

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY  
21 JANUARY 2014 AT 7.00 PM IN WOOTTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD,  
WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present : Councillor Ken Morris - Chairman  
Councillors Corinne Carey, Dick Doran, Barrie Hailstone, Pete Mundell, Daryll Pitcher,  
Steve Porter

Also present 1 Members of the Public  
Gill Salter – Tree Warden  
1 Member of the press  
Val Cooper - Parish Clerk

**Items raised in the Open Forum:**

**Coastal Footpath**

A member of the public raised the issue of the second DEFRA request for consultation regarding the Coastal Footpath due to pressure from the Isle of Wight Ramblers. Particular concern was raised about the land down to Kings Quay and Palmers Brook which has internationally protected status. Concern was raised for the flora and fauna, with the coastal footpath being in conflict with this protected area, particularly as there would be an element of “spreading room” and provision for “roll back” due to coastal erosion. Concern was also raised at this time about private landowners being responsible for maintaining footpaths if this goes ahead and health and safety matters.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD WRITE OUTLINING THE CONCERNS ABOUT THE PROPOSED COASTAL FOOTPATH FROM EAST COWES TO WOOTTON DUE TO THIS INCLUDING AN AREA WITH INTERNATIONALLY PROTECTED STATUS WITH CONCERNS RAISED ABOUT FLORA AND FAUNA, AS WELL AS CONCERNS FOR LANDOWNERS DUE TO MAINTENANCE ISSUES AND HEALTH AND SAFETY.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**14/001.** Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brian Ballard, Edward Giles and Barry Abraham. Mr Ballard and Mr Abraham were unwell and Mr Giles was on holiday.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2013

**14/002. Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 December 2013.**

RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2013 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION OF A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

**14/003.** No requests for dispensation of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest had been received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.

**14/004.** Councillor Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to the planning application for Ivy Hall.

5. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

**14/005. Wildlife Verges and Poppy Planting** (Minute 13/419)

A meeting was held with Matt Shaw, Island Roads on 18 December 2013. Councillor Abraham and Mr Shaw visited the proposed sites after the meeting. Mr Shaw was then going to plot these on a map and get permission for this planting, including the implications for ongoing maintenance. The Clerk had also been asked to seek permission for planning from Peter Brooke, IWC, with a reply awaited.

**14/006. Jetty at Woodside** (Minute 13/421)

A letter of support was sent to the Planning Officer in support of the local resident’s application for a jetty. The local resident thanked the Parish Council for their assistance.

Continued .....

**14/007. After School Provision for Primary School Children** (Minute 13/432)

Councillor Porter had sent a letter home with the children from the Junior Youth Club asking if parents would like there to be a second evening each week and how much they would be prepared to contribute. Feedback on this was awaited.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

**To comment on the following applications:-**

**14/008.** P/01539/13 TPO/12446/D

Ivy Hall, Mill Square, Wootton Bridge

Proposed two storey extension to form garden room on ground floor and enlarge bedroom at first floor level; realignment of west parallel to boundary wall.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01539/13, PROVIDED THAT THERE ARE NO DISPUTES WITH NEIGHBOURING PROPERTIES.

**14/009.** P/01538/13 TPO/12446/C

Ivy Hall, Mill Square, Wootton Bridge

Continued use of dwelling as bed & breakfast guest house.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO P/01538/13 AND WOULD LIKE TO ACTIVELY SUPPORT THS APPLICATION.

**14/010.** P/00010/14 TCP/18000/A

Westwood Lodge, Brocks Copse Road, Wootton Bridge

Alterations and single storey extension on rear elevation to form lounge and dining area; provision of new pitched roof to existing garage to provide home office within roof space.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00010/14.

**14/011. Decisions.**

P/01379/13 – Approved (40 Station Road)

P/01399/13 – Approved (Calafrana, 11 Station Road)

P/01406/13 – Approved (19 Whitehead Crescent)

P/01487/13 – Approved – (Harwoods, Lushington Garage)

**14/012. Tree Preservation Orders**

TPO/1988/32 – 5 The Boltons, Kite Hill

TPO/2013/20 – Rose Cottage, Red Road

TPO/1972/1/A1 – West Creek, New Road

**14/013. Appeal**

APP/P2114/A/13/2209960 – Creek Gardens. (Appeal made against the decision of the IW Council to refuse the removal of Condition restricting units to holiday use only.

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

**14/014. Report by local member.**

Councillor Pitcher provided a written report for the meeting. Issues raised were:-

- Storm damage in the village and ownership of land.
- Free school bus passes – the arbitrary nature of which differs between families living very close to one another.
- Assisted Area Status bid.

8. NEW MEDICAL CENTRE

**14/015. To receive information regarding the delays to the building of the new medical centre and to discuss any action that can be taken.**

Mr Turner, MP, had been in contact with Dr Kaiser and discussed the delays. It was reported that the problem is between both sets of Solicitors. Discussion took place at the meeting about the delays being unacceptable.

RESOLVED – THAT A LETTER WILL BE SENT TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT COMMISSIONING GROUP EXPRESSING CONCERN REGARDING THE DELAYS WITH THE NEW SURGERY AND REQUESTING ASSISTANCE TO GET THIS RESOLVED.

Continued .....

- THAT DR KAISER WOULD BE INVITED TO A MEETING TO DISCUSS THE WAY FORWARD WITH THE DELAYS IN THE BUILDING OF THE NEW SURGERY.

9. 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT/SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

**14/016. To discuss funding issues relating to the possibility of implementing a 20 mph speed limit in side roads in the village.**

The Clerk had been advised that the Sustainability Forum does not have a separate budget but acts as a conduit for ideas from the community which it can then use to seek external funding. There was a query as to whether any additional funding would be needed for the 20 mph speed limit in the village and it was suggested the Parish Council or local County Councillor speak to Island Roads so that this can be considered when they do their Traffic Review Order of the Wootton area. Mr Wells, Transport Policy and Strategy Planning officer from the IW Council had advised that the setting of local speed limits is a matter for the council as the local transport authority. Councillor Pitcher stated that Island Roads are aware of this issue which will be considered shortly as the review is imminent.

Discussion took place about 20 mph speed limits in other areas that had been implemented with no hard engineering, only flashing speed signs.

10. PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT 2014/2015

**14/017. To agree the budget estimate for 2014/2015**

Meetings were held on 6 December 2013 and 9 January 2014 to go over the suggested budget and precept for 2014/2015.

Discussion took place about possible requests from the Isle of Wight Council to take on other services. The time for implementation is as yet unknown.

RESOLVED – THAT THE BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 2014/2015 BE ACCEPTED.

**14/018. To set the Council tax precept for 2014/2015**

The Council tax precept for 2014/2015 had been discussed at meetings on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2013 and 9 January 2014. Councillor Doran referred to information given at the recent IWALC meeting. Councillor Stubbings had reiterated the budget concerns going forward and the level of services that are going to be able to be funded in the coming year and beyond. Councillor Stubbings had made a suggestion that every Town and Parish Council should consider raising their Band D precept by £20 a year/40p per week, and pool these to help fund the shortfall. Discussion took place at the meeting about Wootton Bridge already investing substantially in devolved services. The majority view was that the suggested precept of £69,000 allowed for some surplus to take account of additional services coming the way of Town and Parish Councils.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PRECEPT FOR 2014/15 WOULD BE SET AT £69,000 (SIXTY NINE THOUSAND POUNDS)

11. DOG FOULING ON THE RECREATION GROUND

**14/019. To consider information received about Dog Control Orders and related information following the suggestion for dogs to be kept on a lead,**

The Clerk had contacted the Environment Officer at the IW Council for advice on seeking a bye-law for dogs to be kept on a lead on the Recreation Ground. Such an order is possible to put in place but it would be extremely difficult to police. The IWC already have in place a Dog Fouling of Land Order which would cover the failure to pick up after the dog whether the dog is on a lead or not.

The advice given was that if the Parish Council really wants to take a stand against dog fouling in their neighbourhood, they should inform residents to report offenders to the IWC with as much information as possible on 821000. These details will be used by officers to target their patrols so the more information provided the more likely it is for the offender to be caught and a fixed penalty notice of £75 issued. The Clerk had already asked for this information to go in the February edition of The Bridge. The Head teacher of Wootton Primary School had reported that dog mess is being trodden into the school from Church Road. They are keeping a log and reporting this to the IWC.

The Clerk had also carried out research on Dog Control Orders and outlined the procedure involved in applying for an Order.

RESOLVED – THAT LAMINATED SIGNS ASKING FOR HELP IN THE REPORTING OF DOG OWNERS NOT CLEARING UP AFTER THEIR DOG WOULD BE PREPARED AND PUT UP AT THE RECREATION GROUND AND CHURCH ROAD.

12. REMEMBRANCE ORCHARDS

**14/020. To receive an update on the proposal to plant fruit trees in each Parish in commemoration of the local Great War dead.**

It was agreed to keep this item separate from planting on verges when discussed with Mr Shaw of Island Roads. Information had been emailed to Councillors on 6 January from Jill Cowley. There is now a Development Officer from the Heritage Lottery Fund assigned to the project and they are moving towards the full grant application. The project will be linked closely with the Carisbrooke Castle WW1 work. Mrs Cowley would like to meet with interested Parish Councils in order to outline plans to discuss heritage and educational links, possible sites and suitable trees, whether plantings are envisaged each year of the commemoration and to discuss the creation of permanent records of enrichment for the parish.

Gill Salter, Tree Warden, felt although this was a nice idea, planting of orchards has come up before and she outlined her concerns. These included where to site the orchard, space needed, preparation and maintenance issues which would need a dedicated team going forward.

**RESOLVED – THAT JILL COWLEY WILL BE INVITED TO MEET WITH A GROUP OF PARISH COUNCILLORS AND THE TREE WARDEN IN ORDER TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO PROCEED WITH THE PROPOSAL TO PLANT FRUIT TREES IN COMMEMORATION OF THE LOCAL GREAT WAR DEAD.**

13. REVIEW OF THE ISLAND PLAN CORE STRATEGY POLICY SP2 HOUSING RESULTATION 18 AND SA/SEA SCOPING CONSULTATION

**14/021. To consider if the Parish Council wish to make a response regarding whether there is evidence or information that should be produced to support a review of Policy SP2.**

A letter had been received from Mr Boulter (Team Leader – Planning Policy, Conservation & Design – Isle of Wight Council) which was sent to Councillors on 14.1.14. Policy SP2 sets out the plan for 8,320 dwellings over the period 2011-2017 (average of 520 per year). The Isle of Wight Council are reviewing the policy and set out what they intend to produce to this end. They asked if the Parish Council considers there is other evidence or information that should be produced to support a review of policy SP2 and if so what it is and why.

**RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL SEND A RESPONSE TO MR BOULTER REGARDING THE REVIEW OF POLICY SP2 REQUESTING THAT THE LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY RECENTLY PREPARED BE PUT FORWARD AS NEW EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT A REVIEW OF POLICY SP2.**

14. HIGHWAY MATTERS

**To discuss any outstanding Highway issues**

**14/022. Pot Holes**

Pot holes had become worse during the recent wet weather, particularly those in Station Road. Councillor Pitcher understood that the next road to be repaired by Island Roads is Station Road, from the traffic lights to Fernside.

15. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

**14/023. IWALC Executive.**

Councillor Doran had circulated his report to Councillors. He already outlined the proposal by Councillor Stubbings under Item 10 above. Other matters raised at the IWALC Executive meeting was the presentation by Mr Newton of the Green Towns Scheme and the Natural Enterprise LEADER Funding. An update was also given at the meeting on the Assisted Area Status, with support requested.

**14/024. Old School Building (Youth Club Building)**

Councillors Porter and Carey attended a “users” meeting prior to the Parish Council meeting. Those using the building had been invited to a meeting to set ground rules, with all those present being happy with the current arrangements. The new windows are in place at the rear of the building and the heating has now been installed which has made a huge difference. Another meeting will be held next month.

The issue of whether or not the Parish Council meetings should be held at the Old School Building was again raised. At the moment this would not be convenient as the Senior Youth Club use the building on a Tuesday evening.

16. CORRESPONDENCE.  
For information only.

**14/025. Winter Conference – Facing the Future**

The Isle of Wight County Training Partnership had announced the Winter Conference “Facing the Future” which will be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at Cowes Yacht Haven – 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. The winter conference will set the scene for what Town and Parish Councils can be expected to face in the future following the IWC announcing their need to make savings of £28 million over the next 3 years.

RESOLVED – THAT REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL ATTEND THE WINTER CONFERENCE.

**14/026. Conservation Awards**

The Isle of Wight Society had invited the Parish Council to put forward nominations for good developments that have taken place around the Island during the last three years. The renovations to the Methodist Chapel in Station Road had been put forward as the work by those involved had been inspirational and the work carried out to a high standard.

17. ACCOUNTS.

**14/027. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.**

Members were presented with the accounts for payment for January 2014.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT IN JANUARY, TOTALLING £13,092.10, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

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

**14/028. Items to be included on the next Agenda.**

No specific items were put forward for the next Agenda.

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

Signed .....

Date .....