

WEST ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL	
Minutes of the meeting of West Ashton Parish Council Held on Wednesday 18th January 2012, at West Ashton Village Hall.	
1) Open the meeting	The meeting commenced at 7.15pm.
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 Maria Badder (arrived at 7.25pm), and Carol Hackett – Clerk. Six members of the public (arrived and left a various times throughout the meeting).
3) Declarations of interest	Cllr Pybus declared a personal interest in Agenda/minute item 16, as Secretary on the Village Hall Committee. He took no part in the vote for this item. Cllr Richards declared a personal interest in Agenda/minute item 17, noting that he would be becoming involved as a member of the proposed Wind Farm opposition group.
4) Minutes of Parish Council Meeting	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th November 2011, having been previously circulated, were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Robertson seconded Cllr Richards.
5) Police report	The Chairman referred to the email circulated from Neighbourhood Watch recently reporting a siting of a white van parked just up from the traffic lights very early in the morning. Two men with black bags had then been seen looking in wheelie bins. (After agenda/minute item 6) PCSO Badder reported that during the period from 16 th November 2011 to 15 th January 2012, 112 crimes had been reported on the entire Rural beat, of which 6 were relevant to West Ashton. These incidents included 2 burglaries at Lower Biss Farm where various items had been taken, 1 theft in Kettle Lane, 1 domestic incident and 2 incidents involving animals and wildlife. She then re-affirmed the priority for the village, of trying to address problems with speeding on Bratton Road, and confirmed that the Community Speedwatch (CSW) initiative had now been set-up and that she was happy to assist wherever she could. The on-going priority for the whole of the Trowbridge Area was scrap metal theft.
6) Report from Wiltshire Councillor	Wiltshire Cllr Morland noted that the next main meeting of the Trowbridge Area Board was to be held on the 26 th of January at Bradley Road, an additional meeting was scheduled for the 19 th of January at the Civic Centre where the main topic was Youth Participation budgets. He noted that the wind mast planning application had been permitted, and referred to the recent feedback received from Quatro (the PR Company) following the public consultation events. He also noted that information was now available on the Wiltshire Council web site giving an update following the speed limit review exercise carried out some time ago – The proposed speed reduction on the A350 at the West Ashton Traffic lights had been scheduled right at the end of the programme – with advertising of the order scheduled for October 2012, with implementation in February 2013. He referred to an ‘agricultural determination’ planning application for land east of ‘Oaks Stone Farm’ which had recently been registered, noting that the Parish Council may wish to comment on the proposal – Clerk to liaise with Chairman to submit

	<p>a response. He noted that the BANES Council proposal to put an experimental order for a weight limit restriction on the Cleveland bridge continued to raise concerns. The Cabinet would be meeting tomorrow to consider the Waste Sites Allocation DPD – Wiltshire Cllr Morland noted that the document no longer included the allocation on the West Ashton Employment land, which had been removed primarily at the request of the Developer. The Submission Draft Core Strategy document was also due to be considered in the afternoon, and was due to go before full Council on the 7th of February for approval. This would be followed by a six weeks statutory consultation period probably commencing on the 20th of February. He then answered questions posed by Councillors.</p> <p>(7.50pm Standing Orders were suspended) The Chairman welcomed members of the Public to the meeting, who were primarily at the meeting to express their views regarding the proposed Wind Farm at Grange Farm. He invited the members of the public to address the Council and offer their views on the proposal. Councillors listened to the views of those attending, making comments and posing questions. During the joint discussion it was suggested that it would be appropriate for the Parish Council to compile a questionnaire for distribution around the village to gauge the views of the whole community regarding the proposed Wind Farm, possibly also involving surrounding Parishes in the initiative – Cllr Richards and the Chairman to start preparing a questionnaire (8.30pm Standing Orders re-instated).</p>
<p>7) Community Mini-bus proposal</p>	<p>Cllr Watkins reported that there was nothing to update since the last Parish Council meeting. It was agreed to remove the item from future agendas until further information had been obtained.</p>
<p>8) Recreational Area, East Town Lane</p>	<p>The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had met on-site with the Adoptions Manager from Persimmon and an Adoptions Officer from Wiltshire Council, to reach agreement regarding the outstanding issues on the ‘snagging list’ for the site – items agreed included removal of nails sticking out from some fence posts - tree to be planted at the bottom of the site and previous hole made good - shrubs to be replaced - metal inward closing gate to be installed at the top of the steps at the point where the path narrows, mounted on metal posts, with in-fill angled wooden fence installed to connect the new gate posts to the existing fence – Wiltshire Council Adoptions Officer to check if there is a specification for the tarmac path, if so Persimmon to comply with it, if not section of the path to be taken up and re-laid. He confirmed that the Parish Council Solicitor was still proceeding with the legal formalities for the adoption. A question was raised regarding possible application for ‘Village Green Status’ for the site, and also the position regarding dogs on the site – It was noted that Wiltshire Council’s existing Dog Control Orders exclude dogs from all enclosed children’s play areas. It had been agreed at a previous meeting that signage to this effect would be erected when the Parish Council formally take over the area.</p>
<p>9) Land off A350</p>	<p>The Clerk noted that she had received confirmation from the Planning Enforcement Officer that the vehicle had now been removed for the land along with the tyres. It was anticipated that a planning application would be submitted shortly for the retention of the hard standing.</p>
<p>10) Community</p>	<p>The Chairman reported that five volunteers had now been trained for the scheme, and</p>

Speed Watch initiative	that two points in the village had been approved for carrying out the checks. The speed monitor was now in his possession and it was hoped that weather permitting some checks could be carried out in the following weeks. The Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator had confirmed that all volunteers would be covered under the Police insurance for Public Liability and Personal accident cover. A further training session was scheduled for the 30 th of January at which it was hoped that several more volunteers could be trained.
11) Anti-skid grip surface	The Chairman reported that following a site visit attended by himself, the Clerk and two Officers from Wiltshire Council, agreement had been given to lay thermo plastic anti-skid covering onto the road surface on Bratton Road approaching the traffic lights. At this stage it was uncertain whether the work could be included in this year's budget, or if it would have to be carried forward as a priority for next year.
12) Request for allotments	The Clerk reported that one response had been received following the article in the last edition of the Parish Magazine. The respondent had shown an interest in allowing someone to tend their garden – Cllr Watkins agreed to liaise with the respondent to try and match them up with someone wanting some extra garden space.
13) Planning	<p>13.1 The following planning application considered in-between meetings was noted.</p> <p>13.1.1 W/11/02772/FUL 32 Bratton Road, West Ashton. BA14 6AZ. Additional garage attached to existing – NO OBJECTIONS, would however like to raise 2 issues regarding the application – 1) The close proximity of the additional garage to the road. 2) The 'Project Title' noted on the application plans of 'Garage Extension and Granny Annex' – is this application a prelude to the additional garage being converted into a granny annex?</p> <p>13.2 The following recent decisions were noted.</p> <p>13.2.1 W/11/02772/FUL 32 Bratton Road, West Ashton. BA14 6AZ. Additional garage attached to existing – Permission.</p> <p>13.2.2 W/11/02054/FUL (Heywood Parish) Land West of Grange Farm, Bratton Rd, West Ashton. Erection of Wind Mast for temporary period of 36 months – Permission (Discussed further under item 17).</p> <p>13.3 Report from Western Area Planning Committee Meeting 4/1/12 – Planning Application W/11/01697/FUL. Land West of Biss Farm, West Ashton Road, West Ashton – The Chairman reported that this duplicate application was 'deferred' by the Planning Committee pending the Core Strategy.</p>
14) Finance	<p>14.1 The financial statement was noted.</p> <p>14.2 The following payments were approved and cheques signed</p> <p>14.2.1 Chq 319 C Hackett Re-imburse cost of computer printer ink cartridge £10.95</p> <p>14.2.2 Chq 320 G Watkins Re-imburse cost of ink cartridge & gifts for Magazine volunteers £84.00</p> <p>14.2.3 Chq 321 M Stainer Contribution towards costs of printing Parish Magazine £85.00</p> <p>Payment of cheques proposed Cllr Richards seconded Cllr Robertson and unanimously agreed.</p>

<p>15) Correspondence</p>	<p>14.3 Re-consider grant application to Area Board for projector – Following a full discussion it was agreed by a majority vote to apply for a grant from the Area Board for a projector (total cost approximately £1,000 – 50% grant of £500 to be applied for) Clerk to liaise with Chairman to prepare and submit the grant application. Proposed Cllr Richards seconded Cllr Watkins – 1 abstention.</p> <p>15.1 From Trowbridge Area Board & Trowbridge Community Area Partnership – Invitation to attend a special evening to bring together key players in the Trowbridge community area for discussion and debate – No Councillors were available to attend this meeting.</p> <p>15.2 From Wiltshire Council – Opportunity for Parish Council to request any specific additional areas be added to the proposed dog control orders due to be consulted on in May – It was noted that the current control orders appeared to be adequate.</p> <p>15.3 From Wiltshire Council – Notification of Planning Appeal lodged by Persimmon Homes (Wessex) Ltd against the refusal of Wiltshire Council to allow permission for application W/10/03031/FUL to renew planning permission W/05/00744/FUL – It was agreed that the Chairman and Cllr Westlake would collate a response on behalf of the Parish Council for submission by the Clerk.</p> <p>15.4 From Wiltshire Council – Letter providing information about the new standards framework that is to be introduced under the Localism Act 2011 – Noted at meeting.</p> <p>15.5 From Wiltshire Council – Details of Order to close temporarily C49 Bratton Road (Part), West Ashton/Edington to carry out carriageway patching and surface dressing works During February to March 2012 – Noted at meeting.</p>
<p>16) Report from Parish Council representative on the Village Hall committee</p>	<p>The Chairman reported that the Village Hall committee were proposing to carry out several projects to improve the facilities including acoustic panels, and updating the bar area, and noted that the Financial Policy was currently in the process of being reviewed. Reference was made to the grant donation approved at the last Parish Council meeting for £50 towards the cost of acoustic panels and lighting (original request was for £135). Cllr Pybus reported that after the last Parish Council meeting he had realised that the reason the original amount of £135 had been requested was to meet the requirement for a third party to provide 12.5%, in order to obtain the Landfill grant – Following a full discussion it was unanimously agreed to increase the grant donation previously approved to £135 – proposed Cllr Robertson seconded Cllr Westlake. Following further discussion it was proposed that future Parish Council meetings be held back in the main room where there was more space – Proposed Cllr Covington seconded Cllr Westlake – Clerk to advise the Hall’s Booking Secretary accordingly.</p>
<p>17) Proposed Wind Farm</p>	<p>The Chairman raised concerns surrounding the article published in the last edition of the Parish Magazine entitled ‘Up a Windy Hill’. The article which had been submitted by one of the Parish Councillors contained a note at the end stating that ‘..the leaflet pushed through everyone’s door purporting to come from the whole of the Parish Council was factually incorrect’. Although he considered that it was perfectly acceptable for personal observations/comments to be made by Councillors in the magazine, he questioned whether it was appropriate for statements to be made which could be regarded as undermining the unity of the Parish Council. Following a full discussion it was agreed to print a correction statement in the next edition of the Magazine – Chairman to prepare</p>

18) Parish Matters	<p>the statement and circulate to Councillors for approval prior to submission.</p> <p>The Chairman referred to a letter received from Paul Workman – He thanked the Parish Council for their gift in recognition of his role as co-editor of the West Ashton Magazine, and noted that due to increasing work commitments, with regret, he wished to resign as a Parish Footpath Warden. He also referred to the recent competition to design a logo for the village which was promoted in the Magazine, noting that although the number of entries was disappointingly few, one design had stood out as having promise. A copy of the design was circulated to Councillors, and following a full discussion it was agreed to accept Paul's offer of working with the young artist to create a logo to be used by the village/PC – both colour and black & white options to be considered. Paul will submit an estimate of cost for this work which will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr Robertson questioned whether the 3 oak trees behind the Village Hall had been inspected recently for safety reasons. The Clerk referred to an email recently received from the local resident co-ordinating the Community Jubilee event being planned for the village in June. The email gave details of the proposed event and asked if the Parish Council would consider making a contribution of £150 towards the cost of the event. Following a full discussion approval for a grant of £150 was unanimously agreed – Proposed Cllr Richards seconded Cllr Robertson. Cllr Mrs Workman and the Chairman agreed to join the planning team for the event on behalf of the Parish Council. A letter of thanks from Jo Watkins for her gift in recognition of her work with the Parish Magazine was noted.</p>
19) Date of next meeting	Wednesday 21st March 2012.

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