

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 19 MARCH 2024 AT 7.00 PM IN THE OLD SCHOOL, NEW ROAD, WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present Councillor Barrie Hailstone – Chair
 Councillor Linda Pitcher – Vice-Chair
 Councillors Lee Lemon, Sarah Redrup, and Barry Abraham

Also present 30 Members of the Public
 1 Member of the press
 Liz Kingston – Parish Clerk
 Lorna Morey – Assistant Parish Clerk

Items raised in the Open Forum:

Councillor Hailstone stated the rules of the Standing Orders to remind everyone that meetings are 2 hours.

A resident explained they had been in contact with Sovereign about the play park at the bottom of Mary Rose Avenue. Would the council be interested in helping. The clerk asked the resident to ask Sovereign to contact the Parish Council we can look into this matter.

1. **ABSENCE**

24/031. Councillor Ward, Evans, Hill and Dolan. Councillor Yeo has resigned.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

24/032. Councillor Hailstone declared an interest in the appeal APP/P2114/W/23/3335066 as he is the next door neighbour.

3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 FEBRUARY 2024**

24/033. RESOLVED – THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 FEBRUARY 2024 WERE APPROVED AND DULY SIGNED.

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

24/034. To discuss and comment if required on the 2024 Island Stages Rally
Noted.

24/035. To discuss and decide on the bench to replace the one at Mill Square
RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL ORDER THE BENCH LEST WE FORGET WITH THE TWO DOVES WHEN THE BENCH NEEDS REPLACING.

24/036. To discuss and decide on Party in the Park possible evening entertainment.
Still trying to source bands. Have had a quote of between £300 to £600 for 2 x 45 minute sets. Will look at asking Platform 1/Brave Island and Teresa at Ridgeclean Energy. The Parish Council decided it would be a good idea for the evening to go ahead ideally with music.

24/037. To discuss and decide whether to comment on the Health Contributions Draft SPD

RESOLVED – THAT IF ANY COUNCILLOR HAD ANY COMMENTS, THEY SHOULD BE EMAILED TO THE CLERK BY 28 MARCH 2024 SO THE CLERK CAN RESPOND BY THE CLOSING DATE

24/038. To discuss HALC/IWALC membership and agree a decision if information is available.

The chair of IWALC attended and gave an overview of IWALC and answered questions.
RESOLVED – THAT THIS WOULD BE DEFERRED TO THE APRIL MEETING.

24/039. To discuss the Medina Health press release regarding the doctors surgery

The clerk has emailed asking for the decision makers to attend a public meeting which will be advised. A discussion, with input from the public, took place and the main thoughts were as follows:

- Patients will struggle getting to the new site, especially with regards to using public transport. Some might not even be able to make the journey, which could result with medical staff having to do more home visits.
- The impact on the surrounding areas with Fishbourne being affected and can Ryde surgeries cope with taking on more patients.
- Is it worth starting a protest online? Or have boards like the ones used by WAGE?
- Meetings – ensure that they happen as a matter of urgency. Smaller parishes than Wootton Bridge have a GP practice.
- What are the problems with the building – why is it condemned?
- Cllr Lilley, (Chair of Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Health and Social Care), explained that the ICB commission GPs and that they have legal obligation to consult public about movements of their contractors. Everyone should have a service that is accessible to them and have a contractor that consults with them before making decisions. He stated that patients can express their concerns to Healthwatch and that a public meeting should be arranged as soon as possible.

RESOLVED – THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LOOK AT ORGANISING A PUBLIC MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH THE ICB, SOLENT NHS, ASSURA AND HEALTHWATCH AND THAT A WORKING GROUP WOULD BE SET UP.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

To comment on the following applications - NONE

24/040. Decisions made by the Isle of Wight Council

23/02254/CLPUD – Refused – Houseboat Miss Kayleigh, New Road, Wootton Bridge PO33 4HZ

24/041. Tree Preservation Orders

24/00005/TW – 14 Glendale Close, Wootton Bridge PO33 4RF

T1 English Oak – pollard at major forks, around 2/3 of current height

24/00034/TW – Land at Fernhill, South of High Street, Wootton Bridge

T18 Oak – pollard to suitable fork unions to leave the crown with a natural form. All epicormic growth in the remaining canopy should be retained and not pruned out.

T16 Hornbeam – crown reduction of 6m due to decay cavity and decayed buttress at stem base.

T21 Hornbeam – crown reduction of 6m to mitigate risk of altered exposure on T16

24/042. Appeal

APP/P2114/W/23/3335979

159 High Street, Wootton Bridge PO33 4LZ

Outline for dwelling including alterations to driveway and provision of parking.

APP/P2114/W/23/3335066

Warwick Rise, New Road, Wootton Bridge PO33 4JL

Proposed dwelling with parking

APP/P2114/W/23/3332365

The Sheilings, New Road, Wootton Bridge PO33

Proposed dwelling, with parking and gardens

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

24/043. Report from the Isle of Wight Council Local member.

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

- Full Council Update – Hardship Fund has been reinstated. Support for women's peer groups didn't get enough votes. Budget agreed.
- Community Speed Watch Group – positive meeting with volunteers, second meeting being organised. Road safety conference for Wootton.
- Sgt Browne & PC Trotman – discussed key issues and community speed watch
- Next Full Council – appoint 2 members to Ryde Town Board, vote on Draft island Planning Strategy and governance changes to committee system.

7. ACCOUNTS

24/044. To consider and approve the accounts for payment.

Members were presented with the accounts for payment for March.

RESOLVED – THAT THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT FOR MARCH £10,634.34, A COPY OF WHICH FORMS APPENDIX B OF THESE MINUTES, BE PAID.

8. CHAIRS REPORT

24/045. Report from the Chair

Councillor Hailstone provided a verbal report. Issues raised included:

- Drafting a letter to Councillor Jordan to chase him about state of roads and Homebray House with regards to the speed of traffic along Brannon Way.

9. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

24/046. Councillor Redrup stated that Solent Grange Care Home are looking to do something for the D-Day commemoration. Can she ask them to contact the clerk to see if they wish to join our event. Cllr Redrup confirmed that we must pay for using the Recreation ground for our D-Day event.

Councillor Lemon stated that the drains are blocked between the railway station and the Woodmans arms. And that there is a pothole in Church Road near the traffic lights and wires are now exposed. Clerk will report to Island Roads.

Councillor Abraham mentioned he had been contacted by the environmental officer and he had copied the clerk into the emails.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.26 p.m.

Signed

Date

Cllr Sarah Redrup – Wotton Bridge March 2024**Updates from Full Council**

In February's full council we voted on the budget for 2024/2025. Unfortunately, the amendments I proposed to increase funding for women's peer support groups didn't get enough votes to pass. However, after the meeting several Councillors from different parties approached me and said that they would like to help with getting something set up for survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. I have a meeting scheduled with Paragon (the organisation that runs Domestic Abuse on the Island). Thankfully, Cllr Joe Lever's motion to reinstate the Hardship Fund that had previously been taken away passed. The Hardship Fund will continue helping those most in need.

The Conservatives and the Empowering Islanders group successfully proposed a budget amendment that will re-direct funds from the Place Planning budget for Town and Parish Councils into feasibility studies to explore the following projects:

- Solar panels installed over IOW council car parks
- Modular housing to house the 200-300 individuals and families who are currently living in temporary housing or who are homeless
- Building new specialist accommodation for looked-after children and young people with extra and extensive needs so they are no longer sent to the mainland

Community Speed Watch Group

At the start of the month I had a very positive first meeting with the volunteers of the Community Speed Watch Group. We discussed the background to the scheme and what we would like the outcomes to be. We will report to the police with our findings so they can send letters to offenders and use the data collected to bolster campaigns like the Sloop Crossing and changing speed limits around the village. I have put myself forward as the coordinator for the group so now we are taking the next steps. A representative from the Police will be joining our next meeting. We are also going to plan and run a Wootton Road Safety Conference where we can invite representatives from Island Roads, the Isle of Wight Council and the Police to discuss a broad range of issues to do with road safety. We have attracted two more potential volunteers, and we hope that by hosting a road safety conference we will attract more.

Meeting with Sgt Matthew Browne and PC Henry Trotman

In March I had a positive meeting with PC Henry Trotman who is the named Police Officer for Wootton Bridge, and his Sergeant, Matthew Browne. We discussed some of the key issues for the village which they are keen to help with such as speeding, road safety, vandalism and anti-social behavior. I spoke to them about the Community Speed Watch Team and our plans to host a Road Safety Conference, they were excited to help with this and said that road safety is one of their priorities. They have also offered to come out and target key areas with their own speeding guns so they can issue tickets. I feel this will be a very effective working relationship between the Community Speed Watch Team and the Police.

The Agenda for the next Full Council:

We will be set to vote on the Draft Island Planning Strategy, appoint two Councillor representatives to the Ryde Town Board and discuss the proposed Governance changes to a committee system.

WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL
Payments for Approval at Meeting on 19 March 2024

March 2024

Chris Attrill - Window Cleaner Mar		£	19.00
Island Cleaning Solutions - Public Toilets Cleaning Feb		£	884.83
Clearview Cleaning - Parish Square FEB		£	100.00
Wight Computers - 2 x new emails & removal of emails		£	54.00
Wight Fire & Security		£	33.18
Lamp Light of Peace - D-Day 80th Anniversary		£	55.00
EON- PT 1/12/23 to 29/02/24		£	97.14
EON- PO 1/12/23 to 29/02/24		£	1,088.14
Groundsells - Trim borders at recreation ground		£	4,615.99
Paul Coletta - installing tapestries, notice board		£	87.50
Rates Toilets £1047.90 (PT relief)		£	-
Rates Parish Office £3992.00 (small business relief)		£	-
HP Instant Ink - Printer Ink	DD	£	11.99
Sage Payroll	DD	£	9.60
Business Stream - HIC Water Monthly	DD	£	15.60
Wightfibre - HIC Phone & Broadband	DD	£	43.55
Salaries as Minute E52 & E54	SO	£	2,409.94
IWC Pension Conts		£	775.67
HMRC - Tax & NI		£	333.21
TOTAL		£	10,634.34