

ST. NICHOLAS HURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SMALL VILLAGE HALL, SCHOOL ROAD, HURST
ON MONDAY 14 APRIL 2008 AT 7.30 p.m.

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

Borough Councillor Mrs. A. Drake

One member of the Press (part meeting)

OFFICER: Mrs. J. Haines (Clerk)

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

7330 **Retiring Councillor**

Councillor Shults confirmed that as he had not stood for election, this would be his last meeting. He expressed regret at having to leave and wished the incoming Council success.

7331 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 March 2008 were approved as a correct record.

7332 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

7333 **Public Forum**

There was no member of the public present.

7334 **Police Matters**

No report had been received.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk invite the new PCSO, Chris Caldwell, to a future meeting of the Council.

7335 Planning Applications

Members discussed the list of applications attached to these Minutes. Councillor Holdstock declared an interest in respect of Application F/2008/0621 and formally withdrew from the meeting during discussion on this application.

It was noted that there was to be a meeting between residents, Parish Council representatives and WBC staff in respect of recently agreed application F/2008/0223 (Land to the rear of 24-30 Martineau Lane).

The Council agreed that Councillor Larkin be asked to prepare the Council's response to the Planning Inspectorate re the appeal in respect of F/2007/1771 (Land adjacent to Oak Cottage).

7336 Provision for Young People in the Parish

Councillor J. Martin reported that there was to be a Northern Parishes meeting the following week.

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

7337 Grants/Donations

The Council received the paper (previously circulated) on grants and donations requested to date identifying powers for expenditure. It was agreed that decisions on grant funding should be postponed until September, when organisational accounts were available and the Council's financial position was clearer.

RESOLVED:

(i) that the Clerk write to applicants informing them of the Council's proposed decision-making timetable and requesting copies of accounts, once available.

(ii) that the Council renew its CPRE membership for 2008/09.

7338 Dinton Pastures

The recent WBC decision was discussed. Councillors were concerned at the fact that the Parish Council's views and preferences had not been fully presented to inform the decision-making process. The Council was still of the view that Option 1 was the preferred way forward.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be requested to write to WBC to express anger and disappointment that the Parish Council's views were not fully presented as part of the decision-making process.

Correspondence

7339 Fire & Rescue Service – Five Year Integrated Risk Management Plan

The Clerk reported receipt of the above plan (deadline for comments 2 June 2008), a copy of which had been placed in the Correspondence File.

7340 Traffic Management Orders Progress Report

RESOLVED: That Council support the new weight restrictions of 7.5 tonnes for Old Pound Lane and Road south of Old Pound Lane connecting B3030 and A321 Broadwater Lane, whilst noting that a lower weights would be preferable.

7341 Hurst Village Halls

RESOLVED: That Councillor Curry be nominated to act as the Parish Council's representative on the Hurst Village Halls Management Committee.

7342 Insurance Renewal

The Clerk was asked to seek alternative quotes for insurance renewal. It was noted that there would be some issues this year due to the insurance needing to be renewed on 1 June and the new playground being installed from 23 June.

7343 CCB Membership

The Clerk reported a request from CCB for membership for the year 2008/09.
RESOLVED: That the decision be postponed to a future meeting

7344 Minutes of Meeting with WBC Chief Executive

The Chairman reported discussions at the meeting with the new Wokingham Chief Executive.

7345 Campaign Against Waste

The Clerk reported that Cllr Bowman had included the minutes and presentations from the recent Campaign Against Waste meeting in the Correspondence File.

7346 Finance

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Previous Balance	32,623.91
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Ref	Payee	£	£
	Expenditure		
12.4	Cllr P Martin (<i>paint for recreation ground</i>)		119.61
1.1	Hurst Village Halls (<i>April meeting</i>)		25.50
1.2	SDK Environmental (<i>dog bins 23.1 -18.3</i>)		23.50
1.3	J Haines - Clerk <i>Salary Apr</i>	383.96	
	<i>Office</i>	40.00	
	<i>Mileage</i>	8.37	
	<i>Telephone (Apr)</i>	20.00	
	<i>Postage</i>	4.75	
	<i>Stationery</i>	2.89	
	<i>Total</i>		459.97
	Total Expenditure for April 08		<u>£628.58</u>
	Income		
	Current Account Interest – Mar		0.69
	Part Payment of Precept		1,950.00
	Total Income for April 08		<u>£1,950.69</u>

Balances Remaining

£33,946.02

Following discussion, the Clerk was asked confirm that the emptying of the Davis Street bin was part of the SDK Environmental contract.

Cllr P Martin reported that the contractor currently undertaking litter picking and occasional painting had indicated a wish to reduce his future commitments. RESOLVED: That the Council should undertake appropriate local advertising to seek expressions of interest for this work.

The Chairman noted some logistical issues with certain payments. It was agreed that the Clerk be asked to investigate the possibility of a Chairman's fund.

7347 **Draft Outturn Figures 2007/08**

The draft year end accounts (previously circulated) were noted. The Chairman reported progress on tendering for the landscaping element of the playground works and the difficulties in getting contractors to respond. It was agreed that information would be circulated to all Members.

7348 **Audit 2007/2008**

The Clerk reported that the Council's Audit would take place on 16 May and work was underway to address a number of the issues previously raised.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk prepare a draft of revised Standing Orders for consideration at the next meeting.

Information Reports

7352 **Davis Street Playground**

The Chairman agreed to continue to pursue the issue of the fence in the Davis Street playground. It was noted that the play equipment would require work in the future.

7353 **Townsend Pond**

The Chairman reported that he had been advised that the duck island need only consist of a basic platform. It was agreed that he would pursue the possibility of community service volunteers to help clear the pond. The Clerk had also been asked to approach Pond Conservation for advice and assistance.

The meeting ended at 9.11 p.m.

Signed.....

Date.....