

**PARISH COUNCIL OF HILLESLEY AND TRESHAM  
MINUTES  
Meeting held at Hopkins Hall, Hillesley on  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**Present:** Cllr A Clark (chair), Cllr A Doughty, Cllr C Halpin, Cllr R Harlow, Cllr A Larrieu.  
H Cooke (clerk)

**In attendance:** Cllr J Cordwell (County), Cllr P Hemmings (District), 2 members of the public

- |  | Action      |
|--|-------------|
| <b>1. Apologies for absence:</b> Cllr D Darlow and Cllr S Butcher. Accepted.   |             |
| <b>2. Declarations of Interest:</b> none   |             |
| <b>3. Minutes of the last meeting:</b><br>The minutes of the meeting on 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2008 were approved, and signed by the Chair.  |             |
| <b>4. Clerk's Report</b><br>Noted:   |             |
| a. Street light at New mills lane/Kilcott Road erected but not yet connected.  |             |
| b. Awaiting further developments on adoption of Tresham telephone box  |             |
| c. Hillesley notice board not removed during Post office cottage decoration. The board is deteriorating. New notice board to be on next agenda.  | Clerk       |
| d. Allotment hedge - Tom Burditt contacted by Chair, will consider possible action in due course. Owners of adjacent fields not yet contacted. Chair & Clerk to move forward in March.   | DD<br>Clerk |
| e. Contacted by FWAG (Farming and Wild Life Group) Farm Conservation Adviser working with GWT (Gloucestershire Wild life Trust) to protect and enhance water vole population (following floods these are endangered in Gloucestershire but survive in Ozleworth and Kilcott Brooks). Clerk to meet and invite to speak at Annual Parish Assembly on 8 <sup>th</sup> April. | Clerk       |
| <b>5. Correspondence and documents:</b><br>The following correspondence and documents were noted. They can be viewed for up to a year by arrangement with the Clerk:   |             |
| a. Code of recommended practice on local authority publicity - A consultation. No further action.  |             |
| b. SDC: invitation for Chair and Clerk to Parish & Town Councils meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> February 7pm. Also planning forum from 4.30pm. No one available to attend.   |             |
| c. SDC: Dates of Council meetings for February and March.  |             |
| d. Campaign to protect Rural England - Gloucestershire: Bledisloe Cup (best village competition) not to be continued.  |             |

- e. Golden Valley Classic MCC: notice of passing through parish on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March.
- 6. Governance**
- a. Standing Orders  
Reviewed. No further action required.
  - b. Risk Assessment  
Reviewed. Additional flash drive to be purchase to introduce an off-site backup of electronic records. Document to be updated to reflect actions. Clerk
- 7. Planning Applications:**
- a. Decisions Received:
    - i. [S.08/2223/FUL](#) Valley View, Hillesley: erection of rear porch extension and conservatory. Permitted.
    - ii. [S.08/2224/FUL](#) Hayes End Cottage Day House Lane: first floor extension. Permitted.
    - iii. [S.08/2346/FUL](#) 14 St Giles Barton Hillesley: erection of single storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory. Permitted.
  - b. Applications dealt with under Delegated Powers:
    - i. [S.09/0019/FUL](#) and [S.09/0020/LBC](#) Mill House, Kingswood Road: Alterations and extensions to existing dwelling with ancillary works. (Amended scheme). Did not object or support. Commented that The Mill House is listed as a group being in proximity to war memorial and listed Hillesley Farm Barn. These plans would not affect this setting. In view of number of previous refusals, the Council agreed to request that these applications be considered by SDC Planning Committee.
  - c. Consultation on New Applications:
    - i. [S.09/0100/FUL](#) Bryher Hawkesbury Road, Hillesley (adjacent to St Giles): Erection of ground floor extension. No observation.
- 8. Finance**
- a. Performance to date, as of 4<sup>th</sup> February:  
Running cash balance: £2769.27; Bank balance: £2769.27 Unspent budget £2059; Expected income £1
  - b. Payments:
    - i. Mr F Raines, grass cutting as per contract: £209 [LGA 1972 s111]. Approved.
- 9. Save Our Sorting Office Campaign**
- a. The Post Office is intending to close the Wotton sorting office and move operations to Cam.
  - b. Information has been circulated and displayed in notice board. Individual councillors attended initial campaign meeting. Cllr Larrieu to attend meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February to represent the Council's support. AL
  - c. Reminder of campaign to be included in items for Hillesley Happenings. Clerk
- 10. Highways and Footpaths**
- a. Snow plough wardens/plough operators have been thanked for their work in recent snow. Additional salt to be supplied to plough operators as an interim measure until salt bins can be refilled.

- b. Tresham need Well Hill grit bin replaced (removed when it fell into disrepair). Clerk to request replacement.
- c. Milk tanker has damaged grass verge at Furlongs - coned with temporary repairs but snow melt means more work needed.
- d. Road signs at entry to Hillesley from Kingswood still in 'battered' state.
- e. Vicarage Lane has suffered from mud from builder activity.

## 11. County and District Councillor Reports

### a. County

*Snow.* The situation has improved slightly with salt due to be delivered from Cornwall County Council over the weekend and an order for table salt!

*Adult Care in the County.* Last week the County Council received a damning report from the Commission for Social Care. The report concludes that the delivery of the service is poor and capacity to improve is uncertain. The Administration claims that the report is unfair and based on limited evidence.

*Wotton Library Repairs* Long-delayed repairs to the roof of Wotton library and other improvements were due to start on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January but investigations into the structure have led to a further delay.

*Street Lighting switch-off.* Installation has started.

*County Councillors' allowances.* At the January meeting of the council it was agreed to freeze councillors' allowances because of the state of the economy.

*County Budget 2009/10.* The Administration is proposing a budget which gives a council tax increase of 2.9% on the current year's budget which entailed a 4.9% increase.

*County Highways.* Despite increased expenditure, the backlog of repairs to county roads remains at around the £132M level it was at four years ago. Minor roads in the county are in bottom (worst) quartile of such roads for local authorities nationally.

*Public rights of way modification orders.* It seems there is no hope of the Administration improving the current low level of staffing.

*Non-Executive Director.* An update on my December report is that the incumbent agreed to details of his salary being made public. He is being paid £1000 per day plus expenses for around 14 days employment. It appears the county's Administration is not following their party's lead nationally in cutting "fat cat" salaries from local government.

*Meeting with SW MPs.* South West Councils (previously the SWLGA) and the SW RDA to press the case for the rail needs of the Region. These featured: the region getting a fair share of the new rolling stock; the West of England bid for a Bristol metro (enhanced cross-Bristol rail services on four routes out of Bristol). One of these is to Bristol Parkway – Yate with a potential expansion to a reopened Charfield and on to Gloucester. The issue of the redoubling of Swindon-Kemble was also raised.

*Regional Spatial Strategy.* There were over 35,000 responses to the consultation following the changes being proposed by the Secretary of State. The decision is not now expected before the summer.

### b. District.

*Emergency Planning.* Following SDC Emergency Planning Seminar, Kingswood, North Nibley, Wotton Councils to work together. Hillesley & Tresham to be invited to join group. Council agreed.

Clerk

**12. Training**

- a. GAPT newsletter currently only available in hard copy.

**13. Open Session and Other Items**

Comments from public on agenda items 7bi, 9, and 10e were noted.

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

Next meeting: Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March in Hopkins Hall Hillesley at 7.30pm

**15. Meeting closed at 8.45pm**

I certify that the above minutes are a correct record of the above meeting

Signed: .....

Date: .....