

Minutes of the Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th March 2014 in Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Mr P Smail – Chairman
Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby - Vice Chairman
Cllr Mrs S Sorby
Cllr Mrs C Read
Cllr Mr C Ekins
Cllr Mr J Broomfield
Richard Waterman - Parish Clerk
County Councillor Mr T Thacker
Mr G Finlayson - Web Site

Apologies: Cllr Mr M Williams, Borough Councillor Mr K Watts and PC Ben Howard

WELCOME: Cllr Mr P Smail welcomed everyone to the meeting

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Mr J Broomfield declared an interest in Planning Application for Swallow Barn and River's Edge Barn, Tufton and in the dangerous trees that were felled in Tufton after the recent storms.

TUFTON: Cllr Mr J Broomfield reported that Tufton survived reasonably well during the recent bad weather. The river rose by one foot and two of the properties needed sandbags for protection against possible flooding. One of the storms made several trees unstable, on checking their condition Basingstoke and Deane gave permission for them to be felled on safety issues. The Fishing Syndicate have tidied up other trees and there are several road signs that have been displaced due to the recent high winds.

Cllr Mr J Broomfield reported that the next event to be held to raise funds for the continuing refurbishment of the church is a Flower Festival on May 17, full details will be in the Parish Magazine and on the Web Site.

POLICE REPORT: Reports from the Police Beat have been distributed to the Parish Councillors covering the January and February period. Ben Howard apologised that these had not been getting through.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Mr G Finlayson reported that there has been a tremendous increase in traffic going along the Longparish Road since the B3400 has been closed for bridge repairs. It was noted that some drivers totally ignore the "Road Closed" signs.

CLLR MR T THACKER: Cllr Mr T Thacker reported that he has supported the new 40 and 50mph speed limits along the B3400, the red tape has now been completed and the scheme can now move forward. The Parish Council thought this excellent news.

Cllr Mr T Thacker further reported that Hampshire County Council will be concentrating on repairing the Potholes after the recent bad weather, flooding has caused a lot of damage to the road infrastructure. Central Government has released more funding to help repair the roads. Several potholes in the parish were discussed, Cllr Mrs C Read confirmed that they have all been reported to Steve Goodall.

Cllr Mr T Thacker spoke about the Hampshire County Council highways contract with Amey. County Councillor Mr Andrew Gibson has been investigating the contract and has told the Executive Committee that the contract with Amey is good for the Council, however this is falling short of expectations due to Hampshire not managing the contract properly, he has recommended tighter control and quality inspections. The Chairman thanked Cllr Mr T Thacker for his report. Cllr Mr T Thacker left the meeting.

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

Matters arising from those minutes:

Apsley Sita Site Meeting - Pending

Flashing Speed Sign - Cllr Mrs C Read reported that the Flashing Speed Reminder Sign (SID) has been installed and is working. The SID is on the B3400 facing up the hill, a record of the activations will be kept and forwarded to PC Paula Deery on a monthly basis as this information should help the case to get the speed limit reduced to 30mph in the future. It will also help with getting more mobile speed

camera 'slots' as it will prove that vehicles do speed.

Cllr Mrs C Read reported that the other sites suggested by PC Paula Deery are :-

- By the Bus Shelter in Drury Close - a new post will be required.
- Between the bridge and the small bus shelter on the B3400 - an extension to an existing post will be required.
- On the run up to the Church on the St Mary Bourne Road - permission to put a bracket on the street light will be sought from Hampshire Lighting as Police are not keen on additional street furniture.

The Clerk reported that he has ordered an additional bracket and confirmed that the Parish Council Insurance will cover Councillors and the Clerk when changing the Battery and moving the SID.

Lengthsman Scheme - Cllr Mr M Williams has asked for a list of jobs that the Parish Council would like the Lengthsman to undertake. This was discussed and the following jobs were agreed :-

- Road Sign Cleaning
- Litter picking on the Harrow Way and the A34 junction at Tufton.
- Verge Cutting - twice a year between the Bus Shelter and the Bridge on the B3400

2014 Bonfire Event - Cllr Mrs C Read reported that the date of the St Mary Bourne bonfire has not yet been confirmed, the Parish Council do not want to clash as this impacts on numbers attending for both events. The site for the bonfire has been confirmed as available.

PLANNING

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby reported that the Parish Council have today received the planning application for Swallow Barn and River's Edge Barn, Tufton.

Since the last Parish Council meeting the Parish Council has received planning applications for :-

- Cressington - No Objections
- Priors Barn, New Farm Barns - No Objections
- Faulkners Down Farm, Picket Piece - Comments were submitted.

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby reported that the planning application for the conversion of the stables at the Equestrian Centre has been withdrawn. The planning application for the Bullington Wind Farm has been extended until June 2014. The Parish Council briefly discussed this and agreed that it would be a good idea to lobby our Borough and County Councillors to vote against this planning application. Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby will produce a draft submission statement ready to be submitted after the May Borough elections.

The Clerk reported that he had contacted Planning Enforcement re the caravans on Land at Andover Road. A 'Notice to Remove' the caravans by the 31st March 2014 has been issued. A site meeting is due to be held on the 1st April 2014 and further legal action will be taken if the caravans are still in situ.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MR K WATTS: Cllr Mr K Watts sent in the following report :- The latest draft pre-submission Local Plan will be approved on Thursday for public consultation between 25th April and 13th June. The really controversial issue is that the elected Councillors will stand by the "objectively assessed" target of 748 new homes to be built over each of the next 15 years. After consultation, responses from various developers and their expensive consultants, Planning Policy Officers had recommended that this number should increase.

I am giving my full support to the Village Hall Committee's application for an allocation from the Local Infrastructure Fund.

FINANCE

CHEQUES AND PAYMENTS ISSUED FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2014

Southern Water	Pavilion water	£28.75
Dave Haggart	Mole Control	£80.00
TVBC	Ground Maintenance	£1,126.82

Standing Orders

Aviva	Insurance - February	£133.70
Aviva	Insurance - March	£133.70
R.N. Waterman	Wages - February	£150.00
R.N. Waterman	Wages - March	£150.00

EON	Pavilion Electricity February	£18.00
EON	Pavilion Electricity March	£18.00
		£1,838.97

INCOME

VAT Refund £1,572.47

MONEY DUE IN :-

Cricket Club - Share of Roller Repair Bill £235.50

VAT Refund £187.80

Outstanding Recreation Ground Fees £100

WORKING BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE AFTER ABOVE - £1,046.56

(£1,569.86 with monies due)

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS CRICKET BOOKING FORM: The Parish Council agreed to adopt the booking form proposed at the October 2013 meeting, payments will be either paid by BACS transfer or by cheque sent direct to the Parish Clerk. It was agreed that a sentence needed to be added to the form to say that payment should be received within 7 days of the match taking place. Proposed by Cllr Mr P Smail, seconded by Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby.

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby - Wished to thank everyone who helped with the Village Spring Clean on the 15th March 2014. Fifteen bin bags were filled and various car parts were collected.

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby wondered if there was any news on the possible removal of the unsightly telephone box by the Village Green? Cllr Mr C Ekins stated that he had attended the BT Broadband meeting with Cllr Mr M Williams and he knew that Cllr Mr M Williams was pursuing the matter.

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby wondered if the Recreation Ground would be dry enough for the May Fair, at the moment it is very wet and spongy, she suggested monitoring the situation over the coming weeks, at the moment any vehicles would damage the surface, it may be worth looking at alternative arrangements for cars just in case. The Parish Council thought this would be a wise move.

Cllr Mr J Broomfield - Raised the issue of the problem of dogs mess in Tufton, many dog walkers visit the parish and it becoming a problem, would a dog bin be a good idea?

The Parish Clerk will contact Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to enquire about costs and will also get hold of some "No Dog Fouling" signs.

Cllr Mrs C Read - Reported that the recent Safari Supper was an excellent event, well done to the organising Team.

Fly Tipping is bad again at the top of the hill on the B3400. The Clerk was asked to report this to Basingstoke and Deane.

She had been asked by Dr Jean Chalk to ask if it were possible to install some sort of 'Memories' display case within the village hall to display photos, mementoes etc. this was thought to be a good idea. The Clerk to look into costs of such a wall mounted case/frame.

Cllr Mrs C Read reported that she had attended the presentation on the Test Valley Borough Revised Local Plan. Points raised that will have an effect on Hurstbourne Priors are :-

An additional 750 homes are to be built with access on to the B3400 at Picket Piece/Twenty.

150 of these homes will be built at Harwood Farm on the land adjacent to the small caravan park, the existing land now under development will be extended to provide an additional 600 homes.

It had been proposed to build an additional railway station at Augusta Park where there will be lots of demand and plenty of space for a large car park, but due to the Government's legal strangle hold on the railway operators' time tables there is not enough time for the train to stop at an additional station and the proposals have been scrapped.

A planning application is soon to be submitted by Rail Track to build a multi story car park at Andover Station, good news for the future but there is no provision for parking during the minimum 6 month planned construction period. This is bound to have a knock on effect at Whitchurch and Grateley

stations.

It is also planned in the future to develop the George Yard/Black Swan Yard car parks with a mixture of car parking, low cost housing and retail space.

Cllr Mrs C Read spoke about proposals by the May Fair Committee to purchase a large marquee that can be used for the May Fair and used for other events in the village. The Parish Council thought this a good idea but were unable to help with the VAT element as the May Fair is not a sub Committee of the Parish Council.

Cllr Mr P Smail - Reported that Mike Rushworth from Vitacress has spoken to him about a recent shake up at Vitacress to take the company forward. The result being that Mike Rushworth will be leaving the company in May. It is hoped that the good working relationship with the company and that the Community Forum meetings will continue.

The Hurstbourne Inn was briefly discussed, the pub has now closed but it is believed to still being run as a Bed and Breakfast.

RECREATION GROUND REPORT: Cllr Mrs C Read reported that she has obtained a quote of £350 to replace the broken shower and pipe work. It was agreed to proceed. Dave Hagger has stated that the high ground water levels have pushed the mole problem to higher ground. The rubbish from the hedge cutting and Ivy clearance has been burnt and she expressed her thanks to Mrs Goad for helping.

The Clerk reported that the maintenance quotes for the 2014 season have been received from TVBC.

- Grass Cutting - 20 cuts at £38.75
- Hedge Cutting - 2 cuts at £203.17

The Clerk reported that he has spoken to Matt Cason the contracts manager and he will meet with Martyn Page to discuss the problems experienced last year.

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby asked about the play equipment repairs. The Clerk confirmed that he had chased this up, once the new treads were received - hopefully in the next 10 days - they could be fitted and the painting finished.

FOOTPATHS REPORT: Cllr Mrs C Read reported that the footpaths are all clear and a little soggy!

VILLAGE HALL REPORT: Cllr Mrs S Sorby reported that the Village Hall has been re-decorated and the application for the Community Infrastructure Levy would be submitted the following morning, if successful the Village Hall Kitchen will be refurbished. The Village Hall Management Committee are looking at ways to promote the Village Hall to a wider audience.

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

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING - AGM - 28th May 2014 in the Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall at 7.30pm