

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on Wednesday 29th February 2012 at 7.05pm in the Memorial Hall, Bedford Road, Wootton.

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- Present.** Cllrs Quirk, Chalmers, Lloyd, Price and Wheeler.
The Clerk (Sue Playford).
- P12/25 Apologies for absence.**
Cllr Rowse.
- P12/26 Declarations of interest on any items on the agenda.**
None.
- P12/27 Report from outside organisations.**
None.
- P12/28 List of correspondence received (copies of correspondence can be requested from the clerk).**
Proposed temporary road closure - Ampthill Road (B530) and Manor Road, Kempston Hardwick. The Legal Order will be made to cover a four month period but it is expected the closures will be in operation for up to 5 week nights from Wednesday 4th April to Friday 13th April 2012 (excluding Bank holidays) between 2000hrs and 0600hrs. Specific dates will be advertised locally closer to the time.
Length affected - Ampthill Road (B530) - from a point approx. 200 metres north of the junction with Manor Road to the roundabout adjoining Kiln Road.
Length affected - Manor Road - from Ampthill Road extending westwards for approx. 100 meters.
No further comments were received.
- Open Forum.**
None.
- P12/29 Minutes of the meeting.**
Members of the planning committee are asked to receive and adopt the minutes of the planning committee meeting held on the 8th February 2012.
The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
- P12/30 Matters arising from the minutes to include issues log review.**
P11/47 - Overgrown alleyway Lorraine Road/Hoo Close. See separate agenda item below.

P11/51 - Changes to s106 Fields Road - open meeting held 27.7.11. Plans were passed on 3rd January 2012.

P11/87 (4) – CA Traffic Ltd. Keep on file.

P11/121 – Trees in Lorraine Road cemetery. The lime tree has had it's suckers cut away from the fence but the clerk has received a further complaint from a local resident saying that it should be crowned every 2 years. Clerk has informed the resident that a tree survey has been undertaken, the report for which will determine whether further works are needed.

n/a – Overhanging trees in Wootton house. Pam Stephenson has taken a look and Philip Scott-Collins (Conservation officer BBC) will also visit and provide an update. Pamela has heard nothing more and will chase again.

P11/123 – Replacement lighting columns – Hall End Road. Signed agreements are due to be handed back to Allan Peacock Ltd on 21.2.12.

n/a – poor state of land at the Fields Road/Bedford Road noticeboard. Works will take place in February 2012.

Open forum – positioning of dog mess bin in Keeley Lane. Due for discussion again in March 2012.

n/a – tree inspection. Bob Morwood is preparing a report, expected in February 2012.

P11/174 – continued closure of Footpath No 1. The clerk has pushed again for the footpath to be reinstated as soon as possible. Response awaited.

n/a – request to site a dog bin along the footpath behind Lorraine Road. Clerk received a response from BBC to say there was no call for a bin in that area, and that the residents should keep a diary of events to help with a further future request.

n/a – replacement light bulbs needed for Hall End Road and Canons Close lights. All works completed – move to close.

n/a – light out in Studley Road/Lorraine Road alleyway. Request for a repair has been made to Highways – logged as 163718.

P12/31

a Planning Applications.

12/00214/FUL - 30 Summerfield Drive - single storey rear extension.

Having reviewed the application those present resolved there was **NO OBJECTION**.

12/00254/FUL - 22 Wootton Green - erection of glazed porch to side elevation and rear conservatory.

Having reviewed the application those present resolved there was **NO OBJECTION**.

b Planning Approvals.

11/02596/FUL - 79 Cause End Road - two storey rear extension with dormer window.

This council had previously recorded **NO OBJECTION**.

11/02672/TPO - 5 The Willows - 2 willows re-pollard.

This council had previously recorded **NO OBJECTION**.

P12/32

To consider representation of the council at the planning meeting of Bedford Borough council discussing the above applications.

Not applicable.

P12/33

To request above applications be considered by the full Planning Committee of Bedford Borough council.

Not applicable.

P12/34 To receive a report from Cllr Quirk regarding the ditch and brook behind Lorraine Road.

The matter remains unresolved and the land behind the ditch and brook is now no longer on the market. Over the years it has been investigated and the present clerk has once more tried to establish who is ultimately responsible. The clerk has had conversations with one resident and recommended the Bedfordshire Community Payback team. Cllr Price recalled BBC had cut the hedge back once before. Cllr Quirk stated that access across the farmland would be needed and the clerk confirmed that the resident was taking matters forward with the landowner as the clerk had been unsuccessful. After discussion it was agreed that cattle would soon be on the land thus preventing any works being undertaken, and it was resolved to leave the matter in record until October at which time it would be revisited.

Action - clerk to leave on file until October.

P12/35 To receive a report from Cllr Quirk with regard to watering the Cockspur Thorn trees planted at the bottom of the cemetery extension.

Cllr Quirk's initial recommendation had been to lay piping and have a 50m connection to the existing tap, however reports received since indicate that a hosepipe ban may be soon put in place for this region. The trees should be watered 3-4 times a week until established, but the area is presently waterlogged. After discussion it was resolved to leave this on file until the handy person is appointed - this would form one of their tasks.

Action - clerk to ensure watering is added as a task for the handy person to undertake.

**P12/36 To discuss the Rights of Way network for Wootton and in particular:
Agree the Seasonal Vegetative Cropping Programme (SVC) for the next 5 years;
Appoint a Footpath Officer to liaise with Bedford Borough Councils Rights of Way team.**

A report was circulated before the meeting and Cllr Quirk had established BBC pay landowners for the SVC cutting of footpaths. Cllr Quirk confirmed landowners are cutting twice a year in some areas but not all. The question was raised as to whether all areas are being cut and what payments are being claimed. After discussion it was agreed that no further areas were to be included but that a response be made to BBC raising the question above, asking what checks are in place to ensure works carried out and payments made correlate.

Action - clerk to enquire of Bedford Borough Council as above.

Cllr Wallace had sent notes to all council members regarding the appointment of a footpath officer, expressing an interest in standing for this role, if no other members wished to do so. Cllrs Quirk and Price mentioned Cllr Wallace's involvement with the Ramblers Association and Forest of Marston Vale and Cllr Quirk sought opinion on whether this would be seen as a potential conflict of interest. After discussion it was resolved that Cllr Wallace be appointed as the footpath officer, reporting to the Planning committee until May and all were in agreement. Suggestion was made that if the Leisure & Amenities committee were reconvened in May, reporting lines would move to that committee.

Action - clerk to advise Bedford Borough Council re above.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

Chairman.....

Date.....