

# WEST ILSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
West Ilsley Parish Council (“WIPC”)  
held at the West Ilsley Village Hall, West Ilsley  
on Monday 11 March 2019 at 7.30pm (the “Meeting”)**

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**Present:** Rollo Duckworth (Chair)  
Inna Fauler (Secretary)  
Justin Gilbert  
Alan Beaumont  
Graham Woods  
Anna Sugden  
Alan Bloor

**Apologies:** Justin Pilditch (late)

**In attendance:** Several members of the public

## 1 Chair and Apologies

1.1 Rollo Duckworth (“RD”) acted as Chair of the Meeting. Inna Fauler (“IF”) kindly agreed to act as Secretary and take the minutes. RD thanked everybody for attending the Meeting.

## 2 Changes to Declarations of Interest and Councillors

2.1 No changes to the Declarations of Interest of the Councillors were received, nor were there any changes to the Councillors.

## 3 Minutes of the Meeting of the West Ilsley Parish Council held on Monday 13 January 2019

3.1 The draft minutes of the Meeting of the WIPC held on Monday 13 January 2019 (the “Minutes”) had been circulated prior to the Meeting. The draft Minutes were approved and signed by RD as a true record.

## 4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 RD asked IF whether all the actions that had arisen from the Minutes of the previous Meeting had been completed. This was confirmed as follows:

- a) Alan Beaumont (“ABe”) had passed all documentation regarding the recreation ground and pavilion to RD. Alan Bloor (“ABI”) also noted that he had, and would share, further information regarding this matter (which had been requested by the Cricket Club previously in connection with its nets project).
- b) Anna Sugden (“AS”) noted that she would report on the Village entrance gates later on during the Meeting.
- c) IF had submitted the 2020/2021 precept request to the West Berkshire Council.

## Actions

**IF to file the Minutes from the January 2019 Meeting in the WIPC archives.**

**ABI to share the information with the Cricket Club RE Net project**

## 5 Correspondence

- a) IF informed the Meeting that she had been contacted by the Emergency Planning Assistant and asked who would like to be our Village Flood Warden Volunteers. ABe assured the Meeting that Mel Cook was still willing to be a Flood Warden Volunteer with backup, as required, from ABe himself.
- b) IF further informed the Meeting that she had been contacted by different charities asking about donations. As the Parish Council was itself responsible for a charitable organization, (WISRA) it was confirmed that the Parish Council did not donate money to other Charities.

## 6 Community Matters

### 6.1 Finance:

- a) There was some discussion about the balance on the Parish Council bank account. Some Councillors were concerned that the WIPC was accumulating a large sum of money and without committed plans for expenditure. It was agreed that there were several good causes on which the money could be spent. In particular ABI noted that the Village Hall needed money for the repair of its roof. Apparently, the roof was in a very bad condition – the timber was rotten, and the nails were falling through.
- b) IF presented one cheque for RD to sign. The cheque was for the amount of £850 for the Clerk's annual salary. This was approved and signed.
- c) IF informed the Meeting that she had set up a direct debit for the data protection annum payments.

6.2 Church: It was noted that the Church was in good hands and in a good shape.

6.3 Cricket Club: RD read the notice received from the Cricket Club. The Cricket Club had received a grant for outdoor furniture. The additional outdoor furniture (3 tables and 2 litter bins, all made from the same recyclable plastic material as that purchased by the Tennis Club previously) could benefit the whole village during the annual cricket BBQ season and beyond.

6.4 Tennis Club: It was noted that the Tennis Club Meeting was due in two weeks. Anna Sugden (“**AS**”) mentioned that the Tennis Club had received a request for netball facilities.

6.5 West Ilsley Trust: As noted above, the Parish Council had transferred funds previously held by it on behalf of the “panto fund” to the West Ilsley Trust account instead.

6.6 WIN: RD informed the Meeting that the WIN had experienced some problems with BT receivers. The BT receivers had struggled to receive and transmit the emails to recipients. Justin Pilditch (“**JP**”) volunteered to investigate this matter.

RD also informed the Meeting that the Parish Council Clerk stored all Councillors' emails addresses. The question was whether she, as an agent of the Parish Council, was holding any other personal data. It was noted that, of course, all Councillors received emails with data from the West Berkshire Council (“**WBC**”), but Councillors were not holding anyone else's data. In terms of the GDPR, Councillors were “Data Controllers” and as such had paid £40 to be registered with the Information Commissioner's Office.

**JP to investigate the issues surrounding the BT receivers.**

## 7 Environment and Upkeep

- 7.1 Planning applications: No new planning applications had been received since the last Meeting.
- 7.2 Footpaths and Bridleways: The footpath next to Giles North's house was still closed. Meanwhile the owner of the property (Giles North) had been grilled by WBC under caution. Apparently, the WBC blamed the owner for creating a number of problems such as: the trees being cut down too low, and the rise of the steps being quite high. The owner of the property had defended himself, saying that he had not done anything wrong. District Councillor Clive Hooker had assisted a great deal. The case was still under investigation by the WBC. The date for re-opening the footpath was still not known. The Parish Council would inform the Village when it was reopened to the public.
- 7.3 Open spaces / Pond: Justin Gilbert ("JG") informed the Meeting that the pond did not look too bad at the moment. JG had spoken to Peter Carlisle and discussions would continue. Nothing had yet come out of those discussions. JG hoped that Peter Carlisle could help with the vegetation.
- 7.4 Village Hall: ABI informed the Meeting that the Village Hall was in dire need of a financial cashflow, which it did not have. ABI said that Ian Fewtrell-Smith has been very helpful, working pro bono. The upgrade list was extensive: heating needed to be repaired, and perhaps replaced by electric underfloor heating, the walls need to be insulated, and external works were required. ABI said that the Village Hall had some funds, but that it needed more funds and the Village Hall Committee really hoped that the Parish Council would be willing to help.

## Safety and Services

### 8

- 8.1 Speeding: One of the villagers had contacted the Parish Council regarding speeding in the Village. He had recently bought a house (the Old Chapel) in the Village and there had been a number of issues regarding speeding. District Councillor Clive Hooker had tried to help on the higher level, but this had come to nothing. The responses had been somewhat bureaucratic. The WBC Highways Officer appeared to want the Parish Council to push WBC to get what it wanted rather than WBC seek resolution on its own. Of course, the owner of the Old Chapel wanted to protect his property, and Justin Gilbert (JG) said that the Parish Council would do whatever it could to try to help him. JG informed the Meeting that the PC could review all that had been done over the previous years. JG said that the PC had meet the Highway Officers previously and that the outcomes had not been wholly unsuccessful. For example, to be eligible for a 20-mph zone, the Village really needed to have a school or a history of bad accidents. On the latter point, the Village was thankful that it had not had any. Speed surveys had also been completed in the Village, and the outcomes had been positive. JG said that he and the owner of the Old Chapel will continue together in pushing WBC on this matter.

An issue with the Old Chapel was that the land in front of it was jointly owned by the owner and the Highway. The Highway Department were unable to install a 30-mph flashing sign at public cost. A privately installed sign would cost around £5000 plus ongoing electricity expenses.

The owner of the Old Chapel had also asked whether the Parish Council could ask the WBC to cut the trees along the road leading to his property as they might obstruct the view. ABI noted that the WBC was not responsible for that, as the trees were located on private property

**JG to keep working with WBC and Highway regarding the speed problem in the Village**

8.2 Roads and Gritting: It was noted that the Parish Council should not attend to gritting along Bury Lane but restrict itself to these activities solely in the Village. ABI observed that he thought that WBC should be responsible for gritting on Bury Lane gritting; however, District Councillor Clive Hooker said that this was not going to happen as WBC was responsible only for half of the road, with the other half being the responsibility of the Oxford County Council.

8.3 Signage (village gates): The western gates to the Village (i.e., those by Harcourt House) were in need of repair or replacement. AS has successfully managed to persuade WBC that they can fund replacements. With respect to the single gate on Bury Lane, it was noted that the reason for there not being a second gate was because there was a farm track coming onto Bury Lane.

8.4 Flooding: ABe confirmed that Mel Cook was still the Village's representative on this matter.

## 9 AOB

9.1 RD praised District Councillor Clive Hooker for his great service over the last four years.

9.2 New elections were due to take place on 2 May 2019.

## 10 Open Forum

10.1 Clive Hooker provided the Meeting with updates regarding WBC business, its budget, and other matters.

10.2 Clive Hooker also praised the Parish Council for its great attendance. He recommended that the PC apply for a grant and put the District Councillor's report on the Agenda in future.

10.3 It was also mentioned that the developer of the two houses next to the Harrow Pub may wish to donate some money to the Parish Council.

**RD to contact the developer.**

## 11 Date of Next Meeting

11.1 The next AGM (Village Summit) and the Parish Council Meeting would be held on Monday 13 May 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

**All to attend.**

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

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**Chair**