

Minutes of the Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th January 2011 in the Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present : Cllr Mr P Smail - Chairman
Cllr Dr J Chalk
Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby
Cllr Mr S Thomas
Cllr Mr R Selbie
Borough Councillor Mr K Watts
County Councillor Mr T Thacker
Mr G Finlayson - Web Site
Member of the Public - Mr J Huxford
Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk.

Apologies : Cllr Mrs M Smith, Borough Councillor Mr K Watts, PC Paula Deery and Mrs C Read.

WELCOME. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr Mr S Mail declared an interest in Papermill Farm, Nuns Walk, Longparish.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Mr J Huxford reported that the Minutes are not updated on the Notice Board in Tufton. The Clerk apologised and stated that he plans to replace the pin board which has got brittle and will make sure that the minutes are updated regularly. Mr Huxford offered to put the Minutes on the Notice Board if the Clerk emailed then to him after each meeting. The Clerk thanked Mr Huxford for his offer and will add Mr Huxford to the mailing list.

Mr Huxford reported that Whitchurch Town Council had sent out a team to strim the footpaths in Tufton.

Mr G Finlayson reported that the Mobile Police Station will no longer be visiting the village. The Beat Officers are thinly spread and it was not felt that this is the most efficient use of manpower.

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

Matters arising from those Minutes :-

Royal Wedding Celebrations - There was no news to report.

Pavilion Thatch - The Clerk reported that the KS Thatchers have confirmed that they will be starting the first week in March and will be finished before the May Fair.

Benches - The Green Bench in the Recreation Ground has been repaired and the Memorial Bench has been secured to the base by the Bus Shelter.

Grant Funding - The Clerk reported that he had no news to report on the grant funding for grass cutting from Basingstoke and Deane.

PLANNING:

T/00026/11/TCA - Notice of intent to reduce 3 Cypress Conifers to their previous height of 2M and maintain as hedge - Priors Barton, 44 Hurstbourne Priors, Whitchurch. The Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS to this Planning Application.

T/00948/10/TCA - Notice of intent to fell ornamental cherry - Little Marryats, 31 Hurstbourne Priors, Whitchurch. The Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS to this Planning Application.

BDB/73739 - Extension of time limit specified in Condition I of BDB/67701 for the erection of two storey side and single storey rear extensions - Reed barn, Manor Farm Lane, Tufton. The Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS to this Planning Application.

BDB/73563 - Erection of replacement roadside fencing (Retrospective) - Land adjacent to Papermill Lane, Longparish, Hurstbourne Priors.
Cllr Mr P Smail declared an interest in this Planning Application and made no comment.
The Parish Council OBJECTED to this Planning Application - Points noted included

1. It was felt that a significant hedge that was part of the landscape has been cut back in order to erect this new fence.
2. Concern about the length of time the black plastic wind break will be in situ before the new laurel hedge is established.
3. The new fence is considerably higher than the original fence. It was felt that the height of the new fence is unnecessary and unsightly.
4. Concerns regarding the increased safety risk to pedestrians and drivers as a result of the reduction in the size of the grass verge from the erection of this new fence.

BDB/73649 - Erection of oak framed garage and garden workshop - 1 New Barn Farm Cottages, Harroway, Hurstbourne Priors. The Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS to this Planning Application.

BDB/73521 - Erection of canopy porch (retrospective) - Stable Cottage, Chapmansford Farm, Harrow Way, Hurstbourne Priors. The Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS to this Planning Application.

The Parish Council briefly discussed how voting on a Planning Application would work if a Councillor had declared a Conflict of interest. The Councillor concerned would not take part in the discussion of the Planning Application and may be asked to leave the room. The Councillor concerned would not take part in any vote. If a vote took place and resulted in a tie, the Chairman would have the casting vote. If it was the Chairman who declared the interest the casting vote would then pass to the Vice Chairman.

LOCAL LIST OF BUILDINGS OF ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST: The Clerk reported that he has received an updated list of Buildings of Architectural or Historic interest these included :-

New Barn Farm House.- Harrow Way
New Barn Farm Barn and attached stable-range.

Cowsheds and stable approx 55m east of New Barn Farm House.
Tufton Warren Farm House
Tufton Warren Farm - Clock Barn and various Farm Buildings and Farm Yard Walls

VITACRESS LORRY TRAFFIC: The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Mr Barry Ford, Neighbourhood Development at Basingstoke and Deane, regarding the designated lorry route for Vitacress Salads Ltd vehicles travelling between Andover and St Mary Bourne via the Walworth Road and the B34048. Test Valley Borough Council has asked Basingstoke and Deane to examine the possibility of re-routing these lorries along the main B3400 between Andover and Hurstbourne Priors and then via the B3048 to St Mary Bourne.

The Clerk reported that he had a long conversation with Mr Ford and has forwarded all the information from the minutes regarding the current route and the setting up of the Vitacress Community Fund and the fines imposed by Vitacress for HGV's that come through the village. Mr Ford was not aware of any of this information.

The Parish Council discussed this and asked the Clerk to write to Mr Ford to confirm the Parish Council's concerns that there is no change to the designated route to Vitacress, reiterating how and why this agreement with Vitacress came about, copied to Whitchurch T.C. and TVBC.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MR K WATT'S REPORT: Cllr Mr L Watts apologised for missing the meeting again and will be attending an unscheduled meeting in Basingstoke of the Local Development Framework Member Advisory Panel, of which he is a member. Progress towards a Core Strategy for development in Basingstoke and Deane plods along.

Cllr Mr Watts has forwarded a request for a road salt bin at Tufton to Hampshire County Council Highways who have confirmed that it is now on their list for future purchases.

At the Development Control Committee on the 16th February, Cllr Mr Watts will be supporting, against the Officers' recommendation, an application by the occupant of Stable Cottage, Chapmansford, for retention of a porch canopy over her front doorstep.

Cllr Mr Watts will also be supporting, against the Officers' recommendation, an application for a bio-digester with combined heat and power outputs to be built at Faulkners Down Farm. A reference in the Design & Access Statement to vehicles crossing the B3048 has been removed after Cllr Watts challenged it.

PARISH PATHS REPORT: Cllr Mr S Thomas reported that all the paths are walkable. There has been an incident of fly tipping of garden waste at the top of the hill on the B3400 and various bit and pieces at Racky Row.

VILLAGE HALL REPORT: Cllr Mrs M Smith sent in a written report - The Village Hall have submitted the independent specialists' report on the floor to the company which installed the vinyl floor covering, and will make contact with them shortly. In the meantime, the Village Hall are considering the possibility of installing a system of ventilation to the sub-floor.

RECREATION GROUND REPORT: Cllr Mr R Selbie reported that the repairs to the floor have been completed and we were lucky it was only the one joist that was rotten. Bookings for Cricket Pitch are starting to come in and the recent bad weather resulted in several of the Football Fixtures being cancelled. The Clerk has been tasked to get quotes for the materials used to put the Cricket Square to bed so that there is more control over the costs. The mole

control is ongoing and it has been noted that there have not been so many rabbits on the field over the winter.

Hedge Cutting was discussed, the Clerk was asked to contact TVBC to ask them to cut back the hedge behind the bench on the Village Green by at least three foot.

COUNCILLORS REPORTS: Cllr Mrs M Smith - Had reported that the next Vitacress Charitable Fund meeting is not until the 28th March 2011. Cllr Mrs Smith will send the Clerk an application form, if the Parish Council wants to apply for funding.

Cllr Dr J Chalk - Stated that she wished to correct the impression that has recently been given in meetings of the Parish Council. Comments have been made that there is little neighbourly feeling in the village and also that the church is rather aloof, without much involvement, both far from the truth. St. Andrews has been the Parish Church of Hurstbourne Priors for 120 years. The Church and the Clergy are there to give help for all the residents should they so wish. It functions because of those many people who give voluntarily of their time and effort. Church door opening, flower arranging, bell ringing, the running of the our Church School all depend on goodwill and generosity. Those who do this represent all the different denominations, Anglican, Non Conformist, Roman Catholic as well as those who are Agnostic who unite in support of the oldest and most important building we have.

We have a large Churchyard which presents a maintenance and financial challenge. The Parochial Church Council have decided to institute a Churchyard clean up on 2nd April, organised by David Oakley. A preliminary notice will hopefully appear in the February edition of Hill and Valley. Help will be most gladly welcomed and will be followed by suitable refreshment.

Cllr Mr P Smail - Read out a letter he had received from Cllr Mrs M Smith. Cllr Mrs Smith raised several internal issues that she felt the Parish Council needed to address. These points were noted and will be put into practice.

Cllr Mr P Smail produced a draft statement on the Parish Council's funding for the village that will go to the Hurstbourne Priors and Tufton residents. Cllr Mr Smail asked the Parish Councillors to take it away and make any comments/suggestions they felt necessary.

Cllr Mr Smail reported a security issue that came to light when he recently hired the Village Hall - this will be passed on to the Village Hall Committee.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY AND ELECTIONS: The Clerk reported that Mrs S Sorby has written to him stating that she is still interested in becoming a Parish Councillor but would like to leave it until 2012. The Parish Council were sorry to hear this.

The Chairman reported that Mrs Claire Read from Hurstbourne Priors House is interest in becoming a Parish Councillor. The Parish Council thought this excellent news.

The Parish Council discussed the other interested parties and hoped that they are still interested in joining the fold. The Parish Council elections are due to take place in May 2011.

FINANCE

CHEQUES ISSUED IN JANUARY 2011

St John Ambulance	Bonfire event coverage	£47.00
Dave Haggar	Mole Control	£80.00
Southern Water	Pavilion Water Charges	£154.06
Mr B Pearce	Repair to Benches and Maintenance Work	£110.00
R.N. Waterman	Wages	£139.00
Wood 'N' Ball	Repairs to Pavilion Floor	£1058.00
Derek's Garden Machinery	Service of mower	£150.76
HBP Village Hall	Hire of Hall for meetings	£96.00
TVBC	Grass Cutting and Maintenance for 2010	£1143.98

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

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: 30th March 2011 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.