

# WILCOT and HUIISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

---

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council  
Wilcot Village Hall, Wednesday 9 April 2014, at 19.30.

**Present:**

Councillors: Mr C Bartlett, Dr J C Bouch, Mr L Giddings, Mrs B Lawson, Dr D Nix (Chair), Mrs N Fleet, Mr R Fleet, Mrs A May (Clerk), Mrs P Smith and Ms D Wilson.

**In attendance:**

None

**Actions**

**1. Apologies for absence**

None

**2. Declarations of Interest on any agenda item to be discussed**

None

**3. Chairman's Announcements**

The Village Clean up Day held on Saturday 5 April was most successful. The number of residents who helped was higher than previous events, with 5 volunteers and 5 sacks of rubbish collected in Oare and 12 volunteers and 14 sacks of rubbish collected in Wilcot. The Chairman expressed thanks to all volunteers for their help in keeping the villages tidy.

**4. Public Question Time**

There were no members of public present.

**5. Minutes of the meeting of 12 March 2014 and action reports**

Continuation of actions from the meeting of 18 February 2014:

9.1 Chair has contacted Mr Hiscox re Rainscombe ROW and he would like a written report of the results of the consultation. Chair will also contact ROW.

Chair

10.4 The organisers of the Devizes-Westminster race have confirmed they would like to hire Wilcot village hall on the mornings of Friday 18 and Saturday 19 April (Easter weekend).

Clerk

11.1 Clerk has purchased the hard drive, and additional noticeboards. Clerk's 'bible' and fire safe are yet to be purchased.

Clerk

12.2 Cllr R Fleet was pleased to receive a positive and helpful response from Stephen Matthews, Highways, regarding the school bus waiting area in Wilcot. An application for funds has been submitted to the Area Board, and Caroline Brailey has submitted it to CATG to be raised at the meeting on 23 April. Work will be carried out by volunteers but the area next to the road is a cause for concern.

Actions from the meeting of 12 March 2014:

7.1 Clerk has written to Mr Andrew Rae offering to post information about the Living Churchyards and Cemeteries project and the clean up day on the website, noticeboards and the next newsletter.

7.3 Clerk has not yet drafted a letter to residents of the Green in Wilcot but has scanned the related documents identified by Cllr Smith.

Clerk

**Resolution:** That the minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting without amendment.

**Proposed:** Cllr R Fleet **Seconded:** Cllr C Bartlett All in favour.

# WILCOT and HUISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

---

## 6. Connect2 Wiltshire Bus Service

A consultation document was received from Wiltshire Council regarding proposed changes to the Connect2 Wiltshire services in the Pewsey Vale. The consultation asked two questions:

1 Are you aware of any significant hardship that would be caused if these proposals were implemented?

Council considered that the potential loss of the Friday evening bus would have considerable impact on the young people in the area who go to the Shak in Pewsey. There is little for young people to do in the area if this facility fell victim to the changes in the bus service.

2 Do you have any suggestions for alternative proposals that would achieve a similar level of financial saving with less impact, or for ways in which any important needs that are not met by the proposals could be provided for at an affordable cost?

Council suggested a specific transport for children attending the Shak on Friday evening. The meeting considered use of a school minibus but as it would be voluntary and at the discretion of the school, the service could be unreliable and therefore not a viable alternative.

Clerk to respond to the consultation before 14 May 2014, but the Chairman recommended that Councillors could respond on an individual basis if they felt strongly about it.

Clerk

## 7. To review and provide feedback on new planning applications from Wiltshire Council

(Town & Country Planning Act 1980, sched 1, para 8)

7.1 **14/02475/FUL** – Single storey extensions, roof extension and balcony rooflight. Erection of garden shed.. 4 The Old Dairy, Wilcot.

No objections. However Council wished to comment that it appeared the proposed shed may be partially sited on agricultural land, it is unclear from the diagram.

7.2 **14/02436/FUL** – Provision of a freestanding array of 600 photovoltaic panels to provide sustainable power for Manor Farm (temporary 25 year consent). Manor Farm, Wilcot.

Members of the Council carried out a site visit prior to the meeting.

No objections. Landowner Mr T Maidment has offered to liaise with affected residents in developing a hedge that will screen the photovoltaic panels from the view of houses and Council support such an agreement.

## 8. Correspondence

As a guide to the level of correspondence Clerk said that in March she had received 270 emails, in addition to postage. Key communication is circulated to Council electronically for comment, but she raised the following for attention:

8.1 Concern had been expressed about public liability cover for parish footpath walks and Clerk contacted the insurers who confirmed that we are covered by insurance but recommend that a First Aider is present on walks and that a Risk Assessment is carried out.

8.2 A number of letters have been, and continue to be, sent to Cllr Wilson regarding spraying verges in Huish. Cllr Wilson appraised the meeting of the issues and, as it was still ongoing, a resolution had not yet been reached. Letters will be sent to residents involved once research into guidelines on verge spraying has been undertaken. The Chairman will raise this in general terms at the Annual Parish Meeting. It was noted that signage must always be displayed when verges are sprayed and it is believed that this has not happened.

Clerk

Chair

## WILCOT and HUIISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

---

- 8.3 Cllr Paul Oatway had asked to be appraised of the issues regarding camping at Wilcot and Clerk forwarded what she believed to be the situation. This document to be circulated to Council. Clerk
- 8.4 The PCAP response to consultation – Salisbury Plain Masterplan (Army rebasing) was received and circulated to Councillors.
- 8.5 Applications for funds have been received from St John’s Ambulance and the NSPCC. Clerk advised that there is little slack in the budget for funding these and similar requests and Council may wish to consider reserving an element of the budget in future years to make charitable awards, however Council felt these should be for local organisations only. Appeals will be included in the newsletters in case residents wish to make individual donations. Clerk
- 8.6 Clerk has heard from Canal and River Trust that they will not now be attending the meeting on 20 May as they will be attending the Pewsey Area Crime & Community Partnership on 30 April instead. Clerk collated a list of complaints and will circulate to Council. A number of Councillors expressed an interest in attending this meeting.
- 8.7 There have been a further two accidents at the Cross Hayes crossroads. It appears that work may now be starting here.
- 8.8 Emails have been received from Edric Hobbs offering a bus shelter cleaning service; Wrapidsign offering posters and banners; and WEC Limited, a renewable energy and energy saving company who have offered a presentation to the Council and then to the public at village halls. Council considered that it may in the future invite representatives of a number of renewable energy companies to a meeting to support individuals who may wish to consider green energy solutions. However it was noted that planning issues may arise in conservation areas and AONB’s.
- 8.9 Leaflets have been received from Wiltshire regarding a Tick Awareness Campaign. These will be made available to parishioners at the Annual Meeting. Clerk
- 8.10 A letter has been received from Wiltshire Council regarding the 1 tonne Salt Bag Scheme. Salt bags require dry storage and Council will consider whether this may be available in the villages. The suggestion to develop a parish weather response plan with Wiltshire Council is part of the Emergency Plan already undertaken.
- 8.11 A letter has been received from Wiltshire Council that European Parliamentary Elections will be held on Thursday 22 May 2014. Clerk to display notices. Clerk
- 8.12 An email has been received from Wiltshire Council regarding its intention to prepare a Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document.
- 8.13 Audit paperwork from Grant Thornton has been received. Clerk to action. Clerk
- 8.14 Newsletter from Came & Co, our insurers, received with some useful information. Circulated to Councillors, and Clerk will review any actions. Clerk
- 8.15 A newsletter from Wiltshire Council, circulated to Councillors, contained some useful information about an action plan on ditch clearing.
- 8.16 An email containing financial briefings from NALC was received. This contained proposed changes to the cheque signatories and suggested changes to the Financial Regulations. Clerk will review. Clerk
- 9. Exchange of Information**
- 9.1 Cllr Giddings advised of a footpath on Manor Farm land (footpath 32) where a permissive path is being marked as an alternative to the footpath due to the poor ground conditions. Council commended the community spirit of the landowner and will write to thank him. It was noted that it is

# WILCOT and HUIISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

---

- planned to grow maize in that field this year and Council will point out the need to maintain this ROW even though an alternative is being marked. If all parties agree it may be included in the programme of rationalisation of ROW with the required consultation and formalisation. Clerk
- 9.2 Clerk logged a service request with Wiltshire regarding the damaged verges at the north end of Wilcot and received notification that Wiltshire have investigated and that it does not require immediate action and that they will monitor the situation.
- 9.3 Applications for Best Kept Village Competition must be made before 30 April. Wilcot would like to enter but Oare would not. Clerk
- 9.4 Clerk has received two free publications about planning applications from WALC, and has also purchased a New Councillor Data Stick, the contents of which will be uploaded to the website for all Councillors to access. Cllr CB
- 9.5 A fence adjoining the green in Wilcot has been recently erected and is inappropriate for a conservation area. It is hoped to resolve this without escalating it to an agenda item.

## 10. Proposed additional items for next agenda

- 10.1 Traffic speeding/calming. A345 Oare and C8 Wilcot. Suggestions of village 'gates' as a project, or recommending 20mph through Wilcot, or asking farmers to lower speed limit of their vehicles by 5mph through the villages.

## 11. Date and time of next meetings

Tuesday 20 May 2014 at 19.30, Wilcot village hall. AGM  
Tuesday 29 April 2014 at 19.30, Oare village hall. Annual Parish Meeting.  
Planning Meeting and closed Council CPD – date TBA  
The meeting ended at 21.20

Additional diary dates:

Parish Walks:

20 April for informal walk – time TBA

4 May for organised walk – to be advertised on noticeboards and website.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....