

# ST. NICHOLAS HURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE SMALL VILLAGE HALL, SCHOOL ROAD, HURST,  
ON MONDAY, 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2006, AT 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors J. Martin (in the Chair),  
Bowman, Cox, Holdstock, Larkin, P. J. Martin, (late)  
Shults, Smith, Stephenson and Taylor.

OFFICER: R. Wardle

APOLOGIES. An apology for absence was received from  
District Councillor Mrs. Annette Drake.

## 6921 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2005, were approved as a correct record, subject to the addition to Minute 6916 of the sentence "Councillor P. Martin would arrange advertising within the Parish." and the correction of some typographical errors.

## 6922 Matters Arising

6907 – 6874 – 6861 – 6845 – 6828 – 6704 – 6686 – 6666 – 6657 – 6601 – 6583 – 6580 – Councillor Stephenson reported that there had been no progress and the Clerk was requested to write seeking action.

6907 – 6893 – 6874 – 6684 – It was noted that the missing and damaged signs had been replaced.

6907 – 6892 – 6878 – The Clerk had written to the new Contractors to empty the one dog bin in School Road Playing Field and would make no payment to the former Contractors after the payment for the December collection.

6907 – 6892 – 6883 – The Vehicle Activated Signs were not yet fully operational. A resident had complained about light disturbance and advised by the Clerk to write to WDC.

6907 – 6892 – 6888 – Councillor Stephenson reported that there was nothing to report about the new Thames Crossing.

6907 – 6893 – It was agreed to consider arrangements for Christmas 2006 at the July Meeting and the Priest in Charge be invited to attend the Meeting.

6907 – 6901 – The Clerk was requested to contact the Land Registry about progress on registration of the Council's land.

6913 – With the concurrence of Members, Councillor Larkin had prepared letters sent to WDC on the Consultation Papers on Developing a Land Use Planning Strategy for the District and a Submission Draft Statement of Community Involvement.

**6923 Public Forum**

One member of the public attended and outlined the discussion at the meeting of WDC Highways Consultative Board being held that evening. She was thanked for her report.

The new Tenant of the Jolly Farmer in Davis Street had erected signs projecting over the highway and the Clerk was requested to draw the potential danger to the attention of WDC.

**6924 Police Report**

It was noted with regret that there was no Police Report and the Clerk was requested to seek a report and attendance of a Police representative at the next Meeting.

**6925 Planning Applications**

Members discussed the list of applications attached to these Minutes.

**6926 Provision for Young People in the Parish**

The Chairman reported that the School Site was unsuitable for location of the Mobile and she was continuing to seek a suitable site.

The Community Shelter was well-used by mothers and children as well as Young People.

The Clerk was requested to write to the Youth and Community Officer commending the Young People on their good standard of behaviour.

6927 **Community Orchard**

Councillor Bowman reported that she was seeking information from WDC.

6928 **Meeting with WDC Chief Executive**

The Clerk reported that WDC Chief Executive had enquired whether Parish and Town Councils would like him to visit with Officers to discuss issues.

RESOLVED: That the Chief Executive be advised of the Council's support of his suggestion.

6929 **WDC Review of Policies and Practices**

The Clerk reported receipt of a document and Councillor Larkin agreed to look at it. The Clerk was requested to contact the author about the limited time allowed for consideration.

6930 **Planning Commitments for Employment Uses at March 2005**

The Clerk reported receipt of a Report prepared by the Joint Strategic Planning Unit which Councillor Larkin agreed to look at.

6931 **Telecommunications Pre-Roll Out Meeting**

The Clerk reported that WDC had arranged a meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January with the Mobile Telephone Operators to discuss the Pre-Roll Out Information for the year. No Member was available to attend.

6932 **Burials in Churchyard**

The Clerk reported that the Priest in Charge of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Nicholas, Hurst and St. Mary's, Winnersh, had discovered that the churchyard was virtually full and it would be necessary to apply for it to be closed. The Diocesan authorities strongly discouraged Parochial Church Councils from extending churchyards or opening new ones but Parish Councils had power to obtain and manage a burial ground to serve their local community.

Because it was an urgent problem, he had suggested that he and the Churchwardens meet representatives of St. Nicholas Hurst and Winnersh Parish Councils to explore possibilities. The Clerk reported that Winnersh Parish Council had appointed the Chairman and Clerk to an informal talk. He outlined the legal position.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to attend the meeting suggested.

**6933 Consumer Direct – South East**

The Clerk reported that Consumer Direct was a new telephone consumer and information service funded by the DTI. Free consumer advice was offered on a wide range of issues. He had asked for leaflets and would circulate these to Members when received.

**6934 Wokingham District Voluntary Sector Forum**

The Clerk reported that the Voluntary and Community Sector Conference was to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2006.

**6935 Caring for Carers**

The Clerk submitted a letter from the Officer responsible for WDC Youth Cares Project offering to attend a Meeting to discuss help provided for young carers.

RESOLVED: That the Officer be invited to attend a Meeting.

**6936 Grass Cutting**

The Clerk reported that Sodexo Land Technology were unable to provide a Grounds Maintenance Service after 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2006. He had written to Richard Burrows, appointing him to cut the grass on Council sites during the current year.

**6937 Police Non-Emergency Calls**

The Clerk circulated to Members information supplied by Thames Valley Police.

**6938 Finance**

(a) Accounts. The Accounts set out below were approved for payment:

Balance brought forward		8224.29
1. Bracknell Pest Control Ltd. (Townsend's Pond)		41.12
2. British Telecommunications (Clerk's telephone)		108.21
3. Cannon Hygiene Ltd. (Emptying bins November)		57.36
4. Wokingham District Council (December Skip)		84.60
5. Viking Direct (Stationery)		53.79
6. Paul Martin (Web Site renewal)		105.74
7. Inland Revenue (Clerk December)		77.25
8. R. Wardle – Salary January	273.88	
Office/Internet	47.00	
Mileage 43 @ 52.7p	22.66	
		<u>343.54</u>
		<u>871.61</u>
Balance in Savings Account	£16,506.01	

(b) Clerk's Salary. As agreed at the last Meeting further consideration was given to the Clerk's salary following a National Agreement to calculate on a responsibility basis rather than a population basis.

RESOLVED: That, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2005, the Clerk be paid in accordance with Spinal Column Point 22.

(The Clerk retired during the discussion and voting on this item).

(c) Budget and Precept 2006-2007. A Draft Budget for 2006/2007 was circulated together with information on income and expenditure 2005-2006.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Budget be approved and the Precept for 2006/2007 be £16,500 (amounting to a 4.75% increase).

(Approved Budget attached).

(ii) That the Clerk be requested to submit more financial information to Meetings as now indicated.

**6939 Village Clean Up**

RESOLVED: That the Village Clean Up be held on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2006, with Councillor J. Martin as Co-ordinator and that arrangements be made for a tractor to be available.

**6940 Information Reports**

Councillor Bowman asked that “Street Clutter” be considered at the next Meeting.

The Clerk was requested to ask WDC about their policy on duplicate/multiple planning applications.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

Signed.....

Date.....

