21 June 2013. The statutory notice and accounts had been placed on the window and noticeboard at the Parish Council office.

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

13/298. Items to be included on the next Agenda.

- **Wild Flowers** – verges/wildlife corridors.

A matter was raised at this point about wide vehicles using side roads in the village. Councillor Pitcher was to raise this issue as it ties in well with the request for 20 mph on side roads.

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

Signed

Date