

WILCOT and HUIISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Oare Village Hall, Tuesday 16 September 2014, at 19.30.

Present:

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

In attendance:

Mr Mike Wilmott, Area Development Manager, Wiltshire Council
12 members of the public.

Actions

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Paul Oatway, Wiltshire Council.

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

None

3. Report from the Police

PC Richard Barratt was unable to attend the meeting at short notice, but had submitted an electronic copy of his report which was subsequently made available on the website.

4. Planning Officer – Mr Mike Wilmott

The Chairman welcomed Mr Mike Wilmott, Area Development Manager at Wiltshire Council, to the meeting. Mr Wilmott was asked to give some guidance to the Council regarding reviewing planning applications and a list of questions was submitted to Mr Wilmott in advance. He read each question out and gave each a full answer. Following this he answered six questions from the Council and the floor. The Chairman thanked Mr Wilmott and hoped that everyone had found his advice beneficial, and he then left the meeting.

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

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

While the guidance from Mr Wilmott was fresh, agenda item 12 was brought forward to this point.

One application was received after the agenda was published.

14/07813/FUL – Erection of new dwelling in the grounds of White Hart public house and formation of new car park for public house, White Hart, Oare.

The Council objected to this application on the following grounds:

The application was inappropriate for a Conservation Area and AONB,

The significant reduction in car parking spaces would be detrimental to the continued use of the pub,

The work does not contribute to the structure of the pub,

The application goes directly against the Conservation Statement which prohibits development in the centre of the village,

The work does not contribute to the structure of the village,

It would require the removal of too many trees.

The planting of trees and shrubs at the gable end of the pub will remove three parking spaces and lead to the requirement to put in a visibility splay, thus

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removing floor space from the pub.

The alteration to the downstairs left had room will reduce its size still further, given that the plans are wrong and this room is the dining room, the effect will be to remove a further table from the room reducing the viability of the pub further.

14/07768/FUL – New external rear door and new flat roofed canopy. Pitched roof canopy to existing rear door, at the School, Cold Blow, Oare.

The Council considered this to be a sensible addition to the school and had no objections.

6. Minutes of the last meeting – 15 July 2014

Clerk's action report was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, and was made available to members of the public by request.

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

Proposed: Cllr Bouch **Seconded:** Cllr R Fleet All in favour.

At the May meeting (AGM) Clerk omitted asking the Chairman to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Chairman Cllr Nix signed her Declaration.

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting – 6 August 2014

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

Proposed: Cllr Wilson **Seconded:** Cllr Giddings All in favour.

Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting – 4 September 2014

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

Proposed: Cllr Wilson **Seconded:** Cllr N Fleet All in favour.

7. To Resolve the Planning Committee

The Council receive a lot of planning applications, many in between scheduled meetings, which means additional meetings must be arranged to review them. The Chairman asked Council to consider delegating that role to a Committee. Council felt it was important that planning applications should be heard in a public meeting. As all available members of the Council attend these meetings there was no point in changing the current method and appointing a committee.

Clerk no longer receives the planning application and decision list sent out weekly by email, and will contact Wiltshire to ask to be reinstated on the distribution list.

Clerk

8. Budget and Monitoring

8.1 The Budget and Monitoring Report was circulated with the Agenda. There has been little activity since the last meeting and all spend is as expected and within budget.

Resolution: That the Budget and Monitoring Report be adopted.

Proposed: Cllr Bartlett **Seconded:** Cllr Wilson All in favour.

8.2 2014 Annual Return

The Annual Return was proposed for adoption by the Council, which unanimously accepted it. The return was signed by the Chair, it will be forwarded to the external auditors. Clerk will arrange for the internal

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auditor to inspect the books and provide a report to Council.

Clerk

9. Chairman's Announcements

There were no announcements.

10. Public Question Time

A member of the public asked how the public would know if additional meetings, such as planning meetings, were being convened and the Clerk will ensure that agendas are posted on the noticeboards and on the website. Cllr Wilson added that the Our Community Matters blog contained information about meetings in the area. Cllr Bartlett is investigating a mailing list for the parish, where interested residents would receive notifications of meetings and other points of interest.

Clerk

Cllr CB

11. Current Parish Issues and Updates

The Chairman reiterated her advice that, where conflict exists the first step should be to try to talk to the party causing a problem. If the problem continues there are organisations that can deal with most conflicts, and to be persistent with your complaint. For example, the Parish Council had continued communication with Wiltshire Highways regarding the road condition in places and this has worked. She reminded the meeting that the Parish Council have no powers to resolve conflict.

11.1 Kennet and Avon Canal, Wilcot

There will be a further meeting with the Canal and River Trust on 2 October 2014, at Wilcot village hall at 6pm. A member of the public was interested in the problems that have been raised with C&RT and was invited to attend the meeting. The Clerk had contacted Pewsey and District Anglers Club and invited them to attend the meeting. The Parish Council had been advised of a recent problem with the towpath being blocked by an angler. The Chairman advised residents that if they feel in any danger on the towpath they should call 999, but that all other incidents should be reported on the 101 system so that they may be logged by the police. At the initial PACCS meeting the police stated that they had received no complaints about the canal and were therefore not aware of any problems.

11.2 Camping in Wilcot

A meeting is planned to include relevant people at Wiltshire Council so that the legal position regarding the duration of camping permitted may be ascertained. Cllr Fleet commented that members of the public were waiting for an answer about a specific issue arising from the camp site.

11.3 WW1 Events and Commemoration

The Clerk reported that she and Cllr Wilson had attended both Commemoration Services; at Tidworth Military Cemetery on 30 July and at East Grafton on 3 August. The Orders of Service for both were made available. It was noted that at the Tidworth service the names of the fallen from the parish were not included in the 10,000 crosses, which was a disappointment. The service at East Grafton was particularly poignant as the name of one of the fallen from each of the parishes in the Pewsey Vale was read out. Council extended their warm thanks to Melanie Roberts, the granddaughter of Cllr Giddings, who laid a posy on behalf of the parish at the East Grafton. The Clerk sent congratulations to the organisers of the East Grafton service. Cllr Wilson added that the Band and Bugles of the Rifles raised over £3,000 for wounded servicemen at the concert which followed the service.

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- 11.4 Highways
Repairs to the C264 (Stowell) are now being carried out. Cllr Lawson commented that there appears to be a gap in the roadworks and that a section of poor road will be left unrepaired. Cllr Wilson requested the Clerk to contact Cllr Oatway to chase the permanent repair team. Clerk
- 11.5 Broadband and phone signal
Cllr Lawson reported that Vodafone have a Rural Open Sure Signal in which people can volunteer for a booster to be installed on their homes to improve the signal to the community. Oare school had contacted the Chairman offering the school as a site for a booster. Cllr Bartlett had concerns that the system may not be as good a solution as was being promised. Cllr Lawson will investigate further. The Council felt that a mast would be the best solution but this would be dependent on landowners permission. Cllr BL
- 11.6 Wilcot Post Box
The Wilcot post box was removed by Royal Mail in July and the Clerk subsequently met with their representative and the Chair of Wilcot Village Hall Committee to identify a new location, outside the village hall. The new post box was recently installed and the Chair thanked the Clerk for her work on this. The Council noted that Royal Mail were still parking in the same place that was considered dangerous for collections, to make deliveries, and Clerk will pass this comment on to Royal Mail. Clerk
- 11.7 Lane to the rear of the village green, Wilcot
This lane is an unadopted access road with frontage of rights to the houses and a footpath over it, and is in a state of poor repair. This caused problems recently when dustbin lorries were unable to use it due to deep potholes which may have caused the lorries to damage parked cars. There was considerable discussion, including comments from residents, about who owns the path and who is responsible for repairs. Cllr Smith circulated a recent history of the path stating that most residents had made significant contributions in the past to its repair. The Chairman suggested that the Council seek advice from Wiltshire and that a separate meeting for affected parties may be required. A suggestion was made that a barrier could be installed which would be operated by Council and emergency vehicles (similar to those in Swindon). In the first instance Cllr Wilson will request at the next CATG meeting that the 'no right of way' sign be moved from the post opposite the lane (on Wilcot bridge) to the lane itself. Cllr PS
Cllr DW

12. Projects

- 12.1 The project to provide a school bus hardstanding and waiting area in Wilcot continues to make progress. It is hoped that it may be in place for October. Cllr RF
- 12.2 The Huish defibrillator has now been supplied and Cllr Wilson requested that funds be made available for the heated case to house it. The cost of the case is approximately £395 plus installation costs of £100. There is £92 in the Defibrillator project fund. Cllr Wilson will cover the cost of the installation privately.
Resolution: That the funds to complete this project be made available from the Savings Account. Cllr DW
Proposed: Cllr Lawson Seconded: Cllr R Fleet All in favour Clerk
Clerk will transfer the funds for Cllr Wilson

13. Correspondence

Clerk's correspondence report was circulated to Councillors prior to the

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meeting, and will be made available to members of the public by request.

14. Exchange of Information

- 14.1 The Chairman and Clerk had met with Cllr Paul Oatway to discuss a number of issues he can assist us with.
- 14.2 The Chairman advised that funding from the Area Board had been made available to Wilcot Cricket Club towards a new pavilion. The cricket club have to raise the remainder.
- 14.3 Cllr R Fleet advised that funds have now been raised to replace the play equipment on the village green at Wilcot and this should be installed by Christmas. Cllr Fleet expressed thanks to Cllr Oatway for supporting the project with the Area Board. The Chairman congratulated Cllr R Fleet for his work on this project.
- 14.4 Cllr Bouch requested that funds be made available for a poppy wreath for Wilcot for Remembrance Day. All were in agreement that the funds should be made available and this will be awarded from the Chairman's Expenses.
- 14.5 Oare School have offered to host a Parish Council meeting. Clerk to check the legal requirements for the start time of this meeting, to accommodate the ages of the children. A date to be decided.

15. Proposed additional items for next agenda

Clerks remuneration.

Feedback from the NALC Conference – Cllr Lawson

16. Date and time of next meetings

Tuesday 18 November 2014 – Oare Village Hall

Tuesday 13 January 2015 – Wilcot Village Hall

Tuesday 17 March 2015 – Oare Village Hall

Tuesday 19 May 2015 – AGM – Oare Village Hall

Annual Parish Meeting to be held April 2015 in Wilcot Village Hall, date to be arranged.

The meeting ended at 22.30

Additional diary dates:

Parish Walk – date to be arranged in September

Chairman:

Date: