

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
17 DECEMBER 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,
Daryll Pitcher, Steve Porter
Also present 10 Members of the Public
1 Member of the press
Val Cooper - Parish Clerk

Items raised in the Open Forum:

No items were raised in the Open Forum.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

13/411. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Brian Ballard.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2013

13/412. Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 November 2013.

RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2013 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION OF A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

13/413. No requests for dispensation of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest had been received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.

13/414. Councillor Dick Doran declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to the payment to DFES.

5. COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

13/415. To receive information on the Community Speed Watch by the Police Community Support Officer.

This item was postponed to the next meeting as the Police were unable to attend the meeting.

6. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

13/416. Rugby Club (Minute 13/382)

Councillor Giles referred to the meeting with the Isle of Wight Council, local residents, the Rugby Club and the Rugby Football Union. Councillor Giles ran through issues discussed at the meeting, with all sides feeling some progress had been made. Mrs Pyner, representative of the local residents, thanked Councillor Giles for his time in attending the meeting and for another related matter. It was felt there had been a good airing of views and that both parties can move forward with a better relationship hopefully being forged. Minutes of the meeting will be out shortly and another meeting will be set up in the new year. Councillor Pitcher apologised that he had been unable to attend the meeting due to moving house.

13/417. Doctors Surgery (Minute 13/383)

The clerk had contacted the Practice Manager for an update but this was still awaited. Councillor Hailstone referred to Dr Kaiser saying everything had been signed but still there has been no commencement of the building work.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL CHASE FOR AN UPDATE IN THE NEW YEAR REGARDING WHEN THE BUILDING WORK WILL COMMENCE ON THE NEW DOCTORS SURGERY.

13/418. Litter Bins – High Street (Minute 13/386)

The litter bin had been installed at the bus stop opposite Tesco Express. The Clerk had advised Island Roads that the holding bolts need attention.

13/419. Wildlife Verges and Poppy Planting

A meeting has been set up for Wednesday 18 December with Island Roads, Councillor Barry Abraham and the Clerks of Wootton Bridge and Fishbourne to discuss this matter and the Island Roads Community Staff release scheme.

13/420. Wootton Creek Fairways Association

The Clerk had ascertained that the Parish Council has insurance for the land at Pump Lane.

13/421. Jetty at Woodside

Councillor Pitcher was asked for an update on the jetty at Woodside. Councillor Pitcher reported that the Isle of Wight Council has the final say about whether or not the jetty can go in. English Nature are not happy about the jetty and the Isle of Wight Council are loath to go against English Nature. The local resident has a consultant assisting him at the present time.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL ENQUIRE WHETHER A LETTER FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD ASSIST THE LOCAL RESIDENT IN GETTING HIS APPLICATION FOR A JETTY ACCEPTED.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following applications:-

13/422. P/01406/13 TCP/41681

19 Whitehead Crescent, Wootton Bridge

Proposed single storey extension on front elevation to enlarge lounge.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01406/13.

13/423. P/01487/13 A/00525/L

Harwoods, Lushington Garage, High Street, Wootton Bridge

1 x illuminated totem sign; 1 x illuminated entrance panel sign; illuminated logo and lettering signs on fascia, 2 x non-illuminated directional signs.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01487/13.

13/424. Decisions.

P/01134/13 – Approved (2 Glebe Gardens, Wootton Bridge)

P/01281/13 – Approved (58 Downsvew Gardens, Wootton Bridge).

13/425. Tree Preservation Orders

No Tree Preservation Orders had been received.

13/426. Appeal

APP/P2114/C/12/2187819 – Solent View, Lower Woodside Road

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

13/427. Report by local member.

Councillor Pitcher apologised for not circulating his report in advance as his move of house had resulted in him having no internet for ten days. He had nothing major to report, apart from the planning application for 40 Station Road now having had a successful conclusion.

9. 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT/SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

13/428. To consider the suggestion of putting forward the proposal for a 20 mph speed limit in the side roads in Wootton Bridge to the Isle of Wight Sustainability Forum.

A member of the public had sent a report to the Parish Council prior to the meeting. He outlined his concerns at the meeting and objected to the words “rat run” and felt safety measures are sometimes counter-productive, resulting in problems elsewhere. Councillor Pitcher stated that the roads in question are residential roads which were never designed for the quantity of traffic now using them. The proposal for 20 mph is to control the traffic and he felt doing nothing is not an option. A lengthy discussion ensued, both for and against a 20 mph speed limit.

RESOLVED – THAT INFORMATION ON FUNDING WILL BE OBTAINED FROM THE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM IN RESPECT OF A POSSIBLE 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT ON SIDE ROADS IN THE VILLAGE.

10. PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT 2014/2015

13/429. To consider the budget estimate for 2013/2014

A meeting had been held at the Parish Council office on Friday 6 December 2013. Information had been emailed to Councillors following the meeting.

13/430. To consider the Council tax precept for 2014/2015

The Council tax precept for 2014/2015 had been discussed at the meeting on 6 December 2013, with information sent to Councillors prior to the meeting. Concern was raised about the Isle of Wight Council wanting Town and Parish Councils to take on more services, with Wootton Bridge Parish Council already taking on the Public Conveniences and the Old School Building. This is a national problem which IWALC are looking into. The Isle of Wight Council are passing on the money which is being allocated as a special grant for 2014/2015 but there may not even be a grant the following year.

RESOLVED – THAT A FURTHER MEETING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE PRECEPT FOR 2014/2015 PRIOR TO THE JANUARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

11. DOG FOULING ON THE RECREATION GROUND

13/431. To see what action the Parish Council can take to assist with the issue of school children treading dog mess into the school.

Councillor Carey had been in discussion with the Head Teacher of Wootton Community Primary School about dog fouling on the Recreation Ground as children are walking this into the school. Discussion took place about how best to address dog fouling on the Recreation Ground as this is a long standing issue.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL LOOK AT THE INFORMATION GAINED PREVIOUSLY ABOUT A POSSIBLE BYE-LAW FOR DOGS TO BE KEPT ON A LEAD ON THE RECREATION GROUND DUE TO THE LONG STANDING ISSUE OF DOG FOULING.

12. AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

13/432. To consider a request for an extra Junior Youth Club evening.

The Head Teacher at Wootton Community Primary School had asked Councillor Carey if any assistance could be given to extra Youth Club provision in the village. The primary school were providing after school clubs but once a charge had to be made there was a huge drop in children attending, which is having a knock on effect of some of the older children becoming involved in antisocial behaviour.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLOR PORTER WILL LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF ADDING ANOTHER YOUTH CLUB EVENING.

- THAT COUNCILLORS DORAN AND PORTER WILL DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF GRANT FUNDING FOR AN EXTRA YOUTH CLUB SESSION.

13. CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

13/433. To feedback how the Christmas Festival went and the amount raised for next year's festival

The Clerk reported that the Roving Nativity Play was better than ever and the number of people who came back to the Community Centre greatly increased due to greater publicity. The Raffle and Refreshments raised £143.65, which after expenses have been taken out will go towards next year's event.

14. REMEMBRANCE ORCHARDS

13/434. To consider the proposal to plant fruit trees in each parish in commemoration of the local Great War dead.

Information had been emailed to Councillors about a proposal from Jill Cowley, wife of the Mayor of Yarmouth, to plant fruit trees in each parish in commemoration of the local Great War dead in the planting season after Remembrance Sunday for the five years of the war's centenary. Mrs Cowley would like to apply for funding for the project and wondered if Wootton Bridge Parish Council would consider taking part so that she can add our interest to the funding application.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE THE PROPOSAL TO PLANT FRUIT TREES TO COMMEMORATE THE LOCAL GREAT WAR DEAD.

- THAT COUNCILLOR ABRAHAM WILL RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH ISLAND ROADS TO GET THEIR VIEWS ON WHERE FRUIT TREES CAN BE PLANTED.

15. ISLE OF WIGHT SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

13/435. To consider whether to make a donation to the IOW Society for the Blind following further information received about local residents using their service.

At the last meeting it was agreed that the Parish Council would consider funding towards the Talking News and Talking Books recording equipment as there are 40 residents in Wootton who are registered blind, partially sighted or who have failing sight who benefit from these services. To replace the equipment will cost £1,000 and the IOW Society for the Blind are looking for a contribution to maintain this valued service.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL CONTRIBUTE £100 TO THE IOW SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND TOWARDS THE REPLACEMENT RECORDING EQUIPMENT FOR THE TALKING NEWS AND TALKING BOOKS.

16. HIGHWAY MATTERS

To discuss any outstanding Highway issues

13/436. Lushington Hill

The issue of cars parking half on and half off the pavements was raised.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLOR PITCHER WILL DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF CARS PARKING ON THE PAVEMENTS AT LUSHINGTON HILL WITH ISLAND ROADS.

13/437. Lay Assessors – Island Roads

Councillors Giles and Hailstone had signed up as Lay Assessors with Island Roads and had been issued with the appropriate equipment.

13/438. Harwoods Crossing

A query was raised about a workman being seen at Harwoods Crossing and whether work was to commence following concerns raised.

COUNCILLOR PITCHER WAS DUE TO HAVE A MEETING WITH ISLAND ROADS AND WILL SEE IF WORK AT HARWOODS CROSSING IS RAISED.

17. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

13/439. IWALC Executive.

Councillor Doran had circulated a written report following the last IWALC meeting on 21 November 2013 which featured a presentation from Mir Burbage of the Isle of Wight Council on budget plans for the coming year. Other issues discussed included the Quality Parish Council Scheme and possible excessive charging from Island Roads. IWALC are meeting shortly to look at the degree of cooperation with Isle of Wight Council protocols and budgets and to try and make the partnership work.

13/440. Island Roads

Councillor Pitcher had two meetings scheduled with Island Roads.

18. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

No items of correspondence were raised at the meeting.

19. ACCOUNTS.

13/441. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment for December 2013.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT IN DECEMBER TOTALLING £4,588.09, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

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

13/442. Items to be included on the next Agenda.

- Discussion on the precept for 2014/2015.
- 20 mph speed limit.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.

Signed Date