

Minutes of the Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 8th October 2015 in the Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Mrs C Read – Chairman
Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby – Vice Chairman
Cllr Mrs S Sorby
Cllr Mr J Broomfield
Cllr Mr C Ekins
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Borough Councillor Mr K Watts
Member of the Public – Jan Atkinson

Apologies: Cllr Mr P Smail, Mr G Finlayson and County Councillor Mr T Thacker.

WELCOME: Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby welcomed everyone to the meeting as the Chairman had sent apologies that she would be unavoidably delayed.

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

TUFTON: Cllr Mr J Broomfield reported that the weeds on the A34 down ramp have been cut back and that the contractor has done a really good job. (The Chairman confirmed that this was done by the Lengthsman) Cllr Broomfield suggested that this be done again early next year, the Parish Council agreed.

Cllr Mr J Broomfield reported that footpath 13 has also been cut but there is still a 50 yard stretch that has not been tackled in the area known locally as 'Nasty Corner'. The weight limit sign has also been moved and is now visible from Whitchurch direction. There is still a problem with the off ramp signage when coming off the A34. Cllr Read agreed to chase this with Highways.

The telephone box still needs to be refurbished. The Church are holding a Port Tasting fund raising event on the 31st October 2015 in Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall, tickets are still available.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Jan Atkinson reported that she had spoken to Vitacress and they are happy to support the extension of the 30mph speed limit.

The Chairman reported that Vitacress have confirmed that they have voluntarily imposed a 20mph speed limit for their drivers from their plant to the crossroads.

Highways have been asked to consider an extension to the 30mph speed limit to the corner by Chapmansford. The Chairman will keep Jan Atkinson informed of progress.

It was subsequently agreed that in response to the second Cressington development the Parish Council would raise the issue of imposing this speed restriction as part of the planning.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record. Matters arising from those minutes:-

HIGHWAYS – There was no further news to report on the problem with the drain in Tufton. The Chairman has reported all the outstanding highway issues to Steve Goodall.

The Chairman stated that Steve Goodall has reported that he no longer has any on the ground staff, all highway repairs are now done through Amey the HCC contractor. Steve can only log the jobs that need doing and the priority of the jobs is now under central control.

RECREATION GROUND HEDGE – This has now been cut right down and all the hedges on the Recreation Ground frontage are of equal height. It was agreed that this was a big improvement. The Chairman wanted to thank Mrs Goad for giving the contractors tea and coffee.

PLANNING:

- Outline planning permission for 30 dwellings has been granted for the Hirst Site.
- 2 Storey extension to 42 Hurstbourne Priors – NO OBJECTION

- There have been two planning applications for Apsley Farms over the summer and a further one just submitted. The Parish Council have no objections in principle but OBJECT to the increase in vehicle movements relating to the 24Hr operation and the flood lighting that will be installed.
- The Parish Council backed the 2014 planning application for Apsley Farms, but this has now changed beyond recognition. The Parish Council would now like clarification on when the site moves from Agricultural to industrial classification – advice will be sort.
- The Parish Council are also concerned about the trend for applications for the Apsley Farm site to be retrospective.
- Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby declared an interest in the planning application for tree works at Little Maryatts and The Old Post Office and left the room while this application was discussed – NO OBJECTION.

The Parish Council have agreed that from January 2016 additional planning meetings will be held in the alternative months between Parish Council meetings. These meetings will be solely for the discussion of planning applications. Members of the Public will be welcome to attend these planning meetings in the same way as a Parish Council meeting. If no applications have been received there will, of course, be no need for the meeting to take place. Notification of these meetings and/or their cancellation will be on the website.

In addition, there will be a summary of all applications considered (and the outcome) placed in Hill and Valley each month. This will begin in November 2015.

CLLR MR K WATT'S REPORT: Cllr Mr K Watts reported that Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council have a new Chief Executive and that he is in the process of re-structuring the Council and will be reinstating certain positions and advertising new posts. Despite him reporting that double decker buses will not be used on the 76 route this has not been the case and they are still in service due to a shortage of buses.

A planning appeal has been lodged for Cowdown Lodge.

FOOTPATHS REPORT: The Chairman reported that as far as she knew all the Footpaths were clear and walkable. The Chairman will contact HCC to enquire about their hedge/footpath cutting programme and when Hurstbourne Priors is scheduled for work.

The permissive footpath is due to be cut by Testbourne Estate shortly.

RECREATION GROUND REPORT: The Cricket Club intend to put the square to bed for the winter before the end of the month. The Clerk reported that the new method for the collection of the fees for the 2015 season has worked very well, there is just one outstanding payment. £1,250 has been received.

VILLAGE HALL: Cllr Mrs S Sorby reported that bookings are good and the Village Hall is going well.

FINANCE:

CHEQUES AND PAYMENTS ISSUED - August, September, October 2015

Aviva	Insurance - DD - A & S	£260.22
Eon Electricity	Pavilion - DD	£16.00
R.N. Waterman	Wages - A & S - DD	£300.00
R.N. Waterman	½ Year Expenses	£135.00
Helen Ford	Pavilion Cleaning	£190.00
Mr B Pearce	Play Area painting	£536.00
Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby	Paper and Printing Expenses	£45.00
Dave Haggar	Mole Control	£80.00
BDO LLP	Audit fee	£120.00
Southern Water	Pavilion Water	£20.12
HALC	Parish Councillor Guide	£15.00

Whitchurch TC	Training Session	£15.00
Helen Ford	Pavilion Cleaning	£67.50
		<u>£1,799.84</u>

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE AFTER ABOVE - £9,397.46
1st April 2015 - 8th October 2015

INCOME:

Opening Balance	£ 4,229.38
Precept	7,000.00
B&D Grant	1,995.00
SEB Refund	61.02
VAT Refund	658.56
May Fair - Grant	1,700.00
Cricket Fees	1,250.00
	£16,893.96

EXPENDITURE:

Administration	£ 1,629.74
Wages	1,050.00
Pavilion	1,701.59
Recreation Ground	2,025.80
Insurance	910.77
VAT	178.60
	£7,496.50

Bank Balance **£9,397.46**

AUDIT: The Clerk reported that District Audit have signed off the account for the year 2014/2015. There were no matters which came to the Auditors attention.

The Parish Council thanked the Clerk for keeping good accounts and agreed to sign off the completion of the audit for the year 2014/2015.

BONFIRE: The Chairman confirmed that due to insurance restrictions and crop rotation there would be no Bonfire event held this year or possibly in the foreseeable future.

PARISH COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION: The Parish Council have reviewed their procedures to make sure that they comply with the current legislation for Local Government Administration. The Parish Council discussed and commented on the following documentation:-

Standing Orders
Financial Standing Orders
Memorandum of Understanding re Reports in Hill and Valley.

Comments made will be worked into the relevant documents, once agreed these will be adopted at the November Parish Council Meeting.

106 CONTRIBUTIONS: The Chairman reported that she has been looking into the issue of 106 Developer Contributions and explained the procedure for obtaining 106 contributions for parish projects and the benefit of having an interim Parish Infrastructure Plan.

The Chairman gave each Parish Councillor a draft Plan, this was discussed at length. The Chairman asked the Parish Councillors for comments before the end of the week so that it can be lodged with the Basingstoke and Deane Planners.

VITACRESS: The Chairman gave a brief report on a recent Bourne Rivulet meeting. Vitacress plan to go ahead with the wetland development, they will maintain and service the wetland and hope to obtain grants for the project. This will increase the Biodiversity of the site and aid phosphate 'stripping' but water cleaning is not the main role. It will take at least

two years to 'settle'.

The water quality testing continues to try and find a cause for the low level of invertebrates within the waterway. Phosphates leeching from poor sewage pipes remains a problem, so too over-pumping. The EA will be carrying out some dye tests to check outflow from the Vitacress site – there is a chance that the river may be slightly discoloured during this time.

DEFRA is funding a major public awareness project into septic tanks – this is due to the rise in the amount of phosphates getting into the waterways via 'cleaned' water. The use of dishwashers, washing machines and harmful cleaners is having a detrimental effect on nature. There is a feeling that householders do not understand what can and cannot go into septic tanks and why.

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

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: 25th November 2015 in the Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall at 7.30pm.

ADDENDUM: The Chairman has asked that these two notes be added to the minutes as there was not time to report them at the meeting.

Andover Station Parking Disruption - South West Trains are finally going ahead with the construction of a multi-storey car park at Andover Station. This was scheduled to start in October but has now been delayed until the middle of January 2016, when the car park will be closed for up to eight weeks. There may be some disruption between now and then.

Season ticket holders have been written to by South West Trains and asked not to use Whitchurch Station in the meantime but residents should be aware of an increase in cars using the parking. The Chairman will ask Graham to put a piece in Hill & Valley.

Vitacress Community Forum - The Chairman attended the Community Forum meeting at the end of September. Vitacress are concerned about the environmental impact that the development of the Hirst Site, specifically from water run-off will have. They have written to B&DBC to raise these concerns. They are also worried about the increase in traffic and the problems this will cause with an already degraded road surface at the cross roads.

The Chairman raised the subject of a speed limit being introduced along this stretch of road, as raised by Mrs Atkinson and discussed by PC members and Vitacress confirmed that they would wholly support such a move.

Vitacress are promoting a greater sense of ownership amongst staff and Chris Hall reported that this had been very successful. The increased engagement with personnel had led to a greater efficiency in processing and some very good ideas on improvements from the workforce itself. As a result the business is on track to reach its half-year budget predictions.

Chris Hall asked to be kept informed if blue hats and snoods are found during the village tidy-up as he is trying to get staff to 'shed' these before they leave the site. The Chairman said that she would keep him informed.

The Chairman gave Vitacress the email address to report potholes so that staff, who are also suffering from damage to vehicles, can let HCC know at the earliest opportunity.