

ST. NICHOLAS HURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SMALL VILLAGE HALL, SCHOOL ROAD, HURST,
ON MONDAY 10 MARCH 2008 AT 7.30 p.m.

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

Borough Councillor Mrs. A. Drake

OFFICER: Mrs. J. Haines (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors
Curry and Larkin

7317 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 February 2008 were approved as a correct record.

7318 Matters Arising from the Minutes

7264 – Speed Indication Device (SID) – the Clerk reported that WBC had requested details of required locations for SID. Following discussion, four sites were identified. The Clerk was also requested to write to WBC re issues concerning the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS)

7309 – Village Clean-Up – Arrangements had been made for the Clean-Up Day on 29 March, including four skips to be delivered to Village Hall Car Park.

7313 – Local Standards Committee - WBC had confirmed that although the length of tenure was not fixed, the appointment of members to Standards Committee had to be agreed each year at the annual Council meeting

7319 Public Forum

Discussion focused on a recent planning application, a planning appeal and recent event in the Village. It was agreed that the Chairman would inform the press of issues raised.

7320 Police Matters

The report of PCSO Daniels had been previously circulated. It was noted that the new PCSO, Chris Caldwell, would start in April.

7321 **Planning Applications**

Members discussed the list of applications attached to these Minutes.

7322 **Provision for Young People in the Parish**

Recent graffiti at the School Road playground was discussed. It was agreed to forward copies of photos to the Thames Valley Police to assist with identification of 'tagging'.

It was agreed that the impact of recent WBC decisions re provision for young people in the Parish should continue to be monitored.

7323 **Assets Register**

The Council noted the first draft of the Assets Register. Members were requested to forward any further details/information to the Clerk.

Correspondence

The Clerk reported that the following correspondence had been received:

7324 **Requests for Grants/Support**

Four requests for grants/support had been received from the Berkshire County Blind Society, Readibus, Wokingham Volunteer Centre and the Me2Club.

It was agreed that it would be helpful to adopt a more systematic approach to grant giving. Detailed information should be provided on i) the number of Parish residents specifically supported by the organisation and ii) details of accounts and balances. The Clerk was asked to ascertain the extent of other likely requests for grants for 2008/2009 and to provide details of both these and powers for payment to a future meeting.

7325 **Elections**

The Council was advised of key dates in the forthcoming election process. Councillors were advised to seek the appropriate forms directly from WBC.

7326 **Wokingham Draft Cycling Strategy**

The Clerk reported receipt of the Wokingham Draft Cycling Strategy, a copy of which had been placed in the Correspondence File.

7327 **BFBC Local Development Framework – Development Management Housing and Commercial Properties and Sites Development Plan**

The Clerk reported receipt of the Development Management Housing and Commercial Properties and Sites Development Plan, a copy of which had been placed in the Correspondence File.

7328 **Finance**

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Previous Balance (Excluding S106 Money)	27,437	
S 106 Money	23.122	
	Total	50,559
Less playground deposit	- 17,348	
Revised Balance as at 10.03.08		<u>33,211</u>

Ref	Payee	£
12.1	Southern Electric	
12.2	Hurst Village Hall	
12.3	J Haines <i>Salary</i>	383.9
	<i>Office</i>	6
	<i>Mileage</i>	40.00
	<i>Telephone (Nov-Mar)</i>	16.74
		100.0
		0
	Total Expenditure for February 08	
	Income	
	Current Account Interest – February	

Balances Remaining £32,623.91

Following discussion at the last meeting, the contractors had agreed to inform the Council of grass cutting dates on a regular basis. Additionally, the Council was informed that the current grass cutting contract price had been increased by 2.5% for the coming year.

Information Reports

7329 **Townsend Pond**

The Clerk had been advised that the weed growth on Townsend Pond was probably duck weed rather than algae. As such, it required different treatment. Natural ways of approaching the issue (including the possibility of a duck island to encourage ducks back to the pond) were discussed. The Chairman agreed to make initial enquiries and report back.

The meeting ended at 9.05 p.m.

Signed.....

Date.....