



WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

3 Longden Close
Haynes
Bedfordshire
MK45 3PJ

Tel: 07531 930788

E-mail: woottonparishclerk@gmail.com

Website: woottonpc.bedsparishes.gov.uk



[www.facebook.com/
WoottonParishCouncilBedfordshire](http://www.facebook.com/WoottonParishCouncilBedfordshire)

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council held on Wednesday 10th July 2013
at 7.40pm in the Memorial Hall, Wootton, Bedford Road.

Open Forum

One member of the public was present, who wished to observe the workings of the Parish Council with a view to possible co-option in September 2013, but no press were present and so the meeting continued without adjournment.

Present

Cllrs. Lloyd, Bygraves, Chalmers, Cruse, Doggrell, Groves, Price, Quirk, Wallace and Wheeler.

In Attendance: Sue Playford (Clerk). One member of the public was present, as were representatives from Wootton Upper School, Bedfordshire Pilgrims Housing Association (BPHA) and Bedfordshire Police.

FC13/44 Apologies for absence.

Cllrs Bennett, Dillistone and Hall. No apologies were received from Cllr Prescod.

FC13/45 Disclosure of local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests.

Cllrs Price and Wheeler declared a local interest in agenda item FC13/53.

FC13/46 Report from outside organisations - for information only.

BBCllr Prescod was not in attendance, but provided a copy of his report to the Clerk ahead of the meeting, which was read to all present.



2013-07_BBCllr
Prescod report for ful

The Clerk presented the crime figures for the period 31st March 2013 -1st July 2013.



Crime figures
30.4.13 - 31.5.13.do



Crime figures
31.3.13 - 1.5.13.doc



2013-05-31-2013-07
-01_Crime_figures.dc



Crime stats email
response.pdf

PCSOs Carol Copeland and Ian Bevis Mott were in attendance, and provided further information in relation to the above figures. Criminal damage reports had reduced to 6 compared to 18 for the same period last year, and overall crime reports were down from 52 to 36. Cllr Doggrell asked if speeding was within these categories and was told no. Chief Inspector Upex stated he would cover that during his presentation. It was noted that the police had been working with BPHA and that locks had been added and/or repaired at entrances and bin areas at the Manor Road flats, resulting in a drop in reported incidents in that area.

The Clerk then presented a response from the police with regard to an enquiry as to why the figures above differed from those provided at the following website: www.police.uk/crime. No further comments were received.

Michael Gleeson (Wootton Upper School) then gave a short presentation regarding latest developments at Kimberley College (16-19 STEM College). Presentations were handed to all present which Michael then expanded upon. Cllr Quirk stated the Parish Councils' wish to support the project and thanked Michael for attending. After questions, Michael then left the meeting.

Linda Whitfield (Bedfordshire Pilgrims Housing Association) gave the next presentation. She began by explaining her role as a Community Officer for BPHA housing currently being built at Berryfields and detailed her plans to put together a welcome pack for residents there, with help from the Parish Council. To date 8 houses were occupied, with 15 to follow and a further 8 planned for May 2014. The Clerk confirmed that she and Cllr Wallace were working on an extensive list of Clubs and Organisations within the village, which was currently being expanded upon to include doctors, shops, restaurants and other village facilities, and it was hoped that this could be amalgamated with Linda's pack. After questions, Linda was thanked for attending then left the meeting.

Chief Inspector Mark Upex then gave the final presentation on rural policing, and agreed to email an electronic version to the Clerk.

Mark began by acknowledging previous concerns regarding limited police presence at meetings and around the village, due in large to economics and scarce resources. The government had authorised budget cuts of 20% in 2010, meaning a reduction of £19.6m for Bedfordshire police between 2011-15. Of that cost saving, 79% related to staffing. Recruitment had been hit and officer numbers would be affected again. The appointment of Alf Hitchcock as Chief Constable had seen Bedfordshire Police rise to one of the top 20 forces in the country, with the focus on threat, harm and risk - serious crimes including murder, serious assault and gun crime. This was followed by sexual crimes then robbery, burglary and car crime.

Mark then explained that patrols were now sent where crime was, which meant less visibility and patrols in low crime areas. He also explained that whilst the police remained committed to speed checks, this had to be prioritised as a lower level threat issue. It was acknowledged that more incidents were being reported, with officers attending. A commitment to attend quarterly Parish Council meetings was made, and Mark confirmed he was happy to answer case by case issues via email, as needed.

Wootton did not have a Community Safety Forum, however Operation Vision was still ongoing, and would revisit the village at a future stage (on a weekend). PCSO numbers would be retained and increased - there was a fixed budget in this respect. Special Constabulary would also increase in rural areas. It was noted that no recorded burglaries had been reported for Wootton since April 2013.

Cllr Doggrell then asked if the new Chief Constable (Collette Paul) would continue in the same manner with regard to budget proposals. Mark explained that the PCC (Olly Martins) had been appointed to oversee those figures). He felt, however, that forces might have to merge to survive.

**FC13/47 Clerk's correspondence received - for information only.
(Copies of correspondence can be requested from the Clerk).**



2013-07-10_Full
council clerks correspon

No further comments were received.

FC13/48 Schedule of payments.

As agreed at the Accounts Sub Committee meetings on the 29th May 2013 and the 26th June 2013.



2013-05-29_Schedule 48.pdf



2013-05-29_Schedule 49.pdf



2013-05-29_Schedule 50.pdf



2013-05-29_Schedule 51.pdf



2013-05-29_Schedule 52.pdf



2013-06-26_Schedule 53.pdf



2013-06-26_Schedule 54.pdf



2013-06-26_Schedule 55.pdf



2013-06-26_Schedule 56.pdf



2013-06-26_Schedule 57.pdf



2013-06-26_Schedule 58.pdf

It was proposed by Cllr Wheeler, seconded by Cllr Price and resolved by all present to accept all schedules.

No further comments were received.

FC13/49 Chairman's announcements - for information only.



2013-07_Chairs
report for full council

No further comments were received.

FC13/50 Minutes of the previous meeting.

Members of Full Council were asked to receive and adopt the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on the 8th May 2013.

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.



2013-05-08_ACM_minutes.doc

Members of Full Council were asked to receive and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 8th May 2013.

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.



2013-05-08_Full_Council_minutes.doc

FC13/51 Matters arising from the minutes to include issues log review - for information only.

(Borough Council) - Neale Way - overgrown hedge. Keep on file. BBCllr Prescod is looking into the possibility of ward monies being used to cut the hedge back. No further updates available.

FC11/70 - Lack of disabled children's facilities. Ensure provision is included in the

new community facilities.

n/a - Traffic Management issues. Further meeting held 2.3.12 and Andy Prigmore (Highways) will take certain matters forward. Minutes circulated 7.3.12 - awaiting update from Andy Prigmore. Leave on file pending outcome of proposed works for Fields Road and the Cranfield/Bedford/Church/Fields Road junction.

(Borough Council) - query with regard to weed control within the village. BBCllr Prescod is looking at possibly using ward money to bring this under control. Still ongoing.

FC11/130 - upgrade of CCTV. Memorial Hall site remains ongoing. Lower school to source own camera for the Bedford Road site. No further responses received - move to close?

FC11/145 - Education meeting. Clerk has chased the lower school re questionnaires. No further updates received.

(Borough Council) - Potters Cross ditch and brook. Resident informed BBCllr Prescod that there was a strange smell coming from a manhole cover at the top of Potters Cross. BBCllr Prescod is liaising with Anglian Water. Anglian Water have informed BBCllr Prescod they cannot find anything wrong. Clerk has requested the resident keep a diary of events. British Gas have been working in the area as the smell is now believed to be gas - move to close?

n/a - Metal poles with no signage on. The clerk has informed Borough that the "Wootton" village sign is no longer in place - road leading from Wood/Bourne End into the village. Clerk continues to chase.

FC12/74 - Allotments. Wootton Poor's Land have approached WPC with a view to WPC leasing the allotment land from them. See separate agenda item.

FC12/78 - BMX course in Fields Road. Cllr Lloyd suggested approaching Persimmon to obtain soil to start the design - near the A421 flyover. Plan details remain ongoing.

FC12/104 - Public Access Defibrillator. Defibrillator now installed and the litter picker/handy man is undertaking the weekly and monthly checks. Clerk is waiting to hear about an awareness session to be provided by the Beds Fire & Rescue service.

FC12/107 - Bus Route 53. Clerk has written and emailed Stagecoach. Stagecoach have confirmed they will give the matter their consideration and the Clerk has requested a meeting with Chris Pettifer, Head of Transport Operations at Bedford Borough Council. Meeting arranged for the 30th April 2013. Clerk is now arranging a site visit with the Borough Council.

FC12/108 - s106 changes to Fields Road development. Cllr Wallace has been liaising with Borough and Persimmon. See separate agenda item.

FC13/04 - Community Speedwatch scheme. Council members received a presentation at full council on the 9th January 2013 from members of the scheme. Volunteers are needed to operate the Speed Indicator Devices - to date, only one volunteer has come forward. No other volunteers have come forward.

FC13/52 To receive a report from Cllr Wallace regarding the Management of Green Space on the Fields Road North development, the two proposed football pitches, new Community Hall and future precept demands and to resolve how to proceed next.

A report was circulated ahead of the meeting. Cllr Wallace reiterated the fact, that, if

the management were given to an outside body, the Parish Council would have no influence over the areas concerned. It was acknowledged that the Parish Council would need to resolve to use the General Power of Competence in order to bid as Management Entity - this would be brought to Full Council in September 2013. Questions were asked as to the extent of discussions to date with third parties on the bid proposal, and it was noted that all parties were aware of the fact they were not dealing with the Parish Council, but councillors as individuals, pending a formal resolution. Cllr Wallace stated that the Parish Council ought not to seek to take over formal responsibility of grass areas until planted trees and shrubs had been given time to establish. Cllr Lloyd asked all members for reasons not to proceed - Cllr Price stated he would not be in favour due to potential difficulties in collecting fees and the potential to create two separate areas within the one village. Cllr Lloyd then asked for reasons to proceed which included avoidance of any private management company going into liquidation or receivership (as has happened with areas of land elsewhere in the village) and the fact that the same standard of maintenance and definition will be seen throughout the village.

After further discussion it was proposed by Cllr Bygraves, seconded by Cllr Groves and resolved by majority vote that arrangements to submit a formal bid as Management Entity continue.

Action - Clerk to liaise with Cllr Wallace and Persimmon as needed.

It was noted that the original s106 agreement detailed a commuted sum be provided to the Parish Council, for the maintenance of the junior and senior football pitches (one of each). During recent talks, Persimmon had suggested this clause be removed. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Groves, seconded by Cllr Cruse and resolved by all present that the original s106 agreement stand.

Action - Clerk to liaise with Cllr Wallace and Persimmon as needed.

Discussions were then held regarding the Community Hall and commuted sum. The figures would need to be looked at, as it was anticipated the sum received would be over a period of 15-20 years, at which time it would have to break even. It was agreed to bring this to the next Leisure & Amenities meeting, with a view to forming a Development Sub Committee.

Highways Act 1980 s96.

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 s106.

Action - Clerk to take forward as above.

FC13/53 To receive an update from the Clerk regarding amendments to the allotments lease agreement, potential amendments to Tenancy agreement and to resolve how best to proceed.

It was proposed by Cllr Quirk, seconded by Cllr Wallace and resolved by majority vote* that the amended allotments lease agreement be accepted, without further amendment.

It was proposed by Cllr Quirk, seconded by Cllr Bygraves and resolved by majority vote* that no further comments were needed in respect of Louise Ashmore's recommendations regarding the Tenancy agreement.

*** Cllrs Price and Wheeler did not take part in voting.**

Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908 ss23, 26 & 42.

Action - Clerk to take forward with Wootton Poor's Land as above.

FC13/54 To receive a recommendation from Finance & General Purposes with regard to the following grant requests, and to resolve whether to accept.

Wootton library: It was proposed by Cllr Wallace, seconded by Cllr Chalmers and

resolved by all present that the recommendation be accepted, and that the library be asked to highlight the fact that funding was received from Wootton Parish Council.

BRCC: It was proposed Cllr Price, seconded by Cllr Doggrell and resolved by all present that the recommendation be accepted.

LGA 1972 s137.

Action - Clerk to inform as above.

FC13/55 To approve the purchase of new IT equipment for the Clerk.

It was proposed by Cllr Wallace, seconded by Cllr Price and resolved by all present that the recommendations circulated ahead of the meeting be approved. The proposal also included the use of the full budget to ensure all necessary additional equipment could be purchased without the need to refer again to Full Council.

LGA 1972 s111.

Action - Cllr Lloyd and the Clerk to take forward.

FG13/56 To consider a request from Sports Traider for funding for a summer camp within the village, during August 2013.

The proposal was circulated ahead of the meeting. Concerns were raised over the tight advertising time scales however Cllr Cruse confirmed that the deadlines would be met. Cllr Cruse also confirmed that Wootton Parish Council would not be responsible for the scheme - that would fall to Sports Traider. Cllr Lloyd suggested next years scheme be organised in time for Octobers precept meeting. It was stressed the scheme would be for Wootton residents only and after further discussion it was proposed by Cllr Price, seconded by Cllr Wheeler and resolved by all present that the funding of £2,490 be approved on the basis Sports Traider were fully responsible and liable for the scheme, and that they would ensure it was provided for Wootton residents only.

LGA 1972 s137.

Action - Clerk to inform Sports Traider as above.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Chairman.....

Date.....