

WEST ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL	
Minutes of the meeting of West Ashton Parish Council Held on Wednesday 16th November 2011, at West Ashton Village Hall.	
1) Open the meeting	The meeting commenced at 7.14pm.
2) In attendance and apologies	Cllr Richard Covington (Chair), Cllr Peter Westlake (Vice-Chair), Cllr Ron Pybus, Cllr Ian Robertson, Cllr Mrs Margaret Workman, Cllr David Richards, Cllr Geoff Watkins, Wiltshire Cllr Francis Morland, PCSO Andrew MacLachlan, and Carol Hackett – Clerk.
3) Declarations of interest	Cllr Pybus declared a personal interest in Agenda/minute item 13.6, as Secretary on the Village Hall Committee. Cllr Pybus left the room during discussion of this item, returning to answer a question posed by Councillors. He took no part in the vote for this item.
4) Minutes of Parish Council Meeting	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st September 2011, having been previously circulated, were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record.
5) Police report	PCSO Andrew MacLachlan reported that during the last month 61 crimes had been reported on the entire Rural beat, of which 10 were relevant to West Ashton. He then re-affirmed the priority for the village, of trying to address problems with speeding on Bratton Road, and confirmed that following the recent metro-count the village now qualified for Community Speedwatch (CSW) and a Speed Indicator Device (SID) on a shared basis – Metro count results - at the 85 th percentile, the speed was 40.9mph. He closed by noting the importance of ensuring that possessions are locked up, and doors and windows are closed when no-one is at home. He agreed to forward a full copy of his report to the Clerk for circulation to Councillors.
6) Speeding through the village	PCSO MacLachlan noted that to operate the CSW scheme at least 6 volunteers would need to come forward. Consideration would need to be given as to the exact location/s for carrying out the checks so a risk assessment can be carried out by the Police to assess their suitability. All volunteers would need to attend a training session lasting approximately 2 hours, which would include a practical session before they could start carrying out checks. The group will be provided with hi-viz jackets and paperwork to carry out the checks. He noted that checks could not be carried out in the dark or when it was wet, and that the Parish Council would be sharing the equipment with 2 other Parishes. Following a full discussion several names were put forward for volunteers, and the Chairman noted that a notice would be placed in the next edition of the Parish Magazine. Suggestions were also made for 2 possible locations for the checks – Chairman and Clerk to liaise with PCSO MacLachlan to progress further with initiating the scheme. With regards to the SID it was noted that all the roads eligible for SID's in the Trowbridge Community Area would be coming to the January Community Area Transport Group for prioritisation to be ratified by the Area Board.
7) Report from Wiltshire	Wiltshire Cllr Morland noted that the next meeting of the Trowbridge Area Board was to be held on the 17 th of November at Bradley Road. One of the items on the agenda was an

Councillor	<p>update on the 106 agreements recorded in the Trowbridge Community Area – 1 of which related to West Ashton – Public Open Space / Play area on land adjacent to the new Shepherds Drove development, of which the Parish Council were aware. He then referred to the review of Parliamentary constituencies currently being carried out by the Boundary Commission, noting that under the proposals the ‘Southwick division’ in which West Ashton was included would remain in the Trowbridge Constituency. He noted the recent decision by the Planning Inspectorate to allow the Gypsy development at Bratton (W/10/04066/FUL), and noted that the appeal had highlighted the complexity of current Government policies surrounding these matters. He then questioned whether the Parish Council had responded to the ‘Trowbridge Transport Plan’, and answered questions posed by Councillors.</p>
8) Community Mini-bus proposal	<p>Following on from the last meeting Cllr Watkins reported that enquiries being made into possible costs for the project could inhibit the proposal progressing further. The school had confirmed that minimal feedback had been received from parents and carers, and they did not consider that that it would be viable at the moment - Matter to be discussed further at the next meeting.</p>
9) School and parking issues	<p>The Chairman referred to the minutes of the meeting held on the 6th of October already circulated to Councillors. He noted that the Community Speed Watch and Speed Indication Devices that had already been identified for possible use in the village could both potentially improve safety at dropping off and collection times at the school. It was noted that although the petition agreed at the meeting had been signed by several parents; any other proposed solutions mentioned at the meeting would need to be fully considered by the Parish Council and local residents. Also as agreed at the meeting a notice had been placed in the school newsletter reminding parents/carers to be considerate when parking near to the school, and that the names of any parents/carers who were inconsiderately parking would be ‘named and shamed’ by the school. Cllr Mrs Workman reported a recent incident near the school which had almost caused an accident. Following a full discussion Cllr Robertson agreed to discuss the matter with the owner of the vehicle causing the problem.</p>
10) Recreational Area, East Town Lane	<p>Following on from the last meeting the Clerk confirmed that Paul Vingoe from Gough’s Solicitors had been appointed to act on behalf of the Parish Council to deal with the transfer and adoption of the Recreational Area to the Parish Council. The Chairman and herself had attended an initial meeting with the Solicitor and provided him with all the necessary information. He had suggested that it could take anything from 3 months to a year to complete the formalities. In the meantime the Chairman and herself had carried out an assessment at the Play Area and determined that many of the items on the ‘Snagging List’ prepared by Wiltshire Council in June 2011 had not yet been addressed by the Developer. These matters would need to be dealt with before the Adoption process is completed to ensure that the Parish Council is not left with the cost of dealing with them. It was noted that the Play Area has now been opened by the Developer – Clerk to contact the Developer to ascertain when the work is likely to be carried out.</p>
11) Proposed Wind Farm on land west of	<p>The Chairman referred to the email detailing his thoughts following the Wind Farm visit circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors considered that the visit had been useful and informative; however they noted that the site in Oxfordshire was</p>

<p>Grange Farm, West Ashton</p>	<p>different from that proposed at Grange Farm, where bigger, different sized turbines were being suggested. It was suggested that the 3 main issues that could effect any proposed application in the future would be – low frequency noise, nearby protected bat colonies, and the closeness to the flight path into Keevil and possible adverse effects on radar coverage. The public consultation exhibitions were being held on Friday and Saturday of this week.</p>									
<p>12) Planning</p>	<p>12.1 The following planning application was considered. 12.1.1 W/11/02853/FUL Merrymeeting, Rood Ashton Park, West Ashton. Demolitions extensions and alterations - NO OBJECTION – Proposed Cllr Covington seconded Cllr Westlake and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>12.2 The following recent decision was noted. 12.2.1 W/11/01885/FUL 74 West Ashton Road, Trowbridge. Single storey side extension – Permission with conditions.</p>									
<p>13) Finance</p>	<p>13.1 The financial statement was noted.</p> <p>13.2 The following payments were approved and cheques signed</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="355 1003 1423 1115"> <tr> <td>13.2.1 Chq 316 C Hackett</td> <td>Clerk 6 month salary & allow / Planning meetings / re-imburse exps</td> <td>£640.91</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13.2.2 Chq 317 Post Office Ltd</td> <td>3rd qtr PAYE & NI Contributions</td> <td>£190.19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13.2.3 Chq 318 West Ashton Village Hall</td> <td>6 months hall hire</td> <td>£ 60.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>Payment of cheques proposed Cllr Richards seconded Cllr Covington and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>13.3 To discuss part-funding gift for volunteers who publish and print the Village Magazine, and re-imburement for cost of printer ink – It was noted that currently the printer of the Magazine kindly prints the magazine free of charge, however the cost of the printer ink has gone up considerably, and it was considered that it was only proper that the Parish Council should consider contributing towards the costs. It was suggested that a figure of £85 would be appropriate – Cllr Watkins agreed to ask the printer if he could raise an invoice for the Parish Council for this amount. It was also suggested that the volunteers who edit and print the Magazine should be given a gift at Christmas to thank them for all their hard work – following a full discussion it was unanimously agreed to approve payment of up to £25 each to purchase gifts for the volunteers – Cllr Watkins agreed to purchase the gifts and submit receipts to the Clerk for re-imburement.</p> <p>13.4 Consider grant application to Area Board for projector – The Chairman reported that at the last Area Board meeting he had attended it was noted that there was still funds available for Councils and Community Groups to apply for grant funding, and asked if it might be appropriate to apply for part-funding for a projector, for use by the Parish Council, the School and local groups. Cllr Pybus noted that the Village Hall were due to make a grant application to the next Area Board meeting, and asked if any proposed Parish Council application could possibly be deferred to the following Area Board meeting to ensure that both applications would have the best chance of possible approval. There was some debate as to whether there were</p>	13.2.1 Chq 316 C Hackett	Clerk 6 month salary & allow / Planning meetings / re-imburse exps	£640.91	13.2.2 Chq 317 Post Office Ltd	3 rd qtr PAYE & NI Contributions	£190.19	13.2.3 Chq 318 West Ashton Village Hall	6 months hall hire	£ 60.00
13.2.1 Chq 316 C Hackett	Clerk 6 month salary & allow / Planning meetings / re-imburse exps	£640.91								
13.2.2 Chq 317 Post Office Ltd	3 rd qtr PAYE & NI Contributions	£190.19								
13.2.3 Chq 318 West Ashton Village Hall	6 months hall hire	£ 60.00								

infact two funding pots available to apply to from the Area Board. Following a full discussion it was therefore unanimously agreed that if there was two funding pots the Parish Council would go ahead and apply for a 50% grant at the December Area Board meeting, however if there was just one funding pot the Parish Council would defer its application, and discuss the matter again at the next Parish Council meeting.

13.5 Consider draft budget for 2012/13 – The Clerk referred to the draft budget prepared by the Chairman and herself, and circulated to Councillors, noting that the ‘Tax Base’ figure had increased slightly again this year. The draft budget proposed total expenditure of £4,255 and estimated interest income of £5 – Thus proposing a precept requirement of £4,250 (Band ‘D’ equivalent £13.33, a +0.83% increase on 2011/12). Following a full discussion Councillors unanimously agreed to accept the draft budget and raise the precept to £4,250 – proposed Cllr Westlake seconded Cllr Covington – Clerk to advise Wiltshire Council accordingly.

13.6 Consider request from Village Hall for grant funding of £135 – (Cllr Pybus left the room during discussion of this item) Following a full discussion, and answering of one question by Cllr Pybus, Councillors unanimously approved a grant donation of £50 to the Village Hall – proposed Cllr Richards seconded Cllr Mrs Workman (Cllr Pybus to notify the Parish Council when payment of the grant is required)

14)
Correspondence

14.1 Wiltshire Council – Details of proposed diversion of part of footpath number 5 at Kettle Lane House, West Ashton – The Chairman referred to the email circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting giving a brief summary of the walk around the section of footpath that is proposed for diversion. Following a full discussion it was unanimously agreed to respond to the proposal as follows ‘*the Parish Council do not support the making of the order proposed*’ – Clerk to respond to Wiltshire Council accordingly. With regards to the matter previously discussed concerning the diversion of the footpath at the end of Kettle Lane, it was noted that no application has yet been submitted – The Rights of Way Officer has now agreed to chase this matter up with the landowner.

14.2 Wiltshire Council – Initial response from Planning Enforcement Officer regarding Land adjacent to the A350 – Response received confirming that the matter would be investigated within 15 working days - Noted.

14.3 TCAF – Information regarding the ‘Safer Trowbridge’ community safety theme group – There being no further information available on the web-site regarding possible projects the matter was not discussed.

4.4 Boundary Commission – Details of initial proposal for new Parliamentary constituencies in England – Following a full discussion it was agreed to respond as follows – The Parish Council are not impressed with the proposal to split an existing constituency, with half of the constituency being transferred to ‘Warminster and Shaftesbury’, and the other half being consumed into the newly named ‘Trowbridge’ constituency. It also objects to the naming of this new constituency.

14.5 Village Hall Committee – Confirmation regarding charging arrangements for the Parish Council using the Village hall to hold meetings – It was noted that the charging arrangements for use of the village hall would remain the same.

	<p>14.6 Wiltshire Council – Response to Parish Council letter requesting anti-skid grip surface on road by traffic lights, and re-painting of white ‘keep clear’ markings on road surface by farm on West Ashton Road – Response received noting that as this was not a site with a known problem over the last 3 years, it did not qualify for such anti-skid grip surface treatment – Clerk to follow-up with a further request. Re-painting of white markings to be added to contractors work schedule - Noted.</p> <p>14.7 Trowbridge Area Board – Details of meeting to be held on Thursday 17th November at Wiltshire Council’s Bradley Road office at 7.00pm – Noted.</p>
15) Parish Matters	<p>Cllr Richards asked if the Parish Council’s response to the Draft Core Strategy consultation had been accepted by Wiltshire Council – it was noted that the Parish Council comments had been acknowledged, and that if necessary, there would be the opportunity to make formal objection in February 2012, when a further consultation would be carried out. Cllr Pybus asked if a further donation would be made by the Parish Council to the Arts Road project – the Clerk confirmed that the full agreed payment of £50 had been made in May 2011. The Chairman noted that local residents are currently charged for running charity events in the Village Hall. As Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee, he asked if he could propose at the next Committee meeting that they might consider waiving the hall hire for a Charity event, or making a donation to the Charity itself. Several Councillors then put forward various points of view regarding this matter.</p>
16) Date of next meeting	<p>Wednesday 18th January 2012.</p>
17) Closure of meeting	<p>The meeting was closed at 9.45pm.</p>

Minutes

Page No.

6

--	--

Initial

Minutes

Page No.

7

--	--

Initial