

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7.00 PM IN THE OLD SCHOOL, NEW ROAD,
WOOTTON BRIDGE.**

Present Councillor Barrie Hailstone – Chair
Councillor Linda Pitcher – Vice-Chair
Councillors Trish Evans, Lee Lemon, David Burley, John Ward, Barry Abraham
and Ian Yeo

Also present 4 Members of the Public
0 Member of the press
Lorna Morey – Assistant Parish Clerk

Items raised in the Open Forum:

A resident expressed concerns about planning application 23/01532/FUL (37 – 39 High Street). She felt that they were reapplying for the original planning application which was rejected. She felt there was not enough parking spaces, the residents in the flats would not have any outside space and overlooking from a window into her bathroom.

Another resident expressed their concerns about the Sloop crossing being a danger. It was explained that this is something that the Parish Council have been campaigning for several years. She also mentioned the crossing at The Cedars pub where the sequencing of the lights did not seem correct, again this is something that the Parish Council have been pursuing with Island Roads.

1. APPOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

23/114. None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

23/115. Councillor L Pitcher declared a conflict of interest in the dispensation request for Councillor D Pitcher as he is her son.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JULY 2023

23/116. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JULY 2023 WERE APPROVED AND DULY SIGNED.

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

Councillor Hailstone stated that the request for dispensation would be dealt with first, therefore Councillor L Pitcher left the room.

23/117. To decide whether to grant dispensation to Cllr D Pitcher for six months.
The Parish Council discussed this matter, and the Parish Councillors made their opinions clear. A confidential vote was held, and the result was 3 votes for dispensation and 4 votes against dispensation.

RESOLVED – THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD NOT GRANT DISPENSATION TO COUNCILLOR D PITCHER.

Councillor L Pitcher returned to the room.

23/118 To decide on the insurance renewal

The premium for the Parish Council Insurance last year was £1,442.61. This year the clerks has discussed the Parish Council's requirements with Gallagher, (broker) who has

recommended a policy with Hiscox £1836.37. This excludes cyber and hacking insurance so we are currently awaiting a separate quote for this. The Clerk recommended that the Parish Council renew with Hiscox and take a 3 year agreement as this would save the Parish Council money over the 3 years.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE WILL BE RENEWED THROUGH HISCOX FOR £1836.37 FOR A 3 YEAR PERIOD AND THAT INDEXATION WOULD BE INCLUDED EVERY YEAR. THAT THE CLERK OBTAIN A QUOTE FOR CYBER/HACKING INSURANCE AND BRING THAT BACK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL

Councillor Yeo left the meeting at 8.17pm due to a family emergency.

23/119 To decide whether to comment on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme Consultation.

RESOLVED – THE PARISH COUNCIL AGREED THAT THEY WOULD COMMENT ON THE SCHEME SAYING THEY WOULD LIKE THE AMOUNT TO REMAIN AT THE PROPOSED LEVEL OF 70%.

23/120 To decide on a grant application from Ability Dogs 4 Young People

RESOLVED – IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD GRANT ABILITY DOGS 4 YOUNG PEOPLE £200.

23/121 To decide on a grant application from Citizens Advice IOW

RESOLVED – THAT CITIZIENS ADVICE WILL BE INFORMED THAT THEY NEED TO FILL THE FORM IN CORRECTLY

23/122 To decide what to do with the remaining party in the park prize.

RESOLVED – THE CLERK WILL CONTINUE TO FIND OUT TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR AUCTIONING PRIZE. THE CHARITY WILL BE CARE IN THE GARDEN HOWEVER IF A LARGE AMOUNT WAS RAISED SOME WOULD GO TO ABILITY DOGS 4 YOUNG PEOPLE.

23/123 To decide on whether to buy and install a fire proof cabinet.

RESOLVED – THAT THE CLERK WOULD LOOK AT PRICES TO DIGITALISE THE MINUTES THAT ARE NOT ON THE COMPUTER

Councillor Lemon left the meeting at 8.45pm due to pain in his back.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

23/124 To note delegated decisions made in August 2023

See Appendix A - Noted

To comment on the following applications:-

23/125. 23/01371/HOU

87 Lushington Hill, Wootton Bridge, PO33 4NR

Proposed therapy pool and structure

RESOLVED - THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAS NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION 23/01371/HOU AS LONG AS IT IS FOR PRIVATE USE ONLY AND THE PARISH COUNCIL ASK THAT THIS BE A CONDITION IF APPROVED

23/01463/FUL

Reynards Boarding Kennels, Palmers Road, Wootton Bridge PO33 4NF

Proposed amended design for garage on plot 1 (revised scheme)

RESOLVED - THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAS NO OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION 23/01463/FUL

23/01532/FUL

37 – 39 High Street, Wootton Bridge, PO33 4LU
Proposed alterations, extensions and change of use to form a dental practice and 2 additional flats (revised scheme)

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAS OBJECTIONS TO PLANNING APPLICATION 23/01532/FUL FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. NO PROVISION FOR PARKING - THERE WILL BE MORE THAN 5 CARS AND NOWHERE FOR THEM TO PARK.
 2. OVERDEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE - THE FLATS ARE CRAMMED IN AS WELL AS STORAGE UNITS IN THE BACK, THEREFORE A MIX OF COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL USAGE.
 3. A WINDOW WILL BE OVERLOOKING DIRECTLY INTO NUMBER 35 WHICH WILL CAUSE A LACK OF PRIVACY
 4. THE OVERALL BUILDING IS GOING TO BE BIGGER BOTH IN LENGTH AND HEIGHT, WHICH WILL LEAD TO OVERSHADOWING AND THE WHOLE BUILDING BEING OVERBEARING.
- HOWEVER, THE PARISH COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE CHANGE OF USE FOR THE DENTAL PRACTICE.

23/126. Decisions made by the Isle of Wight Council

23/00946/ADV – Approved – Harwoods, High Street Wootton PO33 4RD
23/00792/HOU – Approved – 148 High Street Wootton PO33 4LZ

23/127. Tree Preservation Orders

23/00939/TW – Approved
Wootton Lodge Church Road Wootton PO33 4PU
T1 Sycamore – Reduced crown by 20-25% and sever ivy

23/01135/TW – Approved
Woodside House, Woodside Road, Wootton Bridge, PO334JR
T1 Oak – fell to near ground level
T2 Oak – reduce by approx. 20% and thin where possible

23/00940 – Refused
Wootton Lodge, Church Road, Wootton Bridge, PO33 4PU
T1 London plane – to prune away from property and street furniture by 3m and raise crown by 3m

23/01161/TW -Refused
19 Fernside Way Wootton Bridge PO33 4QT
T1 Oak and T2 oak – fell to ground level

23/128. Appeal

None

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

23/129. Report from the Isle of Wight Council Local member.

Councillor Redrup provided a written report, (see appendix B). Topics raised included the following:

- Meeting with Island Roads management team to discuss Sloop crossing - they have new technology that they plan to set up to track pedestrian and driver habits in that area. Councillor Redrup has requested a further meeting.
- PCSO – Looking at CCTV concerning graffiti in Wootton.

- Met with IOW planning department to discuss residents' queries concerning planning enforcement.
- Closure of Wight Dash the Isle of Wight's only Domestic Violence charity. Concern over the closure of Island-Based support services.

7. ACCOUNTS

23/130. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment for August and September
RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT FOR AUGUST TOTALLING £6838.80 AND SEPTEMBER TOTALLING £5062.47, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX C OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

23/131. To receive the report on the external audit.

The external auditor carried out a thorough check on the accounts and found no cause for concern.

8. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

23/132. Councillor L Pitcher requested that we find out who the land opposite Tesco belongs to and can we take it over. It was agreed that it would be added to next month's agenda.

Councillor Burley mentioned the path between Mary Rose Avenue and the High Street. He said the resident had trimmed their side, but IR had only trimmed the grass not the hedges. Assistant clerk will chase up with IR.

Councillor Ward said the drains outside Cedars were blocked. Assistant clerk will chase up with IR.

Councillor Evans asked if the 5k refund from the Recreation Ground path could be used to replace the gate at the Rec car park. She also mentioned that there was still a boat on the yellow lines at Mill Square.

Councillor Abraham mentioned the banners on the Sloop and if they can be removed. He also said he had boxes of the walking leaflets.

Councillor Hailstone reported feedback from Lake Town Council meeting he attended last week. He said that the police provided a report and attended every 3rd meeting, and he would write to the police to request that we have a similar report. The Sheilings have put a roadway in but permission has only just been granted and they needed to sort out the tree protection. The clerk will look into this.

9. STAFF MATTERS

23/133 RESOLVED – THAT THE ASSISTANT CLERK WILL HAVE A PAY RISE DUE TO PASSING CILCA AND THAT THE HOURS FOR THE ASSISTANT CLERK AND CLERK WOULD BE CHANGED AS AGREED TO FACILITATE OPENING 5 DAYS A WEEK.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.44 p.m.

Signed

Date 17 / 10 / 23 .

Delegated Decisions made during August 2023

23/01150/FUL

Cressida, Red Road, Wootton Bridge PO33 4PQ

Proposed alterations and extensions to existing dwelling to form a pair of semi-detached dwellings (revised scheme)

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL OBJECTION TO APPLICATION 23/01150/FUL ON THE FOLLOWING GROUNDS:

1. THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IS ON A SMALL SITE. IT IS ALSO CHANGING THE SITE FROM A 2 BED BUNGALOW TO 2 X 3 BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES, WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO BE OVER-DEVELOPMENT. THIS WILL CAUSE THE SITE TO APPEAR CRAMPED AND OVERDEVELOPED WHICH IS CONTRARY TO POLICY DM2.
2. DUE TO THE EXTRA HEIGHT IN THE PROPOSAL, AND THE FACT THAT THE NEIGHBOURING BUNGALOW HAS WINDOWS IN THE SIDE ELEVATIONS THAT FACE TOWARDS THE SITE THIS WILL LIKELY LEAD TO AN EXPERIENCE OF A LOSS OF NATURAL LIGHT AND A SENSE OF OVERSHADOWING BECAUSE OF THIS PROPOSAL. THE DEVELOPMENT WOULD FAIL TO PROTECT AND RESPECT THE AMENITIES OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE NEIGHBOURING PROPERTY WHICH IS CONTRARY TO POLICY DM2.
3. THE ROAD IS AN UN-ADOPTED, UNMADE ROAD WHICH MUST BE MAINTAINED BY THE PROPERTY OWNERS AT THEIR EXPENSE. THE ORIGINAL ROAD HAD 19 VICTORIAN PROPERTIES ON IT, THERE ARE NOW 38 PROPERTIES. THIS HAS LED TO THE DEGRADATION OF THE ROAD AND THE THREAT THAT IOW COUNCIL REFUSE SERVICES WILL NOT COLLECT BINS ALONG IT DUE TO HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES.
4. SPACE FOR CYCLE RACKS AND WASTE STORAGE ARE NOT IDENTIFIABLE IN THE SCHEME.
- 5 WHERE IS THE TELEGRAPH POLE GOING TO BE SITED AND COULD THIS AFFECT OTHER RESIDENTS.

23/01230/HOU

86 Station Road, Wootton Bridge, PO33 4RE

Proposed dormer window on front elevation.

RESOLVED - THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS PLANNING APPLICATION



Cllr Sarah Redrup – Member Report September 2023

It has been just over three weeks since the election in August and so far, I have spent a lot of time receiving training, introducing myself to different departments and arranging introductory meetings with key people. I would like to say thank you to the Chair, Cllr Hailstone and both Clerks Liz and Lorna for your warm welcome when we met! Liz and Lorna have both kindly helped me to address some of the residents' issues already.

Some of the key departments I have met with include Island Roads. I was able to attend one of their management team meetings last week. In this meeting I asked for some more information on the issue of the Sloop Crossing. They told me that currently the Sloop is one of 15 areas on the Island that they have selected to research in more detail. They told me they have new technology that they plan to set up to track pedestrian and driver habits in that area. I have asked Cllr Phil Jordan if we can arrange a meeting to discuss this further.

I have spoken with PCSO Steve Hull who has given me an update on action taken after the graffiti incidents last week. The owner of Harwoods Garage have CCTV cameras facing the bus stop that was tagged opposite them, they have provided footage which PCSO Hull will be going through. He has also contacted all schools on the Island including Wootton Bridge Primary to see if the teachers have heard any of their students using the phrase "22 crew". He will be in touch with me if he has any updates.

I have met with Oliver Boulter and other managers of the planning department. In this meeting I was able to get answers on issues raised with me by some residents over recent planning enforcements. I have a further meeting scheduled in the coming weeks with manager Russell Chick to go through these in more detail.

Some residents have raised with me their concern over the closure of Wight Dash the Isle of Wight's only Domestic Violence charity. I met with Fiona Gwinnett, Wight Dash's Chief Executive, and was saddened to hear that due to the lack of funding Wight Dash will be closing permanently this month after 32 years. This follows the closure of the Law Center in March of this year. The closure of Island-Based support services is concerning. I have put a question to cabinet member Cllr Ian Stephens on this which will be answered in full council tomorrow.

Tomorrow at Full Council there will be a leadership election with the two main candidates being Conservative Leader Cllr Suzie Ellis and Cllr Phil Jordan. As a group the Liberal Democrat councillors have decided that we cannot support a Conservative leader and so we are likely to support Cllr Phil Jordan. It isn't clear yet what the outcome tomorrow will be or if there will be a cabinet reshuffle.

The second discussion is around Cllr Geoff Brodie's proposed review into the leader and cabinet governance model. There is a working group that has been set up which the leader of Liberal Democrats, Cllr Andrew Garrett, is a part of. The working group is researching the possibility of returning to the "committee" governance model and doing away with the leader and cabinet. This has the possibility to hugely change the way in which decision making at County Hall operates so it is important that the working group receives input from residents. I would like to encourage the Parish Council and all residents to get in touch with me if they would like to find out more or would like me to pass on their thoughts to the working group.



WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL
Payments for Approval at Meeting on 19 September 2023

August 2023

Chris Attrill - Window Cleaner July		£	19.00
Island Cleaning Solutions - Installing signs in rec ground		£	432.00
Island Cleaning Solutions - Public Toilets Cleaning July		£	884.83
Clearview Cleaning - Parish Square July		£	112.50
Haven Falconry PinP		£	300.00
Wight Agility Group - PinP		£	200.00
Ventnor Town Council - Wallgate Contract		£	369.60
Focus Plumbing & Heating - Legionella Risk Assessment		£	297.00
Focus Plumbing & Heating - Fixing heater and stop cock		£	751.69
Biffa - PinP		£	160.56
Biffa - PinP credit note		-£	160.56
Four Square healthcare Ltd		£	87.65
Handlestore		£	21.73
HP Instant Ink - Printer Ink	DD	£	9.99
Sage Payroll	DD	£	9.60
Business Stream - HIC Water Monthly	DD	£	3.00
Business Stream - Public Toilets	DD	£	100.52
Wightfibre - HIC Phone & Broadband	DD	£	44.51
Salaries as Minute E49,E50&E52	SO	£	2,189.53
IWC Pension Conts		£	708.06
HMRC - Tax & NI		£	297.59
TOTAL		£	6,838.80

September 2023

Chris Attrill - Window Cleaner August		£	19.00
Island Cleaning Solutions - Public Toilets Cleaning August & Ic		£	954.83
Clearview Cleaning - Parish Square August		£	100.00
BDO LLP - Audit Fees		£	504.00
Handlestore credit note		-£	17.24
HP Instant Ink - Printer Ink	DD	£	9.99
Sage Payroll	DD	£	9.60
Business Stream - HIC Water Monthly	DD	£	3.00
Wightfibre - HIC Phone & Broadband	DD	£	43.74
Eon - Office 30 June 23- 31st August 23	DD		£132.71
Eon - Toilets 30 June 23- 31st August 23	DD		£105.42
Salaries as Minute E49,E50&E52	SO	£	2,189.53
IWC Pension Conts		£	708.06
HMRC - Tax & NI		£	297.79
TOTAL		£	5,060.43