

KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Mrs Ruth Burrows Email: parishclerk@kilmingtonwiltshire.org

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 14 November 2022 at the Stourton & Kilmington Home Guard Club commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors G Cotton, R Flower, Mrs E Hames, A Reeves, C Reeves, C Webster
Also in attendance, Cllr George Jeans (Unitary Wiltshire Council), the Clerk (Mrs Ruth Burrows) and 3 members of the public.

Public Open Session

None of the members of the public who were present requested to speak.

111. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr G Hunt who was away working.

112. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Kilmington Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None.

113. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the extra Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 24 October 2022 were approved and signed as a correct record.

114. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER MINUTES (not covered by other Agenda items)

114.1 Winter Weather preparations (item 99.8) – the Clerk said she had been in contact with the Wiltshire Council (WC) Winter Weather team and they have confirmed that there will be no PEAS Scheme in operation for the coming winter, as last year's was so mild, parishes should have sufficient stocks of grit but if we needed any they could arrange for a quantity to be delivered. Cllr C Reeves confirmed we should have sufficient stocks but Cllr A Reeves said the grit bin at the end of Cote Lane had not been filled up as we had requested a few months ago.

Action: Clerk to request grit bin is filled

115. PLANNING

(All applications can be viewed on Wiltshire Council's website [Planning - Wiltshire Council](#) – and type in the relevant application number)

115.1 Application to consider at the meeting:

PL/2022/07851 construction of hay and machinery store at Nettlebed Farm, Butts Lane, BA12 6RB

It was RESOLVED to "Support" this application with the condition that the new store is used solely for the purpose of storing hay and agricultural machinery.

Action: Clerk to inform WC Planning

115.2 Applications which may have arrived after issue of the Agenda.

None.

115.3 Applications considered determined since last meeting:

PL/2021/09744 erection of single unit of holiday accommodation at Street Farm, The Street.

PC Response: No objection subject to conditions

LPA: Not yet determined

PL/2022/03915 (resubmitted) erection of a workshop building and provision of an extended service yard for A R Diesels Ltd, Cote Lane

PC Response: Object

LPA: Not yet determined

115.4 PL/07890/FUL – to note there were no objections from the PC to National Transport Casework Team's proposed "stopping up" of the Highway at White Lodge, The Street.

116. TRAFFIC ON KILMINGTON COMMON – A WC Highways improvement form has been submitted to LHFIG and will be considered at their next meeting on 30 November. This requests the commission of a survey by Atkins to reduce the speed limit along Kilmington Common to 30mph. Our contribution of £625 was agreed at the 5.09.22

meeting. Cllr A Reeves said it was not only HVG speeding along this road but cars and vans were the major culprits and asked for the heading to be amended. This was agreed. *Action: Clerk*

117. BROADBAND – Cllr Webster gave an overview of what had happened with the project over the 18 months he has been working on it. The latest information available is that Wiltshire Council has signed up to the procurement of Project Gigabit which will unfortunately stall our community FTTH (fibre to the house) project. He said this is extremely frustrating and nothing will happen on our project until we know if Kilmington will be included in the county-wide project. Cllr Webster said he had been in contact with Cllr Jeans to ask him to use his influence to try to ensure Kilmington is included. If that is not the case, then the latest estimate provided would be resurrected – this unbelievably had taken Open Reach 8 months to produce and will cost approximately £100K with 84 properties included. The cost of this should be covered by a Government voucher scheme but if there is a shortfall of vouchers there has to be a legal entity company formed to pick up the remainder. However, Cllr Webster hopes that because the Kilmington Common side of the village is already linked up to fibre to the property, it would be relatively low cost to provide that to the remainder of the village. Cllr Jeans said that it was important that Cllr Webster keep in regular contact with Wiltshire Council over the next 6-12 months to keep them aware of Kilmington. Cllr C Reeves said he had spoken to an engineer working in The Street last week who said he was replacing a faulty copper cable up passed the green box and once in place it would improve the broadband.

118. VoIP and MOBILE PHONE SIGNAL – Cllr Webster reported that the new mast has been installed at the Glider Club on the Deverell's but the fibre trunk between the mast and the exchange is still not in place due to the wayleaves being delayed by solicitors. A microwave link has been put in to give the mast connectively but the tests he undertook with an EE mobile phone in the village gave a poor result, in part due to the power being turned down. He said he hoped that the fibre trunk would be installed by January, the power would then be cranked up and he would again perform tests around the village. The Chairman thanked Cllr Webster for all his efforts and the huge amount of time he has spent on both broadband and the mobile signal issues.

119. HIGHWAYS, RIVERS, FOOTPATHS & TRANSPORT

119.1 Extension of Somerset Quarries (Hanson SCC/3795/2021) – the Chairman said that the planning applications are still under consideration by Somerset Council and if approved, there was the potential for increased traffic on the B3092 affecting Norton Ferris residents. After a lengthy discussion, it was proposed by Cllr A Reeves, seconded by Cllr Webster and agreed by all for this item to be removed from future agendas. *(item closed)*

119.2 Speed Indicator Device – Cllr Flower reported that the equipment is due to come back to us during the first week of January. He had been told that Stourton were no longer going to place the SID in their parish and considered it a waste of time.

119.3 Weight restricted HVG route - the Chairman said he had still not received any response from Allan Creedy in WC regarding this issue and the Clerk had also followed up without any result. Cllr Jeans said that a resolution to this problem of rerouting HVGs from the B3092 onto the A350 and then onto the A303 would have to be a government funded project probably costing in excess of £40 million. He is not aware of WC considering or doing anything about it. Cllr Jeans said he would take up the issue of non replies from a WC officer. It was agreed to leave it on the Agenda for the next meeting. *Action: Clerk to forward follow ups to Cllr Jeans*

119.4 Road Repairs – The Street & Butts Lane – the Chairman said there was nothing further to report on both items but it hopeful there will be some action early in the new year.

119.5 Additional signage for The Street – the Chairman said he had met with Paul Shaddock (WC) via zoom and discussed where best for the 3 signs to be placed. One place had been highlighted on the verge in Church Road by Martins Removals which was not WC owned land so he has spoken to Richard Taylor the manager who has said it will but would like to be consulted on the precise positioning, as and when. One at the bottom of The Street (next to or by the speed limit sign) for traffic entering the village from the B3092 and the third opposite the sheep cote in Cote Lane on Cllr C Reeves land. The Clerk said the paperwork indicated that only 2 signs would be provided and our contribution of £130.00 was for 2 signs. Cllr Webster proposed that a third sign be requested, this was seconded by Cllr Cotton and agreed by all. However, the Chairman said he would clarify the matter with Paul Shaddock.

Action: Chairman

119.6 Extra safety measures on B3092 at Norton Ferris – the Chairman reported that the SLOW markings and rumble strips had been marked on the dangerous section of road about a week ago; however, Cllr C Reeves said he did not think they were doing any good at all and Cllr Mrs Hames said she had received feedback from some Norton Ferris residents who were of the same opinion and Council money had been wasted. The Chairman pointed out that having this work done was thought to be better than doing nothing. A lengthy discussion followed and Cllr Jeans said that the WC Highways Principal Engineer needs to be regularly reminded about this stretch of road but currently it is not seen as a problem as, although there have been several ‘near misses’ there have not been any serious accidents. Longer term the probable solution would be to realign the junction completely (involving moving the B3092) and that will cost - at present levels - in the region of £300-400K. The possibility of placing traffic lights as a means of making the junction safer was discussed. On a proposal by Cllr C Reeves, seconded by Cllr Mrs Hames, it was agreed by all that the Clerk should submit a Highways Improvement form to LHFIG requesting traffic lights. Cllr Jeans said this would need to be considered under the Substantive Bid process, he would fully support it and keep highlighting this section of road to the appropriate officers at WC Highways.

Action: Chairman/Clerk

119.7 Parish Steward – the Chairman said the Steward is due in the village again on 23 November. Cllr Mrs Hames Cllrs A Reeves & Webster all passed on various jobs which should be undertaken next week, mainly clearing drains and cutting back overgrowth covering speed limit signs.

Action: Chairman

119.8 Wiltshire Council Substantive Highways Scheme Fund – Briefing Note. 22-20 (already circulated) – this item had already been covered in 119.6 and should be removed from the Agenda of future meetings.

Action: Clerk

120. TREE MAINTENANCE – on a proposal by Cllr A Reeves, seconded by Cllr Mrs Hames and agreed by all, the quotes of £220 and £50 for the additional works on the Lime Trees in Green Ride were accepted.

Action: Clerk

121. PLAYING FIELD – there was nothing to report, the RoSPA inspection report has not yet been received although the Clerk advised the invoice had been received that day.

121.1 Annual Firework Display – Cllr Mrs Hames said she had ordered the fireworks but everything else had been arranged by Cllr C Reeves should be thanked for all his hard work and efforts in organizing another successful evening.

Item closed

122. SITE OF CLOSED WHITESHEET SCHOOL

The Chairman said there was really nothing new to report as he was awaiting a response from the Diocese who he understands are in negotiations with WC. Cllr Webster said he has been speaking with the maintenance team who regularly still attend the site and he had been told the site was shortly to be placed on the market.

123. KING CHARLES III CORONATION – 6 May 2023 – it was RESOLVED to allocate £500 from the 2023-2024 budget towards village celebrations. Cllr Mrs Hames said she had been approached about the Council requesting a road closure along The Common for a street party. The Clerk said that WC require minimum of 3 months’ notice for road closures, there is a heap of documentation to be completed and this should be borne in mind when discussions are taking place between villagers and the S&KHG Club. The PC would not be directly involved in any activities or arranging road closures but residents should be encouraged to work together with the S&KHG club.

9.20pm Cllr Jeans and the 3 members of the public left the meeting

124. FINANCE, POLICY & RESOURCES

124.1 Receipts and acknowledgements – the Clerk reported a letter of thanks had been received from the Wiltshire Citizens Advice for the £50 donation. A cheque for £404.25 had been received from the Amenity Fund in respect of the purchase of fireworks and paid into our bank account.

124.2 Balance of Lloyds Bank account at 31 October was £10913.27 with no outstanding payments or cheques. The reconciles with the bank statement of the same date; the Chairman signed the bank reconciliation form.

124.3 Spend v Budget report Q1 & Q2 - this had been circulated prior to the meeting and there were no questions.

124.4 To approve the following Faster Payment transactions:

Payments already made:		
Jimmy's Wholesale Fireworks	Annual bonfire and firework display	£484.98
To approve for immediate payment:		
Stourton & Kilmington Home Guard Club	Hire of venue for meeting	£50.00
Mr T J Thornley	Q3 2022-23 website maintenance	£60.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	Remembrance Wreath	£17.00
To approve upon receipt of invoice		
N. Gatehouse Tree Surgeon	Green Ride tree works (item 120)	£270.00
Playsafety Ltd	Annual Play Area Inspection	£134.40
Wilts Council Highways	Additional signage in The Street (contribution)	£*TBA
Wilts Council Highways	Enhanced SLOW markings B3092 Norton Ferris (contr)	£412.20
To approve payments for 31.12.22:		
D L Davis	Play Area Inspections Q3 2022-23	£175.50
Mrs R K Burrows	Salary and allowance Q3 2022-23 (after deductions)	£361.20
HMRC	PAYE Q3 2022-23	£82.80

*exact amount will be confirmed at next meeting

124.5 To consider and approve Clerk's salary increase from 1 April 2022 - the Clerk said she had already circulated the details for councilors to consider. It was RESOLVED to agree the NALC recommendation which would mean a £1 per hour increase in salary for the Clerk making her new hourly rate £12.50. The Clerk said that additional holiday had also been agreed by the Unions but this would not affect the PC as she had not included any holiday entitlement in her contract. However, councillors should be aware that if and when a new clerk comes into the post, this might not be the case.

124.6 To consider the Annual Budget 2023/2024 (report sent 8.11.22). The figures provided by the Clerk were considered and agreed with one amendment. This was in regard to the War Memorial maintenance cost which should remain at the current level of £90.00 and not be increased. Reserves were discussed and it was RESOLVED the sum of £1800, which would be the total set aside at 31.03.23 for the Brookside play area car park, be moved to General Reserves. **Action: Clerk**

124.7 To approve Precept on Wiltshire Council for 2023/2024 – it was RESOLVED to approve the precept of £10,323.00 for 2023/2024 on a proposal by Cllr A Reeves, seconded by Cllr G Cotton and carried with a unanimous vote. The Chairman and Clerk signed the form which has to be emailed to WC Finance Dept. **Action: Clerk**

125. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Monday, 9 January at 7.30 pm in the Stourton & Kilmington Home Guard Club. The Clerk reminded all present that items cannot be added to the agenda at a meeting and no item can be discussed or agreed if it is not on the agenda. If any member has anything they require added to the next meetings' agenda, they should email or phone the Clerk at least 10 days beforehand with the details.

Members are reminded that the Parish Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

Signed..........

Date: 09/01/2023.....

These minutes will be reviewed and formally ratified by the Parish Council on 9 January 2023