

## **ST. NICHOLAS HURST PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE SMALL VILLAGE HALL, SCHOOL ROAD, HURST  
ON MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009 AT 7.30 p.m.

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

Councillor A. Drake.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Bowman

OFFICERS: Mrs. M. Bradshaw (Clerk)

### **7551 Vacancies on the Council**

It was noted that one vacancy remains on the Parish Council. The Chairman had received one application but it did not cover the appropriate area.

### **7552 Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009 were approved as a correct record.

### **7553 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

### **Public Forum**

7554 Councillor Drake updated Members on the two day public hearing on Warren Farm.

### **7555 Police Matters**

Police statistics were not available at this meeting. The Clerk confirmed that PCSO Anne Chalmers has been invited to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

#### 7556 **Planning Applications**

Members discussed the applications attached to these Minutes.

Despite the Parish Council's objections, it was noted that planning application F/2008/2778 has been approved by WBC.

The Parish Council had no adverse comments relating to applications LB/2009/0568 and F/2009/0565.

#### 7557 **Provision for Young People in the Parish**

Councillor J. Martin confirmed that a cycle path is required to get from the village to the skate park in Reading and the issue of a suitable route is yet to be agreed.

RESOLVED: consideration is given to possible routes for the cycle path.

#### 7558 **School Road Play Area Works**

The Chairman updated the meeting on the current position with School Road:

- The Chairman and Councillor Drake wish to meet with WBC's Chief Executive Officer to outline the Parish Council's frustrations and dissatisfaction with the process over the last two years.
- The Chairman and Clerk to meet Regency Landscaping at School Road on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009 to discuss landscaping arrangements.
- The requirement by WBC for both SNHPC and Regency Landscaping to have £10m of public liability insurance cover.
- Some discussion was held around the fencing and adjoining gates between some properties and the playing field. Further discussion was held around the ownership of the properties at the back of the playing field and whether they are privately or Council owned.

RESOLVED:

The Chairman and Councillor Drake to arrange to meet with WBC's Chief Executive;

The Chairman and Clerk to meet Regency Landscaping on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009;

The Clerk to make appropriate insurance arrangements to enable work to commence;

Councillor Larkin to check the gate licences and the Clerk to contact property owners regarding the planned new fencing; and

The Clerk to ascertain ownership of the properties at the back of the playing field.

#### 7559 **Davis Street Play Area**

The Chairman thanked various people for their help with Davis Street. The park is now open to the public.

#### 7560 **Traffic Initiatives**

Councillor P. Martin has met recently with WBC regarding the raw traffic data. Some discussion was held around this and the hope that a lollipop person could be recruited for the village.

RESOLVED: A lollipop person to be recruited for the village and a suitable location identified.

#### 7561 **Finance**

The following accounts were presented for payment this month:

##### **Accounts - April 2009**

	£	£
Previous Balance		29,491.53
Accounting adjustment		-2.53
<b>Balance b/f</b>		<u>29,489.00</u>

The following accounts are presented for approval this month:

##### **Ref Expenditure - Payee**

1.1	Hurst Village Hall (March 09)		33.68
1.2	Rent for allotment gardens, Sawpit Field.		16.00
1.3	May 08 election, Parish recharge for Hurst Ward		617.82
1.4	CPRE annual subscription		29.00
1.5	M. Bradshaw	<i>Salary April 09</i>	<i>403.54</i>
		<i>Office</i>	<i>60.00</i>
		<i>Mileage</i>	<i>32.87</i>
		<i>Postage</i>	<i>18.72</i>
		<i>Davis Street signs</i>	<i>34.50</i>
			<u>549.63</u>
1.6	SDK Dog Waste 18/2/09-31/3/09		23.99
1.7	Kevin Guy, Greenfingers		30.00
	<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>1,300.12</u>

##### **Income**

Parish Precept 1st		2,100.00
Current a/c interest March 09		0.35
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>2,100.35</u>

**Revised balance c/f** 30,289.23

The Clerk confirmed that the VAT rebate for 2008/09 will be approximately £3,400. The VAT return has been submitted to HMRC.

### **Correspondence**

#### **7562 Handyman**

Some discussions were held around the handyman, Kevin Guy from Greenfingers and his duties. It remains unclear as to whether Mr. Guy has applied for a street licence. The Parish Council agreed to fund a pair of leather gauntlets to enable safe emptying of the litter bins.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council to reimburse Mr. Guy for a pair of leather gauntlets. The Clerk to ascertain the position regarding Mr Guy's application for a street licence.

#### **7563 Request for financial assistance**

Requests have been received from:  
Berkshire County Blind Society – two of their 2061 members live in Hurst.  
CAB – 146 problems from residents in Hurst.  
WADE – one member living in Hurst.

RESOLVED: A grant of £50 to be awarded to Berkshire County Blind Society. Financial assistance not to be granted to either CAB or WADE.

#### **7564 Parish and Town Council Powers**

The Clerk updated members on a document circulated by the Borough/Town and Parish Working Group from the NALC outlining powers available to parish, town and community councils.

#### **7565 WBC trial part night street lighting.**

Councillors were asked whether they had any specific concerns relating to the proposed trial for part night street lighting.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to communicate any concerns to WBC.

7566 **Day Care Services for Older People – Forum Questionnaire**

WBC is in the process of reviewing its day care services for older people who may need some opportunity for social contact and activity during the day. They are trying to think ahead as to what services residents will need in 5-10 years time. To help with this, WBC is seeking the views of the various Forum. A questionnaire has been compiled which can be filled out individually or by a group of people. Completed questionnaires should be returned by the end of April 2009.

The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.

Signed.....

Date.....