

PARISH COUNCIL OF HILLESLEY AND TRESHAM MINUTES

Meeting held at Hopkins Hall, Hillesley on 14th March 2012

Present: Cllr D Darlow, Cllr T Burden, Cllr A Doughty, Cllr A Clark and L Spratling (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Cllr Paul Hemming and Cllr John Cordwell

Public Participation: None other than the County & District Councillor Reports which were included at this time (see Item 11)

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr R Harlow (accepted – resignation from the Parish Council), and Cllr S Butcher (Sickness) – accepted

2. Declarations of interest:

Cllr A Doughty (potential investor in the purchase of The Fleece)

Cllr D Darlow & Cllr A Clark potential pecuniary interest in The Fleece. Currently no active pecuniary interest until the Fleece has been sold on by Red Oak.

3. Confirm Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the 8th February 2012 were approved, and signed by the Chair (Cllr D Darlow).
The outstanding actions were discussed.

Action Points:

- Cllr A Clark to talk to John Tewkesbury at the Rural Payments Agency.
- Cllr T Burden to collect Tresham parishioners' views on proposed new path to bottom of Well Hill

4. Clerk's Report:

Cheque for £1200.00 not yet banked by Jubilee Playing Fields Committee.

Action point: Cllr D Darlow will speak to the new Treasurer Peter Whitbread to find out what has happened to the cheque.

5. Correspondence & documents:

- Glos Fire & Rescue service – Update
- Insight Magazine – Glos County Assoc for the Blind
- Dog Control Orders – training required
- Stroud DC - Re-cycling calenders
- March Hillesley Happenings
- Stroud DC – Environmental Protection Act 1990 – Bristol Clay Shooting
- Western Power – Community Chest – Energy Efficiency in Community Buildings
- Rural Services Network On Line
- Stroud DC – The News
- Allotments – Request to erect a mini-shed from Fink (permission granted by Parish Council)

6. Planning Applications:

[S.12/0327/COU](#) Pencot Tresham, Wotton-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire, GL12 7RW
Change of Use of land from agricultural usage to domestic garden.

Neither support nor object

[S.12/0277/HHOLD](#) Withymore Farm, Day House Lane, Hillesley, Wotton-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire, GL12 7QY
Erection of conservatory.

Neither support nor object

7. Wind Turbines Planning Application

The sites are at Mountenays Farm & Cherry Rock Farm and have been notified to Kingswood and Wickwar Councils. Parish Council will keep a watching brief.

Action Point:

Cllr D Darlow to attend the Action Group Meeting on Thursday 22nd March as an observer.

8. Finance:

a. To Monitor Performance to Date. Performance approved

Balance at Co-Op - £7462.20 Payments to date £6713.64 Receipts to date £7242.80

b. Payments approved:

GAPTC – Annual Subscription £122.52

Parish Clerk Expenses – Purchase of new printer £69.95

Parish Clerk wages 1st Jan – 31st March 2012 £408.00

HMRC - £102.00

GRCC – Annual Membership £25.00

Grant Request - Hillesley Baptist Burial Ground

Wybone Ltd – Litter bin £278.38

9. Parish Plan Update:

Cllr A Clark – Oil Buying Group still operating well.

Cllr D Darlow – (see Item 9)

Cllr T Burden – nothing to report

Cllr R Harlow – nothing to report (not present)

Cllr S Butcher – nothing to report (not present)

Cllr A Doughty - nothing to report

10. Provision of Grit and Litter Bins

Cllr D Darlow has agreed final locations with Julian Wilson who will now arrange installation and filling with grit.

Action Points:

Cllr D Darlow & Cllr A Clark to agree how best to install the litter bin.

Cllr D Darlow to forward the claim form for the grant from Stroud District Council to the Parish Clerk

Parish Clerk to complete paperwork and apply for the agreed grant.

11. Highways, Footpaths and Waterways:

No items.

12. County and District Councillor Reports:

John Cordwell – County Councillor

2012/13 County Council Budget

The County Council has set a standstill council tax equivalent to £1090.50 at Band D. To achieve this, the county has cut costs by £29.5M. The intention is to cut expenditure by £114M over 4 years. During the financial year 2010/2011 staffing (FTE) fell from 4266 to 3576. By 1st January this year it had fallen to 3192.

The Council agreed the freezing of the cost of meals on wheels for the coming year and also the freezing the cost of on-street parking in the county, which mostly affects Cheltenham and Gloucester.

Electoral Boundary Review of Gloucestershire County Council

In view of the reduced number of councillors that would result from parliamentary acceptance of the proposals and a reduction in the staffing of Democratic Services it is being suggested that the number of scrutiny committees will have to be reduced.

In addition, because of the scrapping of the Gloucestershire Police Authority it is

proposed to set up a Police and Crime Panel: a joint committee of the seven Gloucestershire councils to scrutinise the new Commissioner, the police precept, the police and crime plan and to review the appointment of the Chief Constable.

Wotton Youth Centre

The draft capital grant agreement has been prepared for the Town Council to sign up to in order to receive £69k towards the conversion of the former Wotton police station to a youth centre. The money is coming from some of the proceeds of the sale of the former youth centre.

Library Closures

The opening hours of Wotton library will be equal to those proposed prior to the judicial review (assuming the volunteers are still available). It appears other libraries have not been so fortunate and it remains to be seen if the County has met the concerns of the Judicial Review.

Wotton's Chipping Car Park

Stroud District Council are now proposing that all the car park should be short-stay, except it will issue an unspecified limited number of £50 annual permits to allow long-stay parking. However, permit holders would not be guaranteed a space. According to the SDC this does not count as charging. The start of the consultation, by notices and by hand delivery of letters to residents near the car park and businesses in the town was delayed. The closing date has now been set for 30th March.

Responses can be made by calling 01453 754415 or by emailing parking@stroud.gov.uk Wotton Town Council favours the status quo but with more enforcement of the existing limits.

Divisional Estimates Meeting

These have been reduced to one a year, following the budget, whereas previously there was also one before the budget was set. Gloucestershire is joint 7th on A roads and joint 11th on B and C roads, rather than 3rd and 5th as stated. Also, this time there are no projected costs given against the schemes. The only scheme relating to this parish is the provisional intention to patch "Furlong Lane", Tresham, during 2013/14. I understand this is the entire road length through Tresham.

Another set of schemes scheduled to take place this year, and that you may wish to be aware of if you travel that way, is the long-awaited resurfacing of 4km of the A38 at a cost of around £500k. This is out of a total Class A road budget of £1.8M. Some of this work will require full closure of the A38. It is hoped to do most of this work at night-time – between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., but clearly this costs more than daytime work so there may have to be a balance.

Paul Hemmings- District Councillor

Core Strategy – has been extended by 2 weeks for further consultation.

13. Training:

No training to be booked.

14 Grass Cutting:

Parish Clerk has sent an E Mail (backed up by letter) to Derrick Bond but has not received a response.

Action Point: Clerk to send 1 year contract to Mr Bond for signature.

15. The Fleece:

A meeting has been arranged for 6.00pm on Sunday 18th March for all those interested in joining the community bid for the pub. The pub is in danger of being boarded up due to lack of customers.
Action Point: Cllr A Doughty to contact Stroud DC to check the policy for boarding up listed buildings.

16. Parish Housing Survey

Action Point:

Cllr D Darlow to convene a sub-committee to agree the specific questions to be included in the survey so that by the April Parish Council meeting, the questionnaire can be prepared by Martin Hutchings the Rural Housing Enabler.

17. Well Hill

There was no report to consider and therefore this agenda item has been postponed to April.

18. Adoption of Standing Orders

It was agreed that the Council should adopt the Standing Orders (with minor typos resolved by Cllr D Darlow and the Parish Clerk)

19. Parish Council Elections:

The Parish Clerk gave an overview of the key dates in the process. Close of nominations is noon on Wednesday 4th April

Action Points:

Cllr D Darlow to prepare an article for the Gloucestershire Gazette.

Parish Clerk to prepare a piece for Hillesley Happenings and put posters on the noticeboards.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Date of Next Meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 14th March 2012 at Hopkins Hall, Hillesley
(This will begin with the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council)

Action Point: Clerk to put up AGM posters on the notice boards.

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

Signed:.....Date:.....

