

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
17 SEPTEMBER 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 Corinne Carey, Dick Doran, Edward Giles, Barrie Hailstone,
Pete Mundell, Steve Porter, Daryll Pitcher (part)

Also present: 9 Members of the public
0 Member of the press
Val Cooper - Parish Clerk
Chris Mannion – 9d Energy Limited (Warmer Wight Scheme)
PC Lesley Metcalfe
PCSO Katy Berry

Items raised in the Open Forum:

No items were raised in the Open Forum.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

13/299. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Brian Ballard who was still recovering after his hospital admission. Councillor Daryll Pitcher sent apologies that he would be late as he had an Isle of Wight Council Meeting to attend prior to the Parish Council meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 JULY 2013

13/300. Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 July 2013.

RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 JULY 2013 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION OF A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

13/301. No requests for dispensation of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest had been received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.

13/302. Councillor Corinne Carey declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning application for Inwood as she knows the family. Councillor Dick Doran declared an interest in the payment of accounts as he knew one of the payees (DSES).

5. WARMER WIGHT SCHEME

13/303. Presentation on the Warmer Wight Scheme which helps Islanders on benefits and with hard to treat homes get access to Energy Company obligation funding.

Chris Mannion (9d Energy Ltd) works closely with the Footprint Trust who won some money for the Warmer Wight Scheme. 9d also work closely with Climate Energy using an approach to try and target suitable properties and tenants/owners on certain benefits who might be eligible for ECO funding to make their homes warmer and more cost effective to run. Once an area is identified, they deliver a letter to the tenant or owner to let them know they will be coming round that area in the next 48 hours. The scheme is already up and running but finding suitable home visitors is proving a problem. Endorsement for the scheme is awaited from the Isle of Wight Council. The Police and Age Concern are aware of the scheme and Trading Standards are aware of the cold calling approach. A few concerns about the cold calling approach were raised and answered, in particular with regards to more vulnerable residents.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL COULD NOT ENDORSE ONE PARTICULAR COMPANY OFFERING ECO FUNDING BUT THEY WOULD SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLE OF MAKING HOMES WARMER AND MORE ECO FRIENDLY.

6. MATTERS ARISING.
Progress reports only.

13/304. Rugby Club (Open Forum)

Councillor Giles reported that a meeting had been held on 5 August 2013 between the Isle of Wight Council and residents who back on to the Rugby Club. Councillors Giles and Pitcher had attended the meeting, where the residents' concerns were put forward very forcefully about issues of concern which included foul language, fly tipping and garden boundaries being broken. The residents' views on the suggested way forward were discussed at the meeting. The next step is for a meeting to be held to include representatives from the Rugby Club, Isle of Wight Council and residents, which Councillors Giles and Pitcher will attend.

13/305. Litter Bins (Minute 13/268)

The Island Roads District Steward for Wootton Bridge is now Matt Shaw. He will be liaising with Stuart Marlton about the outstanding issues, including bins going in at the bus stops in the High Street

13/306. Dog Bin – Footpath to Woodside Beach (Minute 12/269)

Dave Wallis (Island Roads) informed the Clerk that the new dog bin had been put in at the footpath going down to Woodside Beach. Councillor Mundell was thanked for checking the bin is in place. There were subsequent reports that this bin was not being emptied but this had now been resolved.

13/307. Commemorative Plaque (Minute 13/270)

Councillor Mundell was thanked for installing the replacement plaque for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee tree.

13/308. Doctors Surgery (Minute 13/271)

The Clerk had been informed by the Practice Manager that the letter requesting the necessary information about reimbursement of the rent for the new surgery had been received. The lease had now been signed and sent to the Doctors' solicitors for exchange with the Developer's solicitors. They hope to have a build start date in the near future.

13/309. Toilets at the Recreation Ground (Minute 13/272)

The Clerk had chased Councillor Stubbings (Isle of Wight Council) to enquire if there was any leeway on the specification of a new toilet at the recreation ground so that this could then be considered further.

13/310. Advertising Space – Public Conveniences (Minute 13/276)

The Clerk had again contacted Admedia regarding the possibility of selling advertising space in the public conveniences in Brannon Way. They had promised to come back with information but this had still not been forthcoming. Work on getting this information will continue.

13/311. Woodside Beach Caravan Park (Minute 13/283)

A condition has been placed on the planning application to say that "prior to the commencement of the development a photographic record on the surface of Lower Woodside Road (between the boundary of the caravan park and junction with Woodside Road) shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for agreement in writing, together with a maintenance specification to ensure that the surface of this extent of road is maintained during the implementation of the development and shall also include a final specification for the surface of the road prior to the first occupation of any of the caravans".

13/312. Parish Council rent for use of the Primary School buildings for meetings (Minute 13/285).

Councillor Stubbings had taken up the issue of the Parish Council being asked for reimbursement for the use of the room for Parish Council meetings.

13/313. Wootton Youth Club. (Minute 13/176)

Councillor Carey had been invited to join Councillors Porter and Ballard on the Wootton Youth Club Management Committee, which she has agreed to.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLOR CORINNE CAREY WOULD BE ELECTED TO SERVE ON THE WOOTTON YOUTH CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ALONG WITH THE EXISTING MEMBERS.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following applications:-

13/314. P/00902/13 TCP/31203/A
87 Mary Rose Avenue, Wootton Bridge
Proposed Conservatory.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL SUBMITTED COMMENTS TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ON 19 AUGUST 2013 TO ADVISE THEM THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION P/00902/13. THIS LETTER WAS SENT TO MEET THE DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS ON THE PLANNING APPLICATION.

13/315. P/00944/13 TCP/31581
5 Fernside Way, Wootton Bridge

Demolition of porch; single/two storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation to include dormer window on front elevation.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL SUBMITTED COMMENTS TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ON 19 AUGUST 2013 TO ADVISE THEM THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION P/00944/13. THIS LETTER WAS SENT TO MEET THE DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS ON THE PLANNING APPLICATION.

13/316. P/00982/13 TCP/01745/J
40 Station Road, Wootton Bridge

Demolition of conservatory; single storey side/rear extension to provide utility and living/dining area.
RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00982/13.

13/317. P/01087/13 TCP/22524/A
Inwood, New Road, Wootton Bridge
Proposed boat store.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISES NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01087/13.

13/318. Decisions.

P/00675/13 – Approved (Ivy Hall, Mill Square)
P/00851/13 – Approved (31 Holford Road)
P/00611/13 – Approved (Woodside Beach Caravan Park)
P/00782/13 – Refused (37 Palmers road, Wootton Bridge)
P/00902/13 – Approved (87 Mary Rose Avenue)
P/00944/13 – Approved (5 Fernside Way)
P/00865/13 – Approved (Ash Farm, Lower Woodside Road)

13/319. Tree Preservation Orders

TPO/1991/25 – 66 St Edmunds Walk.

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

13/320. Report by local member.

Councillor Pitcher provided a written report as follows:-

Roads

Councillor Pitcher was continuing to undertake a full review of the roads that he had prioritised. He felt it was important to look at all the roads as a whole, rather than look at individual roads in isolation as changes can have a knock on effect elsewhere. During August he met with representatives of Island Roads, the Police and residents to discuss the way forward with Brannon Way/Mary Rose Avenue/Fernside Way through road. An outline plan has been drawn up that should address the main issues of speed and parking. Councillor Pitcher is taking this forward with the IW Council, whilst the area superintendent of Island Roads is taking this forward his end. Other roads being used as cut throughs, as well as issues in Park Road of speeding, blind bends and width and weight restrictions are to be taken forward by Councillor Pitcher who will shortly be meeting with the new area representative from Island Roads when Park Road will be high up the agenda. Due to funding issues, Councillor Pitcher felt that unless a strong case can be made for action the plans won't go far.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLOR PITCHER WOULD DISCUSS THE PLANS FOR MARY ROSE AVENUE WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL. Continued

Continued

Rugby Club

Already mentioned in Matters Arising above.

Noticeboard

The new noticeboard for the village had been received and will be installed shortly.

Doctors Surgery

Already mentioned under Matters Arising above.

Grass Area between entrance and exit of car Park in Brannon Way.

Councillor Pitcher had investigated options for low maintenance plants. This will be looked at again in the spring as it is too late for planting now.

9. POLICE BEAT OFFICER FOR THE VILLAGE

13/321. Introduction to PC Lesley Metcalfe.

The Chairman welcomed PC Lesley Metcalfe and PCSO Katy Berry to the meeting. PC Metcalfe introduced herself and said she was looking forward to working Beats 4 and 10. Having grown up on the Island and coming back after working on the mainland, PC Metcalfe felt strongly that this is her community. PC Carolyn Whiteman will no longer be working Beats 10 and 4 as she has taken a career break. It is hoped that this position will be filled as soon as possible. In the meantime PC Metcalfe and PCSO Berry will do their best to show an increased visibility in the village. PC Metcalfe referred to issues they are working on and the Street Mapping which is working well. PC Metcalfe committed to attending quarterly Parish Council Meeting and apologised for the lack of presence at the meetings since PC Massey had moved on. PC Metcalfe acknowledged that resources are an issue but her priority was to reassure the public, both on the fear of crime as well as the reality. PC Metcalfe will arrange for an introduction to be put in The Bridge together with her photograph. Other matters discussed at this time included fly tipping.

PCSO Katy Berry stated that regular Beat Surgeries continue to be held on the first Tuesday of the month from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL SEND AN EMAIL TO COUNCILLORS REMINDING THEM OF THE LINK TO THE ONLINE STREET MAPPING SYSTEM.

10. OLD SCHOOL BUILDING, NEW ROAD

13/322. To receive an update on the position regarding the lease on the old school building in New Road.

Councillor Porter was hopeful that the lease would soon be completed on the Old School Building. Blue Sky Arts are currently using the building, having recently come to an agreement with the IW Council. They were previously based at the Riverside Centre and work through arts, drama and the sensory process with adults and children with learning difficulties. Blue Sky Arts wish to continue using the building once the Parish Council takes over the building and they wish to integrate into the community. This will provide an income from the start and will still enable the building to be used at evenings and weekends for other users.

11. COMMUNITY BUS

13/323. To receive information from the recent Havenstreet & Wootton Bridge Joint Management Board meeting.

Councillor Porter reported that since the Community Bus 34 service was amalgamated with the 25 service the service to local residents has deteriorated due to the new timetable. Other ways of running a community bus service are being investigated, including the possibility of a mini bus. Other issues raised at the recent Havenstreet and Wootton Bridge Joint Management Board meeting were provided at the Parish Council Meeting, including the decision that a request would be made for the timetable to revert back to how it was.

12. WILDFLOWER VERGES AND WILDLIFE CORRIDOR

13/324. To consider the suggestion for wildflower planting on verges.

Discussion took place about planting up some areas where wildflowers could grow and which may attract bees. Also, next year is the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I so the planting of

poppies was suggested. Island Roads would need to be consulted and areas suitable would need to be investigated.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLORS WOULD LOOK AT AREAS SUITABLE FOR PLANTING POPPIES AND BRING THIS BACK TO THE NEXT MEETING.

- THAT THE CLERK WOULD CONTACT ISLAND ROADS TO GET THEIR VIEWS ON THE PLANTING OF POPPIES AND WILDFLOWERS ON VERGES.

13. TREE WARDEN REPORT

13/325. To receive a report from the Tree Warden about the health of the trees in the village.
Gill Salter was unwell so this item will be placed on the October agenda.

14. PARTY IN THE PARK

13/326. To report on the “Wash Up” meeting following Party in the Park and suggestions made for next year.

The Clerk reported that the wash up meeting was held at the Steam Railway by kind invitation of Roger Macdonald and Peter Vail. During the discussions one of the key issues was the lack of stewards on the day. There must be ten to twelve next year as those present had been run off their feet trying to do everything. Also, the issue of whether the Parish Council should still run the event or whether this should be handed over to others was raised.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL HAND OVER THE RUNNING OF PARTY IN THE PARK TO THE VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP BUT LICENSES AND HEALTH & SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENTS WILL STILL NEED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE CLERK. THIS MATTER WILL BE RAISED AT THE AGM OF THE VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP ON 1 OCTOBER 2013.

15. QUALITY COUNCIL

13/327. To report on the progress of the consultation on the future of the Quality Council scheme review.

Proposals for the review of the Quality Council scheme had been circulated to Clerks. At the Clerks meeting on 30 August 2013 this item was discussed and it was felt that the 1, 2 and 3 star scheme content being proposed would result in a large number of Town and Parish Councils not going for reaccreditation. The Secretary of the Isle of Wight Branch of the SLCC was going to ask for this issue to be raised at the next NEC meeting.

13/328. To provide information on IWALC Training Dates for 2013.

The Clerk had circulated details of the training available to councilors and staff prior to the meeting and reminded Councillors of the training on offer at the meeting

16. POLICIES & PROCEDURES

13/329. To consider the review of the Parish Council Policies & Procedures.

The Clerk had gone through the Parish Council's policies and procedures and had prepared new drafts for consideration. These had been emailed to Councillors with their briefing notes sent with the Agenda. These policies and procedures consisted of:-

- Complaints Procedure
- Dignity at Work Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Disciplinary Procedure
- Volunteer Policy

RESOLVED – THAT THE REVISED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES SENT TO COUNCILLORS PRIOR TO THE MEETING SHOULD BE ADOPTED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL AND BE PLACED ON THE WEBSITE.

17. ISLAND ROADS – LAY ASSESSORS

13/330. To provide information about the Lay Assessor Scheme required by the Highway Services.

The requested information had not been available in time for the meeting and will be sent to Councillors when received.

18. PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE

13/331. To receive a report from the Clerk regarding the insurance renewal with Came & Co.

The premium for the Parish Council Insurance last year was £1,452.31. This year it is £1,421.09. The Officials Indemnity has been increased to £500,000 since last year. The Clerk recommended that the Parish Council renew with Came & Company as there is still another year of the three year long term agreement in place.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE RENEWAL FOR £1,421.09 BE ACCEPTED.

19. HIGHWAY MATTERS

To discuss any outstanding Highway issues

13/332. Park Road, - Oversized and Overweight Traffic (Minute 12/400)

A letter had been received from a resident who lives in Park Road who had raised the issue a year ago about oversized and overweight traffic, as well as speeding, in Park Road. Councillor Pitcher stated that he was aware of the problems (see Item 8 above

20. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

13/333. IWALC Executive.

Councillor Doran will be attending the next IWALC Executive Meeting on Thursday 19 September 2013. Councillor Doran had sent a written report to Councillors regarding the July IWALC Executive Meeting.

21. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

13/334. Wootton Short Mat Bowls Club

A letter had been received from Wootton Short Mat Bowls Club requesting consideration be given to funding from the Sports Bursary Funding towards replacing one of the long mats. Wootton Short Mat Bowls Club meet at the Community Centre on Tuesday and Fridays. The club has been in existence for approx 17 years and regularly has 20 to 30 players ranging from their late fifties to early nineties.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD AGREE TO FUNDING £250.00 TOWARDS A REPLACEMENT LONG MAT FOR WOOTTON SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB OUT OF THE WOOTTON SPORTS BURSARY FUND.

13/335. Isle of Wight Society for the Blind

A letter had been received from IWSB which is an independent local charity serving blind and partially sighted people on the Isle of Wight since 1995. There are approximately 1,500 people across the island on their register and this number is growing. There are 32 people in the parish of Wootton Bridge who are registered blind and probably a great number who are partially sighted and who have failing sight. To help them to continue the IWSB are asking for a small donation. They would be willing to come to a meeting if required to give more information.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD WRITE TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND AND REQUEST FURTHER INFORMATION ON THEIR FINANCES AND WHETHER THEY HAD ANY PARTICULAR PROJECT THAT WOULD IMPACT ON WOOTTON BRIDGE RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY SIGHT PROBLEMS.

13/336. Isle of Wight County Playing Fields Association

Renewal information had been received at a cost of £20 per annum. The Clerk stated that this is something the Parish Council agreed to become a member of in October 2011. The aim of the IOW County Playing Fields Association is to protect and preserve playing fields for future generations.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION.

13/337. Isle of Wight Music, Dance & Drama Festival

A letter had been received outlining their aims of encouraging music, dance, speech and drama on the Island and asking for financial donations for next year's festival in March.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL CANNOT MAKE A FINANCIAL DONATION TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT MUSIC, DANCE & DRAMA FESTIVAL BUT THEY MAY BE ABLE TO OFFER A FACILITY THEY CAN USE.

22. ACCOUNTS.

13/338. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members had been presented with the August accounts for payment on 14 August 2013, which had been approved.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment for September.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT IN SEPTEMBER TOTALLING £4,420.37, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

13/339. To formally minute the National Joint Council for Local Government Services pay award from 1 April 2013 for office staff.

As mentioned when approving the August payments, the National Joint Council for Local Government Services awarded a 1% pay increase across the board backdated to 1 April 2013.

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

13/340. Items to be included on the next Agenda.

- Tree Warden Report (postponed from this meeting)
- 20 mph in side roads in the village (to try and take this forward again).

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.40 p.m

Signed

Date

DRAFT