

ST. NICHOLAS HURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SMALL VILLAGE HALL, SCHOOL ROAD, HURST,
ON MONDAY, 10th JANUARY, 2005, AT 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors J. Martin (in the Chair),
Holdstock, Larkin, P. J. Martin, W. Smith,
Stephenson and Taylor.

District Councillor Mrs. Annette Drake.
WPC Sandy Craske

OFFICER: R. Wardle

APOLOGIES. Apologies for absence were received from
Councillors Bowman and Cox

6631 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th December, 2004, were approved as a correct record.

6632 Matters Arising

6616 – 6601 - 6590 – The Clerk had still not received a reply from Lafarge Aggregates, despite writing and telephoning.

6616 – 6601 – 6593 – The Clerk had written inviting requests from sports persons in need of financial assistance.

6602 – WDC had confirmed that work was being undertaken to make available on the Plan Web Mapping System information about Tree Preservation Orders. Currently, technical problems were being experienced.

6617 – Councillor Drake confirmed that WDC were looking into a development at Tile House, Wokingham Road.

6623 – WDC had accepted the Parish Council’s suggestions regarding the naming of Whistley Mill Lane and Rosevale Drive.

6627 – The Chairman circulated a copy of a report on a single important achievement in the Parish which had been sent to WDC for publication. The report dealt with the Parish Council’s provision for youth in Hurst.

6633 Public Forum

Eleven members of the public attended, mainly to discuss WDC proposal to erect bollards to prevent parking on part of the grass verge in Davis Street. There were differing opinions voiced about the WDC proposal and its implications but there was a general consensus that parking on the grass verge was safer than parking in the road.

The Chairman urged all residents to write to WDC to record their views on the proposal concerning the bollards.

There was general agreement that a Vehicle Activated Sign should be provided in Davis Street. Councillor Drake confirmed that she had ordered SID to be located again in Davis Street in a better location than previously and at a time when traffic was heavy.

A resident suggested that some trees in Davis Street between Dinton Pastures entrance and Whispers required attention to improve the appearance of the area.

It was noted that WDC had not yet issued the timetable for the location of a skip in the Parish during the current calendar year.

Despite the fact that the drain opposite Buttercups on the A321 Twyford Road had been cleaned, it still flooded when it rained. Councillor Drake promised to raise the matter with WDC Officers.

6634 Davis Street – Grass Layby

Because of the public interest, although some members of the public had left, the Chairman varied the order of business to consider the proposal of WDC to provide bollards along the section of Davis Street where vehicles parked.

Councillor Stephenson declared his interest as a resident in Davis Street withdrew to the Public Gallery and took no part in the discussion or voting.

The Council were agreed that road safety was the most important issue (i.e. that Davis Street should be kept clear of parked vehicles) and noted that as the houses on the north side of the layby had an unadopted drive there was no legal requirement to consider sight lines but, nevertheless, an improvement to the current situation should take account of all factors.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Council object to the proposal of WDC to provide bollards along the section of Davis Street where vehicles currently park, on the grounds that such parking is a safer option than parking in the road.

(b) That WDC be requested to provide an official layby in Davis Street where vehicles presently park, but a little further south and it should be wide enough to keep vehicles away from the edge of the road to enable drivers of vehicles exiting from the northern private drive to see approaching vehicles.

(c) That WDC be urged to provide at least one Vehicle Activated Sign in Davis Street for viewing by drivers approaching from the Winnersh direction.

6635 Police Matters

WPC Craske circulated a report at the Meeting. As requested, she was keeping an eye open for the commercial vehicles parking on the footpath between Whistley Green and the shops.

6636 Vacancy on Council

Members were again reminded of the vacancy.

6637 Planning Applications

Members discussed the list of applications attached to these Minutes.

The Clerk was asked to request WDC to inspect the ditch adjoining Tile House, Wokingham Road, which had been completely filled in.

6638 Provision for Young People in the Parish

The Chairman reported that there had been complaints since the October Meeting about the Community Shelter in School Road Playing Field. The Council had agreed to review the situation at this Meeting. The time

clock had been adjusted. The intensity of the light had been reduced. Following the initial delay in dealing with graffiti, later graffiti had been covered soon after it occurred and the young people appeared to be using the shelter for the purpose intended. It was accepted that there might be a change when the warmer weather arrived, but WDC Youth and Community Officers appeared to be successful in directing young people to useful activities. As the Chairman had not received further communications from the residents it must be assumed that they were satisfied with the action taken

During the winter months, young people were meeting in the Village Halls and WDC Mobile Project Co-ordinator had discussed with the Chairman the possibility of asking the Parish Council to meet the cost of hire of the Hall. She was proposing to have further discussions on this matter, having regard to the contribution already made by the Parish Council.

6639 Parish Design Statement

Councillor Larkin reported that WDC had suggested that bodies such as local builders, agents and developers should be consulted. Consequently, eight bodies had been consulted and invited to comment by 25th January.

6640 Revisions to WDC Planning Enforcement

The Clerk had previously circulated proposals of WDC to revise the Policy. After discussion, Councillor Larkin promised to prepare a Parish Council response based on the comments now made.

6641 Street Work and Mobile Provision

WDC had asked the Council for financial contribution for the financial year 2005-06. The options offered were:-

- | | | |
|------|---|---------------------------------|
| (i) | One member of staff at JNC level 2
for 12 months to work on Mobile Provision | £1,670.40 including
on-costs |
| (ii) | Two streetworkers | £3,340.82 including
on-costs |

RESOLVED: That the Council continue to contribute towards the cost of one member of staff and that WDC be requested to keep the Council informed with quarterly reports.

6642 Requests for Grant

The Clerk submitted requests from two organisations:

- (i) Wokingham Job Support Centre who had reported that at least eight Hurst residents had sought financial help in the financial years 2002-2004.
- (ii) Wokingham Citizens' Advice Bureau who had helped 70 Hurst residents to solve 159 problems in the past year.

RESOLVED: That consideration of the requests be deferred to the next Meeting.

6643 Budget and Precept 2005/2006

The Chairman circulated a Revised Draft Budget for 2005/2006.

RESOLVED: That the Budget be approved as now agreed and the Precept for 2005/2006 be £15,750. (Approved Budget attached).

6644 Finance

The following accounts were approved for payment:

1.	Wokingham District Council (December Skip)	70.00
2.	British Telecommunications plc (Clerk's telephone to 4 January 2005)	111.02
3.	Society of Local Council Clerks (Part Annual Subscription)	46.00
4.	Inland Revenue (R. Wardle Tax)	75.04
5.	R. Wardle - Salary (January)	266.02
	Office/Internet	47.00
	Mileage (70 @ 50.5p)	35.00
	Postage Stamps	<u>108.00</u>
	Less - telephone contribution	<u>44.49</u>
		<u>411.53</u>
		<u>713.77</u>

6645 Village Clean Up

RESOLVED: That the Village Clean Up be held on Saturday, 19th March, 2005, with Councillor J. Martin as Co-ordinator.

6646 Information Reports

The Clerk drew attention to some of WDC internal reorganisation measures.

The Clerk reported that he had acquired a second-hand photocopier with payment on a copy basis but including service and cartridges. The Council would continue to be responsible for purchase of paper.

The meeting ended at 9.30 p.m.

Signed.....

Date.....

