

WILCOT and HUIISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Oare Village Hall, Wednesday 10 November 2015, at 19.30.

Present:

Councillors: Mr C Bartlett, Mrs B Lawson, Mrs P Smith, Dr D Nix (Chair), Mrs N Fleet, Mr R Fleet, Mrs P Pearson (Clerk) and Ms D Wilson.

In attendance:

9 members of the public.

Actions

1. Chair's Welcome

A Minutes Silence was held at the start of the meeting for Remembrance of 11 November 2015.

The Chair welcomed Mrs P Pearson the new Clerk and expressed the Parish Council's thanks vote of thanks to Mrs A May for all her help, particularly at a time of change. A vote of thanks to Mrs May was carried unanimously.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr L Giddings

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

Cllr P Smith declared an interest in the Planning Application in Item 10.2.

4. Minutes of the last meeting – 27 August 2015

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

Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting – 10 November 2015

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

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

5. Budget and Monitoring Report

5.1 Budget and Monitoring Report

The Budget and Monitoring Report was circulated with the Agenda. All spend is to budget and as agreed.

It was noted that an Award of £225.00 was made by CPRE for winning the Best Small Village Competition.

Cllr R Fleet raised two further point which required adjustment:

2.11 Defibrillator & Training that the description should be broken-down

5.1 Carry over from last year of £300.

Clerk to update points 2.11 and 5.1 on the Budget and Monitoring Report. Clerk

Cllr D Wilson raised the point that the Contingency & Emergency Fund should be made available and accessible immediately.

Mrs May, the former Parish Clerk added that the Parish Council were obliged to, when setting the budget out to ensure that there is a Percentage of money set aside for a Contingency. The Chair noted this

WILCOT and HUISSH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

had been discussed but we did not have a value advised. Cllrs agreed that a fund should be made available.

Resolution: That the Budget and Monitoring Report be adopted.

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

5.2 Annual Return

This was not discussed at the meeting.

5.3 Precept 2016/17

The Chair noted that the steer from Wiltshire County was to increase because in the future there was a strong case that certain things would be devolved to Parish Councils. Highways Services would continue to be provided by Wiltshire Council.

Cllr D Wilson explained that Wiltshire Council would be reviewing 350 services. The Parish Council may find itself having to support some Services such as grass cutting. It was noted that as the Recycling Centre at Everleigh was under threat.

All Cllrs agreed that we were not going to decrease the Precept.

Cllr N Fleet suggested that we obtain a statement from the Council on how much our cost of the Grass Cutting would be. Cllr C Bartlett felt there was a need to obtain a steer from Wiltshire Council prior to the Parish Council setting its Precept. Setting the Contingency Fund value would wait until the Budget was set. Cllr N Fleet advised that if we added 5% this would give the Parish Council £6,500 per year £13 per household.

The Chair noted that this is a large increase but in order to provide the services it would have to be recognised that this increase was necessary.

Resolution: That the Parish Council increase the Precept by 5%.

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

5.4 Project Fund Account

There was nothing to discuss at the meeting.

6. Chairman's Announcements

There were none mentioned.

7. Public Question Time

Mrs May passed a letter from a resident to the Chair, this was a letter of complaint and support regarding the Golden Swan issued.

WILCOT and HUISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

8. Current Parish Issues & Updates

8.1 Best Kept Small Village Award – Funding

It was noted that Wilcot had been won the Best Kept Small Village Award and £225 had been presented by the CPRE to the village on 11 October 2015. Cllr R Fleet felt that it is was important that the Parish Council use this money to make a difference. Cllr C. Bartlett proposed putting some of the money towards the Cricket Pavilion, this was supported by Cllr R Fleet. Cllr R Fleet proposed that some monies be put towards the upkeep of the War Memorial. The Chair suggested that half of the money is put towards each of the above.

Resolution: That 50% of the monies go towards the Cricket Pavilion and 50% towards the War Memorial.

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

8.2 Kennet & Avon Canal, Wilcot

The Chair stated that there had been reports of litter and car parking on the canal side together with parking on the bridge.

There was a Canals & River Trust meeting at Wilcot Village Hall on 4 November 2015. The relationship between the boat owners, liver boards and the residents is now more relaxed. The cyclists or anglers were not represented at the meeting.

At the meeting it was proposed by Matthew Symonds that a working party be set up to improve the condition of the towpath. Cllr N & R Fleet walked the towpath and there are some places that require maintenance The Towpath up to the bridge was narrow so people have to walk of muddy ground. On the Pewsey side of the Wilcot Bridge the trees are encroaching and saplings are growing along the waterline.

8.3 White Hart Oare

The Owner had been given an Enforcement Notice that they needed to apply for a Change of Use to Residential Use or to desist from residing in the Pub, this was issued in May 2015. Cllr D Wilson advised we were still awaiting a Change of Use Application. The Chair had discussed with the Village Hall Committee the future use of the White Hart and the place in our community. A number of parties had expressed an interest in the Project, working with the Village Hall Committee. The landowner had been interested in the project in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee. Cllr D Wilson noted that the Enforcement Officer at Wiltshire Council had been away ill and the person supervising the Office for Enforcement was being replaced in February 2016.

8.4 Golden Swan Campsite

The Clerk had written to Dr Brand at Wiltshire Council and the letter had been passed to the Head of Planning, who had responded in a wholly unacceptable manner. The Chair stated that a second letter had now been sent back to Dr Brand asking for action to be taken.

The Chair pointed out that where part of a businesses' activities are supported by unlawful actions, Wiltshire Council should not be supporting these businesses by non-enforcement.

8.5 Huish Corner/A345 Junction Oare

The Chair explained that a complaint had been raised by the PTA at Oare School regarding the lane which joined the A345 at Huish Corner.

WILCOT and HUISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

This was a blind junction and there was an issue with the speed of vehicles from both the north and south directions. The vision from the south was very poor, and there was not sufficient room for people to pull out and look down the road. There were ongoing concerns from parents using the junction twice a day. Residents with children were vulnerable and also individuals using the Junction. The PTA had asked the Parish Council to raise this as an Issue.

Previously over the last 30 years' attempts had been made to look at Engineering solutions. Widening the road at the three properties near the junction had been looked into but there was not much land. Rumble strips were noisy and too close to properties. With the A345 being an A Road it was not acceptable to stop the free flow of traffic so a Staggered Junction could not be used. The use of Mirrors was not acceptable and if Mirrors were placed on private property residents' permission would need to be obtained and the residents also had the possibility of being sued if the Mirror was on their land.

Cllr R Fleet mentioned that 5 years ago Parish Council had increased the Precept in order to part fund the Speed Warning Signs but Wiltshire Council dropped the scheme. A member of the public asked if this could be looked at again, because when walking to Oare School the pavement was very bad and this might slow the traffic down.

8.6 Visit by David Arup

The Chair had met with David Arnup the Local Highways Engineer and there were several items he was looking. A list of these had been circulated to all Councillors by the Chair and this list is appended to these Minutes

Cllr D Wilson said that evidence had been obtained that there was a ditch parallel with Huish Lane running beside the curialage of Cold Blow House, this ditch should be reinstated.

The area behind Cold Blow House is used by parents from the school for turning their vehicles. It was suggested this could be increased in size for car parking with the Owners permission.

Problem with Rudge Lane and the inside of the bend. There was no "Unsuitable for HGV" sign. A member of the public said that this was used by agricultural vehicles. Over the last 3 years this has got worse

A member of the public mentioned outside the Golden Swan the Contractor who does the verges does not go up to the Sign Post. Cllr D Wilson advised this was a Parish Steward issue.

This would be added to the list.

Clerk

A member of the public asked about Cross Hays and if anything had been done. Cllr D Wilson advised they had done as much work as they could and that from the work done on C52 hopefully this would have a positive effect on Cross Hays.

Golden Swan junction road markings will be re-laid and the ditch will be re-dug. Cllr D Wilson advised we are still waiting for the White Lining Team to carry out this work. Cllr D Wilson suggested using the Freedom of Information act to look at the list and see how the White Lining Team

WILCOT and HUIISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

determine their priorities. It was noted that it was preferred the White Lining at the Junction changed the priorities - a resident offered photographs showing a previous more sensible layout.

Clerk to follow this up.
Clerk

8.7 Vodafone

Cllr C Bartlett reported that the Sure Signal Boosters were working correctly. Cllr Bartlett was investigating whether we could get more coverage with additional boosters

Cllr C Bartlett was currently looking at 3G and was in discussion with Claire Perry regarding broadband provision.

The Chair expressed thanks to Cllr B Lawson and Cllr C Bartlett for initiating and on this project. The Chair also thanked Wilcot and Oare Village Halls for hosting the devices.

8.8 Footpaths

The Chair noted with thanks that Mr Hiscox had had a new gate installed from Pound Lane to the footpath connecting to Giants Grave.

8.9 Pound Lane – Enforcement Notice

This breach of planning is still outstanding; Cllr D Wilson is still pursuing the Enforcement Department.

8.10 War Memorial Sign

A Private Road Sign has been installed by the War Memorial and a resident had raised an objection. The Sign has now been moved to another location a short distance away. It was felt by Councillors that the wording "Private Road" sign was misleading since the road is not a Private Road and includes a public footpath. Councillors preferred the wording on the existing Wiltshire Council sign and recommended that the wording "Private Road" be removed since this may discourage

people

from using the footpath.

8.11 Tourism Statement

This would be discussed at the next meeting.

WILCOT and HUIISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

9 Projects

9.1 Village Gateways

Clerk reported she was making further enquiries regarding the Village Gates in Oare.

Clerk to investigate further the installation of Village Gates and Clerk

9.2 Repair to the War Memorial

Cllr N Fleet provided an overview on the current situation regarding the War Memorial at Wilcot.

Clerk to investigate further regarding obtaining quotations from Stonemasons for the restoration of the War Memorial at Wilcot and Clerk
funding available, Cllr N Fleet will support the Clerk in this.

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

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

- 15/09863/FUL – Proposed single storey rear extension and double store side extension (demolition of existing small side building and conservatory).

At 1 Alton Road, Wilcot, Wiltshire SN9 5NP

- 15/10412/FUL – Proposed construction of single storey side extension, construct new porch and move front door.

At Oak Cottages, Alton Road, Wilcot, Wiltshire SN9 5NR

No objections were raised to the Planning Applications.

There was a stipulation that the mobile home be removed on completion.

11 Correspondence

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

12 Exchange of Information

The Chair had received an email from Mrs K Featherston-Godley regarding Box Blight. Cllr D Wilson advised the Pewsey Environmental Action Group had two biologists who lived on the Canal who may be able to assist.

Cllr D Wilson to forward their email address to The Chair.

Cllr
Wilson

Everleigh Closure

The Chair said that the proposed closure of Everleigh Recycling Centre was a major issue, it had not yet gone to Public Consultation. It was noted that the Canals & River Trust would be writing to Wiltshire Council on behalf of the live aboards. It was suggested that a Letter be written to Pewsey Parish Council to obtain the full facts.

Clerk to speak to the Chair.

Clerk

Speed Indication Device (SID)

The Chair had attended a meeting regarding SID led by Colin Gale from Rushall Parish Council. There would be no cost regards Training. Cllr D Wilson noted that an approved and qualified Highways Engineer would carry out the installation. Wiltshire Council will hand over the devices. The cost of the installation and maintenance would be about £250.

WILCOT and HUIISH (with OARE) PARISH COUNCIL

13 Proposed additional items for next agenda

Dates for Village Tidy Up

14 Dates for Walking Village Footpaths

10 January 2016 2.00 pm – Wilcot

13 March 2016

10 April 2016

14 Date and time of next meetings

15.1 Council Meetings:

Thursday 14 January 2016 – Oare Village Hall

Wednesday 2 March 2016 – Wilcot Village Hall

Wednesday 11 May 2016 – AGM – Wilcot Village Hall

Annual Parish Meeting - Thursday 14 April 2016 Oare Village Hall.

Planning Committee Meetings will be held as required.

The meeting ended at 22:00.

Chairman:

Date: