

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Planning Committee** held on Wednesday 9th May 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) and RFO (Sue Bolton).
- P12/71 Apologies for absence.**
Cllr Rowse.
- P12/72 Declarations of interest on any items on the agenda.**
None.
- P12/73 Report from outside organisations.**
Cllr Quirk reported that he and Cllr Doggrell attended a training session relating to planning at Bedford Borough on 8th May 2012. He provided a brief background as to the course content, which included the parish council's right in the future to draft a neighbourhood plan to aid development in the area, not considered feasible in the light of the Fields Road development.
- P12/74 List of correspondence received (copies of correspondence can be requested from the clerk).**
3 proposed temporary road closures - Broadmead Road, Stewartby. The legal order will be made to cover a 5 month period - however it is anticipated that the 1st closure will be in operation on Thursday 10th May 2012 and Friday 11th May 2012, between 0800hrs and 1800hrs. Closure no 2 is anticipated to be in operation for up to 2 days in August 2012 and closure no 3 is anticipated to be in operation for up to 2 days in September 2012. Specific dates will be advertised nearer the time.
No further comments were received.
- Proposed temporary road closure - Green Lane, Stewartby (level crossing). From a point approx 20 metres east of the level to a point approx 20 metres west of the level crossing. The legal order will be made to cover a 4 month period - however it is anticipated that the closure will be in operation from 2200hrs Thursday 17th May 2012 until 0600hrs Friday 18th May 2012. Specific dates will be advertised locally closer to the time.
No further comments were received.
- 3 proposed temporary road closures - Manor Road, Kempston Hardwick. The legal order will be made to cover a 5 month period - however it is anticipated that the 1st closure will be in operation on Thursday 17th, Friday 18th, Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd May 2012 between 0800hrs and 1800hrs. Closure no 2 is anticipated to be in operation for up to 2 days in August 2012 and closure no 3 is anticipated to be in operation for up to 2 days in September 2012. Specific dates will be advertised nearer the time.
No further comments were received.
- Open Forum - meeting to be adjourned.**
There were no members of the public present so the meeting continued without adjournment.
- P12/75 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 25th April 2012.

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting by Cllr Wheeler, who chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr Quirk.

P12/76 Matters arising from the minutes to include issues log review.

P11/47 - Overgrown alleyway Lorraine Road/Hoo Close. Keep on file until October.

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. Letter sent to resident detailing that the suckers will be removed but that the tree is otherwise considered healthy.

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. Clerk advised that matters are now being left until the trees come into leaf.

P11/123 – Replacement lighting columns – Hall End Road. Signed agreements handed back to Allan Peacock Ltd on 21.2.12. Works commenced 7.3.12 – clerk chased 27.3.12 as items are outstanding. Issue now raised over shields and timers– see separate agenda item.

n/a – poor state of land at the Fields Road/Bedford Road noticeboard. Works will take place in early March 2012. Works mostly finished – two plants still to be added.

Open forum – positioning of dog mess bin in Keeley Lane. Due for discussion again in March 2012. Request to move it to be put to the handy man when his appointment has been formalised.

n/a – tree inspection. Bob Morwood is preparing a report, expected in March 2012. Clerk to arrange aerial inspection of trees considered urgent works. 2 quotations received to date – awaiting a 3rd.

P11/174 – continued closure of Footpath No 1. The clerk has pushed again for the footpath to be reinstated as soon as possible, and whilst a response was received stating this would be resolved in the coming months, the clerk has now requested whether the proposed bridleway also mentioned, should have had plans submitted. Footpath is expected to be reinstated in May – clerk is hoping to meet with Allison and Phil Clifton to discuss the issue regarding plans.

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.

P12/56 – changes to Fields Road roundabout 11/01559/MAF. Clerk to establish who will be responsible for the drainage ditches being dug. All ditches will become the responsibility of Bedford Borough Council. Move to close.

P12/58 – upgrading of lights at Tithe Barn Road. Amey requested to provide a project improve document.

n/a - poor surface of old A421 (now C94). Clerk emailed highways 26.4.12.

P12/77

a Planning Applications.

12/00541/FUL - 18 Grovebury Court - loft conversion with roof extension and rear dormers.

After discussion it was resolved that the council had **NO OBJECTION**.

12/00671/FUL - 6 Keeley Farm Court - single storey rear extension.

After discussion it was resolved that the council had **NO OBJECTION**.

12/00774/FUL - 26 Elmsdale Road - single storey rear extension.

After discussion it was resolved that the council had **NO OBJECTION**.

b Planning Approvals.

12/00315/FUL - 78 Bedford Road - erection of detached single garage to front.

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

P12/78

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

Not applicable.

P12/79

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

Not applicable.

P12/80

To receive a report from Cllr Quirk regarding the lighting in Hall End Road.

At the last planning meeting the clerk confirmed she had received complaints regarding light pollution, and had been asked by three parishioners to investigate fitting shields to the columns. One parishioner had specifically asked that the parish council investigate the addition of timers to the columns and the clerk had spoken to PCSO Hogg. His thoughts were that it could make houses there more attractive to burglars if they were in the dark, as some are quite isolated. He felt that lights were a known deterrent, but it could be viewed that there was a balanced argument if several complaints had been received. The clerk confirmed that a second parishioner had mentioned the possibility of timers being fitted, but they had also expressed concerns that this could impact on criminal activity.

Cllr Quirk confirmed he had contacted the contractor for information and costings regarding timers being fitted, but had yet to receive a response. His thoughts were that to fit timers to 5 columns, including electrician's expenses and the need to reset them twice yearly when the clocks change, could be estimated at approximately £1000. If the timer device caused the column to fail, there would also be an issue over warranty. After further discussion it was agreed by all present not to proceed further.

He also confirmed that the lights were still not functioning properly and that the clerk had yet to authorise the invoice for payment. Both he and the clerk had contacted the contractor to see if shields could be fitted, and to obtain a costing. Cllr Quirk stated if tape

were used to deflect the light away from housing it could potentially cause the unit to overheat, and possibly invalidate any warranty. After further discussion it was resolved by all present that the issue of fitting shields continue to be taken forward.

Parish Councils Act 1957 s3.

Action - clerk/PDQ to chase the contractor for an update on the shields and costings.

Cllr Quirk then spoke about the proposal to upgrade the lights in Tithe Barn Road. He detailed to those present the contents of a letter which would be sent to all residents, requesting their feedback and comments, and confirmed he would forward a copy of this to the clerk. It was agreed that this letter be used, and Cllr Quirk confirmed that he would arrange for it to be delivered to all householders. When responses are received, the proposal will become an agenda item.

Action - clerk to include as an agenda item after the response deadline.

Meeting closed at 7.24pm

Chairman.....

Date.....