

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 7.00 PM IN THE OLD SCHOOL, NEW ROAD, WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present: Councilor Ken Morris – Chairman
Councilor Barry Abraham – Vice-Chairman
Councilors Corinne Carey, Pete Mundell, Edward Giles, Linda Pitcher, Daryll Pitcher and Steve Porter

Also present 7 Members of the Public
1 Member of the press
Liz Kingston - Parish Clerk

Items raised in the Open Forum:

Woodside Bay Holiday Village

A member of public raised concerns over the planning application with regards to the road and ditches. All water will drain into the sea and this will include water from the roads which will include petrol, diesel and oil. She was informed by Darwins that oil/petrol interceptors would be put in place at a meeting she went to in July. They stated they would send monthly reports; however to date she has not received any. Another member of public had concerns with Health & Safety of the children walking down to the High Street from New Road as the road and pavements are in such a state. Councilor Daryll Pitcher stated that the pavements are to be renewed next year.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

14/240. Apologies for absence were received from Barrie Hailstone and Brian Ballard

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 JULY 2014 & 5 AUGUST 2014

14/241. Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 July 2014 and 5 August 2014

RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 JULY 2014 & 5 AUGUST 2014 BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AND SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION OF A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

14/242. No requests for dispensation of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest had been received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.

14/243. No declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests were received.

5. MATTERS ARISING.

Progress reports only.

14/244. MARINE CONSERVATION ZONE FROM NORRIS TO RYDE (14/213)

They are not making a decision on which areas will be up for consultation until January/February 2015. Graham Lascelles and Peter & Jean Foister have written to Andrew Turner to complain and he is going to be arranging a meeting for Island residents to meet George Eustice Minister for DEFRA. Peter & Jean Foister will advise when they have any details. (See Appendix A)

14/245. 20MPH ZONES (14/192)

The IOW Council now seem in favour of side roads having speed limits of 20 MPH. Would the council now look at implementing this speed limit on all side roads in the village? Need

to know the costs and if we would need to contribute. Letters need to be sent to IOWC & Island Roads for them to assess and see if the council has the funds available.

RESOLVED – THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE THE CLERK TO WRITE TO ISLAND ROADS AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL WITH A REQUEST FOR ALL ROADS EXCEPT THE HIGH STREET AND STATION ROAD

6. TO DISCUSS BEACH CLEANING PROPOSALS & SUSPENSION OF FINANCIAL CO-OPERATION WITH THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL

14/246. Devolution of Services

A copy of a letter from Alex Minns was given out to all councillors (Appendix B). Councillor Daryll Pitcher was concerned that the Parish Council has been asked to provide finance, by the Isle of Wight Council, for various things such as beach cleaning and all the costs of the recreation ground; however at the same time they have just introduced charges into our car park. The introduction of parking charges not only affects the village but will have an impact on the income for the Parish Council. Councillor D Pitcher would like the Parish to go back to the IOW council and state they have gone too far, that they should be working together with us, you have ignored all our representations and therefore we are not going to play ball with them. How can we commit funds to help them when our own income is being adversely affected by their decisions.

It was asked what would happen to the services, (beach cleaning, maintenance of the recreation ground and environmental officers) if the Parish did not contribute. Councillor Porter explained we are in no different position than other town and parish councils around the country. The only option is for the Parish Council to say to people if you want to keep these services then you have to pay for them.

Councillor Morris explained that the sports users at the recreation ground pay a lot of money to be able to use the facilities; however the Parish Council are expected to pay the full amount.

Councillor Abraham stated that Newport Council has undertaken to make a payment of £10,000 towards their contribution to the beach cleaning instead of £28,000. He understands why they have done this as everyone on the Island has the opportunity to use the beaches and it is an amenity that attracts people. The problem he has is that has it been arranged fairly for all parish councils, is there a detailed breakdown of what each Parish is paying. As the rugby club is the main users of the recreation ground, and the use could increase now they have the flood lights in place, are they paying a larger share for the use of the ground. If they are not it is unfair for this to fall on the residents of Wootton. Councillor Porter said that if we knew the income being generated from the recreation ground then we could see the net amount required by the council.

It was raised that if the tenders are going out now then how does the Council know what the costs are. It was mentioned by a member of the public that the council can't really make a decision unless they have the full details of the income and expenditure.

Councillor Giles stated that if the Parish was to pay the £9000 then that represented an eighth of the parish budget for the year.

Councillor D Pitcher explained that the Isle of Wight council required another 30p per head for the environment officers; however Wootton has suffered with a dog fouling problem throughout the village and nothing has ever been done about it.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD NOT SUSPEND FINANCIAL COOPERATION WITH THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL. THAT THE COUNCIL WILL NOT CONSIDER FUNDING THE RECREATION GROUND UNTIL FULL INCOME AND EXPENSES HAVE BEEN DISCLOSED. THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL AGREE A CONTRIBUTION IN PRINCIPLE IF THE MAJORITY OF OTHER ISLAND PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS AGREE. THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL DISCUSS THE ENVIRONMENT OFFICER SERVICES AT A LATER DATE.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following applications:-

14/247. P/01050/14 TCP/31990

8 Park View, Wootton Bridge.

Proposed single storey side extension to provide garden room, utility and additional garage; decking

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01050/14, PROVIDED THAT THERE ARE NO DISPUTES WITH NEIGHBOURING PROPERTIES

14/248. P/00440/14 TCP/20245/D

Woodside Bay Holiday Village, New Road, Wootton Bridge.

Re-development of existing holiday Village to provide up to 130 holiday lodges (including tree house pods), leisure building and maintenance building; new vehicular access; construction of roads, footpaths and parking; upgrading of a section of new Road.

(Revised layout of proposed lodges and revised plans relating to site access reducing road narrowing from 3.7m to 3.5m) (Re-advertised application)

A Letter from Mr. Boyd, a member of the public, was read out (see appendix C). Councillor D Pitcher stated that he organised a meeting between the Council, Island Roads, Woodside Residents and Darwins. Island Roads are aware of the problems with New Road and they are bringing forward the timetable for renewing the road. The timetable coincides with Darwins, as they will be rebuilding it at the same time as Island Roads are trying to rebuild their part of the road. Darwins plan to open for the 2016 season so Councillor D Pitcher thinks that Island Roads have scheduled to renew New Road next year.

The council has already responded to this application, which is on the planning web site. RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAVE NO OBJECTIONS PER SE TO THE APPLICATION HOWEVER THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A COPY OF THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR DURING AND AFTER THE DEVELOPMENT AND THEY HAVE THE FOLLOWING CONCERNS:

- TAKING CARAVANS ONTO THE SITE
- TAKING MATERIALS ON TO THE SITE AND THE SPOILS BEING TAKEN AWAY
- THAT THE ROAD WILL BE UP TO A STANDARD THAT CAN TAKE LORRIES WITH CARAVANS ON THE BACKS
- THE PLANNED UPGRADE TO NEW ROAD BY ISLAND ROADS AND THE UPGRADE PLANNED BY DARWINS; HOW IS THIS GOING TO BE COORDINATED.

14/249. P/01062/14 TCP/31757/A

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 (revised scheme)

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/01062/14, PROVIDED THAT THERE ARE NO DISPUTES WITH NEIGHBOURING PROPERTIES

14/250. P00930/14 TCP/01081/Z

Brook, Creek Gardens, New Road, Wootton Bridge

Variation of condition no.1 on P/00086/05 – TCP/01081/W to allow holiday use only between 1st April and 31st October in each calendar year and unrestricted residential accommodation for the remaining months in each calendar year.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION P/00930/14, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD BE NICE IF THE COUNCIL DID OCCASSIONALLY CHECK UP ON IT.

Urgent planning matters: Any other planning applications received after the agenda was published.

14/251. P/01080/14 TCP/09682/F

Fernhill House, Wootton Bridge

Change of use of land to camp site to include provision of two demountable timber bases and shower/w.c facilities within existing outbuilding.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LOOK AT THIS PLANNING APPLICATION WHEN THE PLANS HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE PARISH OFFICE.

14/252. P/01075/14 TCP/24309/G

Buttercup Farm, Palmers Road, Wootton Bridge

Proposed detached building to provide unit of holiday accommodation (revised scheme)

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LOOK AT THIS PLANNING APPLICATION WHEN THE PLANS HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE PARISH OFFICE.

14/253. Decisions.

P/00310/14 – Refused - Bridgemoor – detached house with parking

P/00856/14 – Approved – 28 and 30 Station Road – proposed detached garage

P/00571/14 – Refused – 27 and 131 Mary Rose Avenue – pair semi- detached houses

P/00723/14 – Approved – Lower Westwood – extension at first floor level

14/254. Tree Preservation Orders

TPO/1988/10/TW/260/14/Lett1 – 19 Fernside Avenue, (T1 & T4 Oak – reduce the crown width by 20%, raise crown to 4 metres above ground level and thin remaining crown by 20%) – allow greater levels of light through garden

TPO/1992/17/W1/TW/273/14/Lett1 – Little Copse, Park Road (T1 & T2 Macrocarpa & T3 Oak to be felled to near ground level and clean up other oaks) – manage woodland

TPO/1994/18/W1/TW/285/14/Lett1 – Woodland rear of children’s play area, Mary Rose Avenue, (T1 Ash to be felled to near ground level) – remove potentially dangerous tree to prevent it collapsing.

14/255. Appeal

None

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

14/256. Report by local member.

Councilor Pitcher provided a written report for the meeting, (appendix D). Issues raised included:

- Roads
- Ferries
- Council Hiatus
- Notice Board

9. HIGHWAY MATTERS

To discuss any outstanding Highway issues.

14/257. Community Speed Watch

Councilor Hailstone wanted the Parish Council to formally request the police to carry out speed check watches in New Road. The police are currently asking for volunteers for a community speed watch. The details are at the parish office.

10. BRANNONS TEA ROOM

14/258. To look at the future of the tea room

Rachel has written to the Parish council and she has made it clear that the café will not be viable once parking charges come in and she wanted to give the Parish Council the option to take it over as a community tea room. Figures and options were sent to the Parish Council and the Council explained they would support all options except the bistro restaurant and hot food. The Council asked Rachel which was her preferred option and she stated the council taking it over as a community tea room. Councillor Morris said it would be a shame that Rachel wanted to leave but as Rachel pointed out it would cost her money to run it and she did not feel that anyone else would want to come in and run it at a loss.

Councillor Hailstone was concerned about the implications of employing people, NI and pension contributions. He felt it would be better if the Parish could encourage someone else to take it over. It was confirmed that NI would not be payable if the employee earned under £111 per week and again pension contributions would not need to be paid if the employee earned under £481 per month. Councillor Porter would like to see the tea room carry on; however Councillor Giles was concerned that the Parish council might be subsidising it against other competition in the village. Councillor Morris felt that the Parish needed to keep it going. Councillor Abraham felt the Parish would have to be very careful if it was agreed to take it on, he felt that we should ask the community center to see if they wanted to be involved in it. Councillor D Pitcher felt it should be saved if at all possible and the Parish should try and find a franchisee to run it on our behalf. Rachel pointed out that under the current turnover there would be no way a franchise would touch it. It was agreed in principle that the Parish Council wanted to save it, but it would cost the council money.
RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WANTED TO HAVE FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THIS AT A FUTURE MEETING.

11. PARISH INSURANCE

14/259. To receive a report from the clerk regarding the insurance renewal

The premium for the Parish Council Insurance last year was £1,421.09 and the toilet building insurance was £254.94. The toilets were insured separately as Aviva did not cover subsidence. This year I have obtained the following quotes for the Parish Council Insurance and the toilet insurance, Aviva £1260.86, Ansvar £1283.84, Hiscox £1312.14 and Zurich £1059.08. Having looked at all the policies and discussed this with Councillor Hailstone, the Clerk recommends the Zurich policy as they will cover the subsidence for the toilets, and the Officials Indemnity has been increased to £12,000,000. The Clerk recommended that the Parish Council renew with Zurich and take a 3 year agreement as this would save the Parish approximately £616.95 per annum

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE WILL BE RENEWED THROUGH ZURICH FOR £1059.08 FOR A 3 YEAR PERIOD AND THAT INDEXATION WOULD BE INCLUDED EVERY YEAR AT 3%.

12. VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP

14/260. To endorse the minutes of the Village Partnership meeting held on 24 June 2014.

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2014 were approved and signed at the Village Partnership meeting held on 9 September 2014. These need to be endorsed by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON 24 JUNE 2014 WERE ENDORSED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL.

14/261 To report on the meeting of the Village Partnership meeting held on 9 September 2014.

Please see appendix A. Party in the Park went well and it was commented that the programs did very well. Corrine worked very hard. Brian dealt well with the dancing and the few drunken people. There was talk of possibly starting earlier next year possibly 12. The date for next year was set as the 25 July 2015.

This years Christmas Festival was discussed and a committee has been set up to coordinate it. It was suggested to keep the whole event in Brannon Way although a procession could still take place around the square. Liz requested details of events that are held at the churches and the community center as people often pop into the Parish Office to ask about where a certain event is.

13. COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

To report on the following meetings:-

14/262. IWALC Executive.

Councilor Abraham went to a meeting in July; however there was hardly anybody there and it was a very quiet meeting. He explained that the next one is on Thursday 18 and that they will be discussing the beach cleaning contract as well as the devolution of other services.

14/263. Car Park Meeting

Councilor Morris stated there was a meeting with Alex Minns and Sean Newton on 10 September 2014 to discuss the car park charges and the options available. The proposals where:

- To continue with the introduction of charges as proposed in the car park order for introduction on the 1 November 2014
- To introduce the meters and charging from the 1 November 2014. To set up the meters with a ticket that allows the first two hours to be free, (although a ticket must be collected). This will allow us to consider the revenue that could be generated, particularly in light of the new doctors' surgery. To request the sum of £2000.00 from the Parish to cover the cost of this during this financial year. Thereafter we could have the data to consider what charge would need to be made in future years to allow this arrangement to continue.

The clerk did make an enquiry about only having to pay a pound for the first 2 hours; however Alex explained that they would have to make a change to all long stay car parks which had the first hour free. This would need to be agreed with members. He stated he would confirm the process of how this was to be done. The decision would then need to be agreed by members as this will change the tariff that they have agreed at committee.

Although we could obtain 6 months of 2 hours free it is only delaying the inevitable especially if the Parish contribution raises to an amount it can't afford. It does not seem the council will budge on anything to do with the car park as they are convinced that it will take well over what the Parish Council is prepared to pay. It was felt that it will only be a matter of time before the one hour free disappears. It was stated that the Parish should look at Eric Pickles recent declaration in respect to Councils implementing unreasonable car park charges.

Councillor Abraham stated that the Macdonald report in 2001 stated that the people would go and park in the streets if charges were brought into the Brannon Way car park. He also mentioned that lack of disabled bays and that they are the opposite side to the new doctors. Councillor Giles suggested speaking to the other parishes with free car parks and see if as a group it can be challenged.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL COULD NOT AFFORD THE COSTS AND THAT COUNCILOR ABRHAM WOULD BRING UP THE CAR PARK ISSUE AT THE IWALC MEETING.

14 CORRESPONDENCE AND EMAIL TRAFFIC

14/264. What is required?

Does anybody read it and does anyone come back to the Clerk about it. The clerk explained that she sends items that are just for your information but occasionally she does send items that require the Councillors to respond with either their comments or thoughts. She very rarely gets anything back. Councillor Abraham stated he gets a lot of emails come through and it can be hard to pick out what is relevant and what isn't.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD MARK ITEMS THAT SHE NEEDS COMMENTS BACK ON AS URGENT OR READ RECEIPT

15. CORRESPONDENCE.

For information only.

14/265. Funding requests.

There have been two funding requests. One from the Scouts and one from the Isle of Wight Music Dance & Drama Festival.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LOOK AT THESE IN MARCH 2015. THE CLERK WILL WRITE TO THE PARTIES AND ADVISE THEM THAT THEIR REQUESTS WOULD BE LOOKED AT IN MARCH 2015.

14/266. Park Road

Ian Newman has written to the Parish Council and Hampshire Constabulary about the lack of law enforcement taking place along Park Road.

14/267. Donation to IWSB

A letter from the Isle of Wight Society for the Blind to thank the Parish for their donation and that it was used to purchase a specialist computer for their Talking News. They have invited 3 members to a cheese and wine evening at Millbrooke House on Thursday 16 October at 6.30pm.

16. ACCOUNTS.

14/268. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT TOTALLING £8793.91, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX E OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

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

14/269. Items to be included on the next Agenda.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.48 p.m.

Signed

Date