

PCM November 2011

Date posted

1 Jan 2012

Minutes of the Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 30th November 2011 in the Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present : Cllr Mr P Smail – Chair	Cllr Mr M Williams
Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby – Vice Chair	Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk
Cllr Mrs S Sorby	County Councillor Mr T Thacker
Cllr Mr J Beach	No Members of the Public present
Cllr Mr R Selbie	
Apologies : Cllr Mrs C Read	Borough Councillor Mr K Watts
PC Paula Deery	County Councillor Mr T Thacker
Mr G Finlayson	

WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr Mr J Beach declared an interest in the narrowing of the river at Tufton.

TUFTON: Cllr Mr J Beach reported that the telephone box in Tufton is looking tatty and could do with a face lift. The Chairman stated that the telephone box belongs to the Parish Council as it was purchased in 2010 for £1 from BT. The Clerk reported that several of his other parishes have refurbished their telephone boxes, painting them inside and out, installing a notice board and shelves at a cost of £260. The Parish Council thought this a good idea and asked the clerk to organise this. The phone box's use will be discussed when it has been refurbished.

Cllr Mr Beech spoke about the narrowing of the river at Tufton. The Parish Council held a site meeting with all parties concerned and things have progressed. The issue of the ownership of the riverbank has moved on and there are moves to transfer land to residents. Cllr Mr Beech will keep the Parish Council informed of any progress.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: WELCOME LETTER - Cllr Mrs S Sorby reported that the updated welcome letter had, in fact, been delivered to about 20 residents and not one as reported in the September minutes.

HIGHWAY ISSUES - The Clerk has reported the poor condition of the road signs to Highways. The Clerk had contacted Hampshire Highways the day before this meeting to ask when the repairs to the bridge would begin, after the recent fatal accident. He was told that work was due to commence on the 30th November and the contractors did start work today.

The Clerk reported that Highways also told him that there is to be a review of the signage on the B3400 through Hurstbourne Priors as a result of the recent fatality. The Parish Council hoped that they would be consulted before any changes/additions were made. The Clerk suggested that Highways are asked to meet the Parish Council on site to discuss the various issues with the B3400 through the village. The Parish Council thought this a good idea and asked the Clerk to organise a site meeting with Highways.

The Chairman read out a letter the Parish Council had received from Mr Philip Chalk regarding the serious accident at the Beehive Bridge. Mr P Chalk raised concerns about the speed vehicles travel along the B3400 and the positioning of the Speed Limit Signs.

The 40mph signs are regularly ignored by cars descending the hill from Andover, while those

coming from Whitchurch only to meet the sign immediately before the bridge.

There should be 40mph signs much further back and 30mph signs placed well before the cross roads for those coming from Andover and, in the like manner, the 40mph sign coming from Whitchurch should be well before the dangerous Tufton turn and 30mph well before the bridge.'

Mr P Chalk asked the Parish Council to make the strongest case to Hampshire County Council to rectify the present state of affairs.

The Parish Council noted Mr Chalk's comments and will raise them at the site meeting with Highways. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr P Chalk to inform him of the Parish Council's intentions to have a site meeting with Highways.

DAIRY COTTAGE - Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby reported that work is in progress to tidy up Dairy Cottage and it's looking better.

BONFIRE - The Parish Council discussed the bonfire party and thought it was a great success, despite a reduction in numbers attending. The Clerk gave a financial report for the Bonfire event; a donation of £100 was received from a parishioner and the event made a profit of £178.24. The £178.24 will be equally split between the Village Hall, Church and the Recreation Ground.

It was noted that a recent report in Hill and Valley gave the wrong information regarding the split of the Bonfire proceeds.

FINANCIAL REPORT

CHEQUES TO BE ISSUED IN NOVEMBER 2011:

Helen Ford Pavilion Cleaning £135.00
Penton Grafton PC Cups – Firework Party £17.20
Hill and Valley PC Share £48.75
EON Pavilion Electricity £30.62
Drain and Sewer Services Cess Pool Empty £88.80
St John Ambulance Firework Attendance £50.40
TVBC Ground Maintenance £636.84
Standing Order

R.N. Waterman Wages October £139.00
Wages November £139.00

Bank Balance after cheques below have been issued: £2,492.49

VAT Refund applied for: £578.48

2012/2013 PRECEPT: The Clerk produced a financial report showing the estimated results for the year 2011/12 and the budget for the year 2012/13. Each item was explained. Points to note included an increase in the recreation ground hiring fees to £2,029. Expenditure on the pavilion was £4,325 this included the repairs to the thatch and fire prevention equipment.

The Parish Council discussed the Precept and agreed that there would be no increase for the year 2012/13. The Precept was set at £7,000.

PLANNING: BDB/75464 - Variation of condition 10 of BDB/74585 to "The Garden House hereby permitted shall be occupied solely for purpose incidental to the occupation and employment of the Main House and shall not be sold off, sub-let or used as a separate unit of accommodation."
- 1 and 2, Garden Cottages, Access to Hurstbourne Park, Whitchurch, Hants. The Parish Council

had NO OBJECTIONS to this Planning Application.

BDB/75487 - Erection of first floor side extension, single storey rear extension and dormer window to side elevation to create additional living accommodation - The Wooden House, Picket Piece, Andover. The Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS to this Planning Application.

DBD/75200 - Replacement of weir, river narrowing, island renovation and low weir removal and narrowing - River Test at Tufton Grid Ref 445571 146883, Manor Farm Lane, Tufton.

Following a site meeting with the Applicants and Residents of Tufton the Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS subject to the following conditions. That the distance by which the river is to be narrowed is more defined. The Parish Council is concerned that the proposal "that the final finish and narrowing may alter by up to 0.6m" is too vague.

The Parish Council notes the concerns of the local residents that 3.4m is too wide, particularly given the undefined nature of the opposite bank as depicted in the submitted plans.

CLLR MR K WATTS REPORT: The Chairman read out the following report.

RIVER TEST AT TUFTON - I joined a number of the Parish Councillors at a site meeting with residents and representatives of the fishing syndicate to discuss the planning application for narrowing of the river. This places on record that, when I asked the applicants' representative if the reclaimed bank would be passed to the neighbouring landowners, the answer was "yes".

I am very concerned about the effect of the proposed works on the wildlife and on the place as a beauty spot. The Case Officer has agreed to let me see official consultation responses from the Environment Agency and the H&IoW Wildlife Trust when she receives them.

I was surprised to hear that the applicants were anxious to complete works in this financial year because a grant depends on it. I had not realised that fishing syndicates were part of the dependency culture.

ROAD SALT BIN, TUFTON - The request salt bin should have been installed at Tufton by now.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS: Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby reported that there is a petition being undertaken in Overton to get the Olympic Torch route changed to go through the villages rather than the A303.

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby asked if there were any plans in the village to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee in 2012. The Parish Council was not currently aware of any planned event but was sure that Hurstbourne priors would put on some event. The Clerk was asked to put this item on the January Meeting agenda.

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby reported that a new equestrian business has taken over the Equestrian Centre. The Parish Council thought this excellent news.

Cllr Mr R Selbie-reported that Jo Hurst Vehicles are beginning to use the village roads on a regular basis, coming through the village both full and empty. The Clerk was asked to write to Jo Hurst on this matter.

Cllr Mr M Williams reported that he has taken over the Recreation Ground Bookings from Mr J Perkins and he is looking to offer an online booking service.

Hill and Valley is in good financial health and asked the Parish Councils if they would continue their financial support at current levels for the next year. The Parish Council agreed and suggested that if Hill and Valley were financially secure a few colour editions would be welcome!

BT is to hold a meeting in Whitchurch to discuss Faster Broadband. Cllr Mr M Williams will keep the Parish Council informed of any progress.

Cllr Mr M Williams reported that Sustrans is planning a cycle route from Whitchurch to St Mary Bourne. Cllr Mr M Williams explained the proposed route; the Parish Council had concerns about its suitability as there have been several accidents along the stretch of road they plan to use.

Cllr Mrs S Sorby reported that the hedge along Longparish Road has not yet been cut. The Chairman will chase this matter.

Cllr Mrs S Sorby suggested that the dates of the Parish Council meetings are advertised in Hill and Valley. The Parish Council thought this a good idea; the Clerk will get the dates to the editor.

RECREATION GROUND REPORT: Cllr Mr R Selbie reported that a memorial bench for the late Mr Ken Jones is to be placed under the tree to the right of the Lytch Gate in the spring. Due to the mild weather we are still cutting the recreation ground grass.

VILLAGE HALL REPORT: The Village Hall is looking at ways to increase its income.

FOOTPATH REPORT: As far as the Chairman knew all the Village Footpaths are open and walkable.

DATES FOR THE 2012 MEETINGS: 25th January; 28th March; 30th May; 25th July; 26th September; 28th November

CLOSE OF THE MEETING: The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

PCM January 2012

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1 Jan 2012

Minutes of the Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th January 2012 in the Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present : Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby - Vice Chairman

Cllr Mrs C Read

Cllr Mrs S Sorby

Cllr Mr R Selbie

Cllr Mr J Beach

Cllr Mr M Williams

Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk

Member of the Public - Mr G Finlayson

Apologies : Cllr Mr P Smail - Chairman, Borough Councillor Mr K Watts, County

Councillor Mr T Thacker and PC Paula Deery.

WELCOME: Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest recorded.

TUFTON: The Clerk reported that he has instructed Mr Brian Pearce to refurbish the telephone box at Tufton. The work will be done in the spring. Cllr Mr Beech had no news to report on the narrowing of the river at Tufton; it was noted that the time slot to do the work has now passed and the next time slot will be in the Autumn.

Cllr Mr Beech reported that St Mary's Church at Tufton is in need of extensive roof repairs but was pleased to relay that a grant funding application has been successful although he has no details. The Parish Council thought this good news.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Mr G Finlayson stated that a number of residents were concerned about the lack of profit made at the 2011 Bonfire and Firework event. Mr Finlayson understood that the £178.24 profit included a donation of £100. The question "Is it worth the effort for such little profit" had been voiced. Mr Finlayson asked if the Parish Council had an explanation why such a small profit was made.

The Parish Council has looked at the costing and takings of the Bonfire in detail. Numbers attending were down and those that did attend did not spend as much on food and drink; there was a mix up with the rolls/sausages - resulting in there being a lot of rolls left and no sausages to put in them. It also did not help that the event this year was on the 5th November and there were several other Firework displays on at the same time. It was noted that the St Mary Bourne event was also down in numbers attending.

The Parish Council will look carefully at the costs for the 2012 event, possibly cooking the sausages and onions themselves. The entrance fee has been the same for a number of years and it was felt that there should be an increase. The Parish Council felt that the Bonfire it is a great village event bringing the community together; as long as the event does not lose money, they hoped to continue putting on the event.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: MEMORIAL BENCH - The Clerk apologised for giving the wrong name in the report for the Memorial Bench that went into Hill and Valley. The article had already been submitted for publication before the mistake had been spotted.

HIGHWAYS - The Parish Council is due to meet with Steve Goodall from

Hampshire Highways the day after the meeting. The road signs, speed limit, new bridge and repairs will be discussed.

Cllr Mr M Williams stated that the Parish Council tried several years ago to get the speed limit on the B3400 through the village reduced to 30mph. Highways stated that the stretch of the B3400 through the village did not meet the criteria for a 30mph speed limit.

It was reported that J Hirst lorries are still coming through the village along the B3048. The Clerk has written to J Hirst. This issue will also be raised with Steve Goodall at the Highways site meeting. It was noted that the blue Hirst lorries are from St Mary Bourne site and the brown Hirst lorries are from the Bullington site.

BROADBAND - The new cables are being laid now.

HEDGE - The hedge in Longparish Road has now been cut. The hedge bordering the B3400 and the Recreation Ground is in need of a cut as it looks very unsightly. Cllr Mr R Selbie stated that he had spoken to Mr W Murray about the hedge who said he was planning to cut it, but that was back in November. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr W Murray.

After Note : The hedge was cut soon after the meeting. The Clerk has written to Mr W Murray to thank him on an excellent job.

PLANNING: BDB/75653 - Change of use of existing building to agricultural recycling - Application BDB/75652 - Apsley Landfill, Grid Ref : 442390 142390, Picket Piece. The Parish Council had **NO OBJECTION** subject to the following conditions: that there be no further increase in the volume of traffic visiting the Apsley site, referred to in the application at paragraph 3.1

BDB/75395 - Cert of Lawful Development - proposed operation - Erection of two storey extension - Faulknors Down Farmhouse, Picket piece. The Parish Council had **NO COMMENTS** on this planning application.

BDB/75562 - Outline planning application for the erection of an agricultural dwelling - Dipper Barn Farm, Manor Farm Lane, Tufton. The Parish Council had **NO OBJECTION** to this outline planning application.

FOOTPATH CUTTING: Hampshire Rights of Way have sent the Parish Council a map of the footpaths indicating which paths they intend to cut and how often. Cllr Mr R Selbie apologised for not bringing the map and that he will pass it onto Cllr Mrs Read, our Footpaths officer, the following morning.

ROAD ISSUES: Cllr Mr M Williams provided the following information taken from the Hampshire County Council Web Site :-

Hampshire County Council will be proposing to impose new speed restrictions at a meeting of the HCC Executive on Tuesday. This follows a review of speed limits on all A and B roads in Hampshire. If the measures are approved, they will be implemented over a 2 year period and there will be changes to the speed limits on the B3400 relevant to Hurstbourne Priors as follows:

- impose a limit of 40mph on the exit from Whitchurch for a third of a mile towards Hurstbourne Priors from the point where the existing 30mph zone ends
- impose a limit of 50mph between the end of that 40mph limit and the start of the current 40mph limit through Hurstbourne Priors
- keep the existing limit of 40mph through Hurstbourne Priors
- impose a limit of 50mph for half a mile west of the existing 40mph through Hurstbourne Priors towards Andover.

CLLR MR K WATTS REPORT: Cllr Mr K Watts sent his apologies and provided the following report :

PLANNING: Local Development Framework - The Pre-submission draft of the LDF Core Strategy has been approved by the Council's Cabinet for public consultation in February and March. It doesn't mention Hurstbourne Priors.

However, the Test Valley Borough equivalent has been published this month at <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=10797>. It contains allocations for 1,000 dwellings to be built at Picket Piece and for an additional 11 Hectares of employment uses between the existing Walworth Industrial Estate and Picket Piece. I proposed that a transport assessment for the area, focusing on B3400 and C23 Walworth Road / The Harroway should be included in the B&D Core Strategy. What was agreed was something less than this but there will be some cross-border traffic studies.

River Test at Tufton: I have no recent information about this application.

Garden Cottages, Hurstbourne Park: As the Parish Council raised no objection to this application, I left it to be approved under delegated powers.

Dipper Barn Farm, Tufton: I support this application in principle because I am satisfied that the applicant is running a genuine organic farming business. Unusually, in this case I support an application in outline because I think the issue of viability of the business needs to be settled before any more effort is put into preparing, and responding to, the detail of the dwelling. Temporary permission has lasted too long, in my view, because of the Council's inability to demonstrate that it was adequately assessing the viability of a very small organic farm in the pre-application phase.

Vitacress: The application for Judicial Review of the planning status of the Vitacress site is listed for hearing on 27th and 28th June 2012.

Highways: HCC's A/B Traffic Speeds Review recommends stretches of new 40 m.p.h. and 50 m.p.h. limits between Whitchurch and Hurstbourne Priors. It does not recommend any change in the 40 m.p.h. limit on B3400 through the crossroads. I personally think it is absurd for traffic in either direction in the 30 m.p.h. zone on B3048 to meet signs raising the limit to 40 m.p.h. at the staggered crossroads. I believe that limits on both roads at that point should be 30 m.p.h. However, I will leave this as a matter between the Parish Council and HCC.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR MR T THACKER'S REPORT: Cllr Mr T Thacker sent in the following report :-

HCC Budget: Last year, £55 million of cost reductions needed to be secured approximately 1,400 staff have left out of approximately 30,000 230 full time

equivalent staff.

Council Tax will be frozen again for 2012/2013.

We need to reduce our costs by a **further £45 million** next year, due to a 10.4% (or £19million), reduction in our general funding from Government, the cost of inflation and the increasing demand for services, particularly **care for the vulnerable**. In order to bridge this funding gap, departments are again being asked to find **8% savings** so next year will see an additional reduction of approximately 230 full time equivalent staff. Over the next few weeks, we will be discussing and ultimately deciding, the County Council's budget for 2012/13.

Cabinet will consider the entire budget on 3 February and a final decision will be taken by the full County Council on 23 February.

Hurstbourne Priors Matters: The sad, fatal accident at the bridge, before Christmas, has led the Casualty Reduction Team of HCC Officers and the Police to investigate. Whenever there is a highway fatality, the CRT have to investigate and make proposals for highway improvements. I hope that the matter of the speed limit along the B3400 through the village will be considered by the CRT team.

I have spoken with Steve Goodall and I understand he will be meeting with the PC on 26th, where he will also update you. Steve will also inform me of any report made by the CRT.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS: Cllr Mr P Smail and Cllr Mrs C Read will be attending a Vitacress Committee meeting mid February and has asked if there are any issues the Parish Council wish to raise. News on the Judicial Review, an up-date on contact details, to report lorries going through the village and if the Vitacress Mini Bus is still available for village organisations were mentioned.

Cllr Mr Smail asked if a final check has been done on the bonfire site before it is ploughed? Cllr Mrs Read confirmed that it had and there is no debris left which would damage machinery.

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby stated that the Village Clean-Up was too late last year and suggested some dates in February and March. It was agreed that the Village Clean-Up will be held on the 11th February 2012 at 9.30am. Cllr Mrs Wyatt-Tilby will announce the date at the Village Quiz Night and, if she has time, she will do a leaflet drop. Refreshments will be served in the pub after the Clean-Up.

Cllr Mrs Wyatt-Tilby reported that Barbara Carrodus has suggested that outdoor gym equipment could be installed on the Recreation Ground; a brochure was passed around the Councillors, the cost would be in the region of £3000 plus installation.

The Parish Councillors thought that the idea was a good one but felt that it was not in keeping with the rest of the recreation ground, that space for such

equipment was limited and that there could be potential issues regarding maintenance costs and insurance. On that basis, it was not thought appropriate that the idea be pursued any further.

Cllr Mr M Williams spoke about Daniel Park in Whitchurch which has won a competition run by Basingstoke and Deane to be promoted as Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Field. Cllr Mr Williams will forward more information regarding the adoption scheme to the Parish Councillors.

FOOTPATHS REPORT: Cllr Mrs C Read reported that, as far as she knew, all the Footpaths are clear and walkable. There is another incident of Fly Tipping and this will be reported to Basingstoke and Deane. Cllr Mrs Read praised the Testbourne Estate for the speed they cleared a fallen oak from the footpath, a casualty of the recent high winds.

Cllr Mrs C Read also congratulated the PCC on the excellent work that has been done clearing the churchyard and replacing the old fence.

RECREATION GROUND REPORT: Cllr Mr R Selbie reported that Cllr Mr M Williams has now officially taken over the bookings, liaising with the pavilion cleaner and emptying of bins from Mr John Perkins. The Parish Council wished to thank Mr John Perkins for all his hard work over the years.

Cllr Mr Selbie reported that the rabbits and the moles are under control, the 2012 fixtures are looking good but the mower needed a major service and repair this year at a cost of £413.68. This should now give a few more years service before we need to think of a replacement. It was noted that the cost of a new mower would be in the region of £2,000 - £3,000. There has also been a metal theft from the Lych Gate and replacement handles are being looked into.

VILLAGE HALL REPORT: Cllr Mrs S Sorby reported that the Village Hall has taken no bookings for January and February. There are plans to tidy up the front and re gravel the car park.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

INCOME: VAT Refund - £638.32

CHEQUES ISSUED IN JANUARY 2012:

Dereks Garden Machinery Service and repair of mower £413.68

Dave Hagger Mole Control £80.00

Southern Water Water charge - Pavilion £146.09

TVBC Grass Cutting £441.00

HBP Village Hall Bonfire Grant £59.41

St Andrews Church Bonfire Grant £59.41

STANDING ORDERS:

R.N. Waterman Wages - December £139.00

R.N. Waterman Wages – January £139.00

Aviva Insurance – December £134.03

Aviva Insurance - January £134.03

Bank Balance after above payments - £1,002.02

QUEENS DIAMOND JUBILEE: The Parish Council discussed at length celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on the 4th June 2012. Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby suggested holding a family fun cricket match with a traditional cricket tea. The Parish Council all thought this an excellent idea; it was suggested that a Bouncy Castle be hired for younger children who would not be able to play, all agreed. The event will be publicised in Hill and Valley.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING: Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: 28th March 2012 in the Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall at 7.30pm
