

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

Present : Councillor Ken Morris – Chairman  
Councillor Barry Abraham – Vice-Chairman  
Councillors, Dick Doran, Barrie Hailstone, Pete Mundell, Daryll Pitcher, Steve Porter

Also present 11 Members of the Public  
PCSO Katy Berry - Police  
0 Member of the press  
Val Cooper - Parish Clerk

**Items raised in the Open Forum:**

Further to the notices put up in Church Road requesting help in stopping dog fouling, a request was made to put some notices up in Palmers Road. This will be organised accordingly.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**14/029.** Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Corinne Carey, Edward Giles and Brian Ballard.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2014

**14/030. Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 January 2014.**

RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2014 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION OF A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

**14/031.** No requests for dispensation of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest had been received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.

**14/032.** No declarations of pecuniary or non pecuniary interests were received.

5. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

**14/033. Coastal Footpath** (Open Forum of last meeting)

The Parish Council had submitted their concerns on 22 January about the proposed footpath from E Cowes to Wootton in respect of flora and fauna as well as health and safety concerns and maintenance issues for land owners. The Parish Council had also requested deletion of the footpath from any protected areas.

**14/034. Wildlife Verges and Poppy Planting** (Minute 14/005)

Mark Roberts, Island Roads, had advised the Clerk that Islands Roads currently manage the grass verges in the areas put to them to an amenity level that requires the grass to be kept short. Their concern would be that when areas have wildflowers and poppies in them they can become quickly overgrown with weeds. In past trials this has also led to vegetation encroaching on to the carriageway and complaints from residents after the flowers have bloomed. Also, there would be the potential impact on the visibility of the road users and the safety of operatives during the work.

**14/035. After School Provision for Primary School Children (Minute 14/007)**

A decision had been made to concentrate on the one Junior Youth Club evening at the moment, rather than spread it out over two evenings.

**14/036. New Medical Centre (Minute 14/015)**

Since the last meeting things had moved on. Building work had commenced, with the anticipated completion date being October 2014.

Continued .....

**14/037. Parish Council Precept 2014/2015 (Minute 14/018)**

A letter had been sent to Mr Burbage at IW Council requesting the precept in the sum of £69,000. A letter of confirmation had been received to say this will be paid in April of this year.

**14/038. Dog Fouling (Minute 14/019)**

Notices had been put up at the Recreation Ground and Church Road asking for assistance in reporting offenders not picking up after their dogs.

**14/039. Remembrance Orchards (Minute 14/020)**

A meeting had been set with Jill Cowley for Thursday 27 February 2014 to include the Tree Warden and representatives from the Parish Council.

**14/040. Review of the Island Plan Core Strategy policy SP2 Housing (Minute 14/021)**

Mr Boulter thanked the Parish Council for its response to the Strategic Policy 2 Review Regulation 18 consultation. This along with other responses and technical evidence will inform the next stage of the review process, which will be the publication of the Council's proposals for the review of the policy which is expected in April/May.

**14/041. Assisted Area Status Bid (14/023)**

A letter had been received from Chris Brammall, IWC thanking the Parish Council for the letter and email in support of the Island's representation on Assisted Area Status. They anticipate hearing the results of the consultation in a few months' time and will keep the Parish Council informed.

**14/042. Conservation Awards (Minute 14/026)**

An email had been received advising that the IW Society will be viewing the work carried out at the Methodist Church on 23 March. They are liaising with Margaret Potts about this.

**14/043. Old School Building (Minute 13/401)**

A partition was to be put up in the hall. This would then mean that the Parish Council meetings could be held there on a Tuesday evening without interfering with the Senior Youth Club.

6. COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

**14/044. To receive a presentation from the Police on the new equipment available and the way forward.**

PCSO Katy Berry explained that Community Speed Watch had been running in Hampshire for three or four years. There are now two sets of equipment on the Isle of Wight that can be used by any community. The equipment is very similar to speed reactive signs and each community needs three volunteers. The scheme is already up and running on the Island. Warning letters will be sent to those drivers recorded as going over the speed limit by the volunteers, with a fine enforceable after three letters.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLORS BARRIE HAILSTONE AND DARYLL PITCHER WOULD VOLUNTEER TO TAKE PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH SCHEME.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

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

**14/045. P/00107/14 TCP/31757**

85 Church Road, Wootton Bridge

Alterations; single storey rear extension to provide lounge, kitchen and utility; alterations to car port to form garage; alterations to parking area.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00107/14,

**14/046. P/00139/14 TCP/12917/T**

Wootton Bridge Recreation Ground, Footways, Wootton Bridge

Proposed installation of 6 x 15 metre high floodlighting columns to serve the existing rugby pitch and training area.

The Clerk had been given information from the Isle of Wight Council about this application. The IW Rugby Football Club are in the process of being given a lease for the clubhouse and a license to use both the existing rugby pitch and the new second pitch referred to in the planning application. This license will require the IWRFC to make the second floodlit pitch available for use by other sporting/community groups when not being used by the Rugby Club. This will be managed by the IW Rugby Club who will be able to levy an appropriate hire fee. A number of residents attended the meeting regarding this planning application. Concerns raised included the noise and light

pollution on the surrounding properties, the level of increased usage and the impact of this on the Doorstep Green.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RAISED OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00139/14 TCP/12917/T DUE TO LACK OF INFORMATION IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION. IT WAS FELT THAT A PROPER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED IN RESPECT OF LIGHT AND NOISE POLLUTION TO LOCAL RESIDENTS. CONCERN ABOUT INCREASED USEAGE OF THE PITCHES WAS ALSO RAISED AND NEEDS TO BE CAREFULLY MANAGED AND CONSIDERED AS PART OF THIS APPLICATION. A PUBLIC MEETING WAS FELT NECESSARY TO MAKE ALL RESIDENTS IN WOOTTON BRIDGE AWARE OF PLANS FOR THIS PUBLIC OPEN SPACE.

**14/047. Decisions.**

P/01538/13 – Approved (Ivy Hall, Mill Square, WB)

**14/048. Tree Preservation Orders**

TPO/2006/17/TW/452 – Little Canada, New Road.

TPO/1994/18/W1/TW/62 – Woodland rear of 129 Mary Rose Avenue, Wootton.

**14/049. Appeal**

No Appeals had been received.

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

**14/050. Report by local member.**

Councillor Pitcher provided a written report for the meeting. Issues raised included the recent spell of inclement weather which had affected parts of the Island quite badly. Fortunately Wootton had got off reasonably well. Councillor Pitcher thanked the emergency services for their work during this time.

There were several significant planning issues for the village. These were the former Warners site at Woodside and the application for floodlights at the Recreation Ground. Councillor Pitcher felt it was important that the impact of the lights on residents and other users was given careful consideration before approval is granted.

The Isle of Wight Council was about to set the budget for the forthcoming year. Councillor Pitcher felt it was important that the IW Council continue to deliver services to people and give value for money, despite the significant savings they have to make.

9. VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP

**14/051. To endorse the Minutes of the Village Partnership Annual General Meeting held on 1 October 2013.**

Minutes had been sent to Councillors with their briefing notes. Minutes were signed off at the Village Partnership meeting on 11 February 2014.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL ENDORSE THE MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 1 OCTOBER 2013.

**14/052. To report on the Village Partnership Meeting held on 11 February 2014.**

The Christmas Festival had been discussed, with the existing format to continue. This year's festival will be held on Friday 12 December 2014.

Party in the Park will be coordinated by Andy Jackson of the Village Partnership along with Councillor Corinne Carey and Carol King. The Clerk will continue to arrange the licences and risk assessments and the Assistant Clerk will continue to arrange stallholders etc. This year's Party in the Park will be held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

There is going to be a Big Tidy Up once the weather improves, particularly in the Recreation Ground/Children's play area.

10. DARWINS HOLIDAY SITE – WOODSIDE

**14/053. To report on the plans for the new holiday site at Woodside and to give details of the public meeting to be held on 20 February 2014 at Lakeside Inn.**

A meeting had been held in the Parish Council office on 28 January 2014 with Darwins, Woodside Residents and representatives from the Parish Council. Planning permission was originally granted

for 186 units but only 128 will now be put in place. The work will be carried out in two phases, firstly 103 lodges and secondly 25 lodges, with a new planning application going in for the second phase. There will be no residential units, with the plan being to let all of the lodges initially and then to offer forty percent as second homes. The leisure building will be open to non-residents on a membership basis. Homes will be wooden lodges set out in closes, with trees to be maintained where possible. The holiday park will be open all year round and thirty permanent jobs will be created, with additional seasonal staff to be employed.

The access road to the new site had been the main concern at the meeting on 28 January. Various suggestions had been made on how to alleviate traffic both during the works and after completion of the holiday park. A public meeting was going to be held on Thursday 20 February 2014 at Lakeside for residents to meet the Darwins Management Team and raise any concerns or questions.

Concern was raised about the beach at Woodside, with Natural England not allowing any defences to be put in place, which had resulted in considerable erosion and lack of access to the beach.

11. **RISK ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING REGIME**

**14/054. To sanction the review of the Parish Council Risk Assessments.**

This is an annual procedural matter. The Clerk and Chairman had reviewed and amended the Risk Assessments.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENTS SHOULD BE SIGNED BY THE CHAIR AND THE CLERK.

**14/055. To review the monitoring regime in respect of the following:-**

- a) Parish Council land.
- b) Seats and litter bins.

The Clerk had sent an email to Larry Laws, past Parish Councillor, to ask if he will continue to monitor the Parish Council's land, seats and bins in connection with Health & Safety once the weather improves.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WILL LIAISE WITH LARRY LAWS IN RESPECT OF THE ONGOING HEALTH AND SAFETY MONITORING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL LAND, SEATS AND LITTER BINS.

**14/056. Parish Council Office,**

The assistant Parish Clerk has carried out the regular checks required in respect of Health & Safety at the Parish Council Office. The Tea Room also has its own Health & Safety policy.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ASSISTANT PARISH CLERK WILL CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY MONITORING REGIME AT THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE.

12. **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

**To discuss any outstanding Highway issues**

**14/057. Inconsiderate driving**

There had been a problem with drivers not being considerate when driving in standing water. It was pointed out that this is an offence under the Highway Code.

13. **COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.**

To report on the following meetings:-

**14/058. IWALC Executive.**

Councillor Doran had circulated a report to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Winter Conference was well attended and examples of "best practice" were heard from around the country in the Town and Parish Council sector. The key point was that a more imaginative and enterprising use of some of the Powers given to Town and Parish Councils should be used to maintain essential services. Clustering with neighbouring local councils had been successful in other areas and needs more thought on the Island.

**14/059. Wootton Creek Fairways Association**

The public slipway was the only issue raised. This had suffered significant damage in the recent spell of bad weather. The Clerk was trying to find out when the IW Council intends to repair this.

Continued .....

**14/060. Users Meeting – Old School**

Monthly meetings to include the users of the building were proving successful in the smooth running of the facility.

14. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

**14/061. Isle of Wight Society for the Blind**

A letter of thanks had been received for the donation sent towards the talking library and talking news.

**14/062. Island Roads**

A Customer Survey had been issued for completion.

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLOR HAILSTONE WOULD ASSIST IN THE COMPLETION OF THE ISLAND ROADS SURVEY AS HE IS A LAY ASSESSOR FOR ISLAND ROADS.

15. ACCOUNTS.

**14/063. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.**

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

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT IN FEBRUARY, TOTALLING £10,225.64, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX A OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

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

**14/064. Items to be included on the next Agenda.**

- Public meeting about the Rugby Club.

IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED IT IS ADVISABLE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS BE TEMPORARILY EXCLUDED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS AND THEY ARE INSTRUCTED TO WITHDRAW – IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 s1(2) AND STANDING ORDER NO. 57

17. STAFF MATTERS

**14/065. To discuss staff contractual issues.**

The Parish Council considered staff contractual issues.

18. GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT

**14/066. To consider quotes received and agree the grass cutting contract.**

The quotation received for the grass cutting was discussed. It was agreed that further quotations would be obtained and taken to the March meeting.

An Extra Item was raised by the Chairman at this point.

19. **14/067. Councillor Ballard**

Discussion took place about Councillor Ballard..

RESOLVED – THAT COUNCILLORS APPROVED THE REASON FOR COUNCILLOR BALLARD'S ABSENCE FROM FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS (LGA 1972 S85 (1) AND (2)).  
- THAT COUNCILLOR BALLARD WILL CONTINUE TO REPRESENT THE PARISH COUNCIL AT MEETINGS REGARDING THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING.

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

Signed .....

Date .....