

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
15 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.00 PM IN THE OLD SCHOOL, NEW ROAD, WOOTTON BRIDGE.**

Present Councillor Daryll Pitcher – Chair
 Councillor B Port – Vice-chair
 Councillors Barry Abraham, Linda Pitcher, Trish Evans, John Ward, Barrie
 Hailstone, Chris Cory and Lee Lemon

Also present 2 Members of the Public
 0 Member of the press
 Liz Kingston - Parish Clerk
 Lorna Morey – Assistant Parish Clerk

Items raised in the Open Forum: NONE

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

22/157. Apologies Councillor Burley as he is ill

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

22/158. None

3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 OCTOBER 2022**

22/159. RESOLVED - THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 OCTOBER
2022 WERE APPROVED AND DULY SIGNED.

4. **TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERKS REPORT AND TO AGREE ANY
ACTION TO BE TAKEN.**

22/160. Parish Council Precept 2023/24

 To remind the councillors that any suggestions for expenditure to be included in next year's
budget need to be with the clerk as soon as possible.

22/161. To note the National Pay Award 2022/23

 Noted

**22/162. To discuss Mission Zero and what it means in terms of the Parish Council –
Cllr Cory.**

 Cllr Cory explained that Mission Zero was published last year with the aim to reduce Carbon
Footprint to 0% and achieve Biodiversity on the island. He emailed Cllr Bacon to enquire
how it is to be funded but there is currently no money allocated for this purpose. There is
£3.1 million from Central Government of which we might be able to apply for grants. Cllr
Cory to attend Ventnor Town Council public meeting on 17th November and will report back.
RESOLVED - THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL LOOK AT ESTABLISHING AN
ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-COMMITTEE. CLLR CORY TO DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

5. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

To comment on the following applications:-

22/163. 22/01585/FUL

 Land to the Northwest of Whiterails Road/West of Park Road and land to the Southeast of
Whiterails Road/West of Briddlesford Road, Wootton, Newport, Isle of Wight

Proposed renewable energy park – consisting of ground mounted solar arrays, battery energy storage system, substation building, ancillary infrastructure, means of access and associated landscaping.

Two members of the public spoke about their concerns regarding the proposed renewable energy park. They explained that there appeared to be limited information despite it being the largest proposed site on the island. They were worried that there would be increased flood risk and issues with potential glare. They had concerns that some of the proposed ideas such as beehives and planting wildflowers would not necessarily be managed in the long term.

Councillors were informed that the Environment Agency were opposed due to lack of a proper flood plan. The Fire Services also state that they may encounter significant difficulty fully extinguishing a fire and that in the case of a fire, the environment and water course may become polluted.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL SUPPORTS RENEWABLE ENERGY HOWEVER WE HAVE MATERIAL PLANNING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PLANNING APPLICATION WHICH ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. LACK OF AN ACCEPTABLE FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT (FRA) AS PER THE OBJECTION FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
2. CONCERNS RAISED BY THE HAMPSHIRE AND IOW FIRE RESCUE SERVICE WITH REGARDS TO THE BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF A FIRE THERE
3. THE LACK OF A PLAN IN REGARDS TO THE ONGOING MANAGEMENT OF THE BIODIVERSITY GAIN
4. THE PARISH COUNCIL EXPRESS SURPRISE THAT THE IOW COUNCIL DID NOT REQUEST AN EIA EVEN THOUGH THIS COULD BECOME THE BIGGEST SOLAR FARM ON THE IOW IF AGREED

22/01811/FUL

6 Lushington Hill, Wootton Bridge PO33 4NT

Proposed single storey extension to form conservatory and extension to porch; alterations to include cladding; replacement raised roof and loft conversion to form additional floor space at 1st floor level (revised scheme)

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO APPLICATION 22/01811/HOU

22/164. Decisions made by the Isle of Wight Council

22/01581/HOU – Approved – 13 Woodlands Crescent, Wootton Bridge PO33 4JD

22/165. Tree Preservation Orders

None

22/166. Appeal

None

6. MONTHLY REPORT OF ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL ISSUES AFFECTING THE VILLAGE

22/167. Report by local member.

Councilor D Pitcher provided a written report, (appendix A) for the meeting. Issues raised included:

- Park Road – suffering from repeated flooding – Island Roads are aware
- Lushington Hill – flooding caused by inadequate pipe. Residents may have to take legal action
- Boundary Commission – Wootton now to be in the East Constituency
- Sale of Kingston site to Medina Studios to bring tv studio to East Cowes – possible opportunities for promotion and tourism in Wootton.

7. IWALC REPORT

22/168. The minutes of the last meeting were circulated to all councillors. Councillor Cory has not provided a written report but did state that he has fallen out with Diana Conyers (chair of IWALC) due to a discrepancy in his nomination as IWALC member to represent IWALC at AONB

8. ACCOUNTS.

22/169. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment for November

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT FOR NOVEMBER TOTALLING £7267.19, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX B OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

9. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

22/170. Cllr D Pitcher explained that regarding the Church Close Community Centre, Cllr L Pitcher and members of the community would be setting up a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation). The Parish Council will support the group when needed.

Cllr D Pitcher also mentioned the Christmas tree and it was agreed that the Clerk would continue to source a cut tree for this year, as well as source a tree we can plant for Christmas 2023. It was suggested that the tree would need insurance in case for any reason it didn't take root, as well as against vandalism. The Clerk will research this further and provide the relevant information in the December or January meeting.

Cllr Hailstone noted that the manager at PGL is now Emma. He also asked about what was happening regarding New Road flooding. The Clerk will chase up Island Roads. He also expressed his concern regarding the Sloop Crossing and Cedars traffic lights. Cllr Pitcher to bring up in the Isle of Wight Full Council Meeting meeting on 16th November.

Cllr Cory said that he was in dialogue with Natural England about the coastal path between Wootton and East Cowes.

Cllr L Pitcher noted that she was going to be attending a meeting for St Edmunds Trust. She also requested an update on Ken's Bench. The Clerk is chasing Groundsells regarding this.

Cllr Evans noted that the pitch at Lushington Hill was being used but the gate had not been moved. The Clerk will contact Enforcement. She also mentioned that the boat is still in Mill Square and the Clerk will speak to the Environmental Officer again.

Cllr Ward expressed concerns about the new path at the Recreation ground. The Clerk to investigate.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

Signed

Date

Report from the Local Member November 2022

Park Road is suffering from repeated flooding due to the culvert being blocked and/or inadequate. I have seen videos taken by a resident of this happening. Island Roads are aware of the situation.

I have had a meeting with IW Council Officers regarding flooding on Lushington Hill caused by an inadequate pipe. The IW Council seem to think they have done enough under their statutory duties although I disagree with them. The only way left now would be legal action by residents.

The Boundary Commission has published its latest and final proposal for splitting the Island into two Constituencies. I am glad to say that Wootton Bridge is now in the East part and that overall the proposal mirrors the one I put forward in the first place.

While slightly outside Wootton Councillors may be interested in the sale of the Kingston site to Medina Studios. This project will bring a television and film studios to East Cowes and should, if successful lead to many jobs created. It is also just a very interesting activity going on so close by and it could lead to Wootton Bridge being used on location quite a bit. This could provide us with opportunities down the line for promotion and tourism. It may also be good news for local businesses such as Lakeside as visiting actors may need somewhere to stay, eat and drink and so on.

WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL
Payments for Approval at Meeting on 15 November 2022

November 22

Chris Attrill - Window Cleaner October		£	19.00
Island Cleaning Solutions - Public Toilets Cleaning October		£	904.83
Clearview Cleaning - Parish Square October		£	112.50
Isle Of Wight Musinc, Dance & Drama Festival (minute 22/146		£	50.00
Isle of Wight Council - annual Licensing Fee		£	70.00
Groundsells Ltd - 2 cuts in July		£	720.00
Groundsells Ltd - 1 cut in August		£	360.00
Groundsells Ltd - 2 cuts in September		£	720.00
HP Instant Ink - Printer Ink	DD	£	-
Sage Payroll	DD	£	8.40
Business Stream - HIC Water Monthly	DD	£	3.00
Wightfibre - HIC Phone & Broadband	DD	£	43.63
Business Stream - Public Toilets	DD	£	111.38
Salaries as Minute E49,E50&E52	SO	£	2,810.35
IWC Pension Conts		£	687.81
HMRC - Tax & NI		£	646.29
TOTAL		£	7,267.19