



WOOTTON and EAST HUNSBURY PARISH COUNCIL
Wootton Community & Sports Centre, Curtlee Hill, Wootton, Northampton, NN4 6ED
Tel: 01604 705055 Fax: 01604 705777

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL
on Wednesday 20th July 2011 at 19:00pm

Present: Cllrs; Nunn (Chair) Gonzalez De Savage, Savage, Collard, Gurney, Penny, Rayner, Bartley
Costello (arrived 7.40pm)

2011_31. Opening Procedures

- a. To receive and approve apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllr Eldred (personal commitment)
It was resolved to accept the apology

Apologies were received from Cllr Patel (Borough Council commitment)
It was resolved to accept the apology

Apologies were received from Cllr Hill (Illness)
It was resolved to accept the apology

- b. Confirmation of [Minutes](#) from June 2011
It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting 15 June 2011 as a true record and these were duly signed.
- c. Declarations of interest
Cllr Gonzalez De Savage item 2011_35 (personal interest as a member of another authority)

2011_32. Police and public session (15 minutes maximum)

Police report.

Crime statistics had been circulated by the clerk.

There had been no change in anti-social behaviour in the period

A question was raised about possible burglaries in Hermitage Way- (but this was not within the period being reported on and the officers did not have the full details.)

SPC Fairey noted that there had been some complaints about noise levels at the Blacky More Community MUGA SPC Fairey noted that the young people were friendly and weren't actually doing anything wrong, but he understood that the noise would disturb local residents.

Young people had been asked to move on when the noise level was enough to cause residents disturbance.

The chair thanked the police representatives for their time.

The chair welcomed Andrew Leighton NCC Community Liaison Officer (Northampton) to the meeting.

The surface dressing in East Hunsbury had now been completed.

Andrew Leighton noted that he was working with Simon De Senlis School on traffic calming measures.

A request had been received for a zebra crossing in Butts Road. It was noted that crossing the road from King Richard Court to the post box was difficult. Andrew Leighton will put together a formal proposal so that members can consider whether or not the Parish Council would want to apply to for funding from the minor works budget for 2012-13

A discussion was also held around road safety measures in Penvale Road. Again Andrew Leighton will put a formal request to the council.

Locations for the welcome to Wootton signs were discussed. It was agreed that the locations would be as follows:

- High Street Hermitage Way Junction
- Newport Pagnell Road approx 60 metres east of Turners Court junction
- Newport Pagnell Road approx 70 metres east of Lady Hallows Drive
- Berry Lane near junction of Wooldale Road
- Quinton Road near junction of Wooldale Road
- Wootton Hope Drive at junction of Newport Pagnell Road

A “Wootton Village Sign” would be placed at the top of Water Lane.

Cllr Costello arrived at 7.40pm

A member of the public asked about the obsolete cable boxes in East Hunsbury.

This is now being dealt with.

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council could lobby Meridian to provide a bus service from Wootton to East Hunsbury. Cllr Penny noted that members of the senior’s club would find this useful.

A member of the public asked if residents were allowed to leave bins out for more than 24 hours if their bins hadn’t been collected.

Cllrs Nunn and Larratt (NBC) said they would look into this.

Jenny Evans gave a report on the youth project.

It was noted that there was going to be extra detached worked on Friday 22nd July as this was the last day of term.

A summer programme was in place.

Debbie Shepherd – Tesco’s community champion reminded the meeting that she was here to help and had a budget to support any fund raising activities.

Cllr Larratt (NBC) noted that Debbie does a fantastic job.

2011_33. To consider working in partnership with Northampton Town Football club to provide a 3G pitch at Wootton recreation ground.

Tony Clarke from Northampton Town Football club gave an introduction to the work of the charitable arm of Northampton Town Football club.

The charitable arm has different strands of community work:

- Women's football
- Football for the disabled
- Work with seniors
- Work with young people at risk
- Boys development work

The aim of this partnership arrangement would be for Northampton Town Football Club in Partnership with Wootton and East Hunsbury Parish Council to provide a base for the Boys development squad.

The total cost of the facility would be £500,000. Funding of around £350,000 would be sought from the Premier League and Football leagues for the facility. Some funding would be required from the Parish Council (provision of land for the development would be included in the Parish Councils contribution)

There would need to be a service level agreement setting out the agreement between the two parties.

Northampton Town Football Club would also want to work in conjunction with other charter mark junior football clubs in the area (Wootton St George Youth).

An initial site inspection taken place and the 3G pitch could be located at the top end of the recreation ground or in the area of the existing MUGA. The area around the existing MUGA is currently the preferred location. This would provide better access to the community centre. Use of this site would also ensure that the cricket pitch wasn't infringed.

There is also the opportunity for the groundsman from Northampton Town Football club to work with maintenance staff at Wootton and East Hunsbury Parish Council to improve the pitches.

It was noted that land opposite the recreation ground could possibly be used for a junior pitch if required.

The aim is that the project is completed in time for the 2011/12 season.

A member of the Parish Council will be asked to sit on the board of trustees for the charity.

It was unanimously resolved to proceed with further investigations into this partnership work. A full feasibility study into the project will now be carried out.

Tony Clarke was thanked for his time.

2011_34. To consider the councils position and strategy for working towards Quality Council Status.

A concern was expressed as to whether or not the Council currently met the requirements for Planning.

Members felt that the current system of a working party was working. It was noted that there had been very few planning applications in the last few months.

It was noted that more use could be made of the Link magazine to communicate with the Parish. It was further agreed that improvements could be made to the website. The clerk will provide a timeline and critical path plan for the next meeting.

It was agreed to work towards gaining quality status.

2011_35. To consider provision of a noticeboard in Wootton Village.

Following discussion it was agreed that the notice board should be of an equal size to others in the parish.

Ideally situated at the Health Centre in the village, but the memorial hall was also a possibility. It was agreed that the clerk should pursue permission to site the noticeboard at the Drs Surgery.

The clerk will check the budgets available and proceed.

2011_36. Neighbourhood Planning: Front runners scheme

To consider the bid with NBC to the Department of Communities and Local Government

It was agreed by 8 votes for with 1 against that members were fully in support of the application.

Discussion was held surrounding the bid and the process followed.

It was resolved to proceed and await the outcome of the bid.

Discussion was held about where a Neighbourhood plan should sit within the planning framework.

Cllr Larratt (NBC) that it be noted that the WNJPU were meeting on Monday and that if the LDS were approved at this meeting it could have a detrimental impact on the importance of a neighbourhood plan. It was hoped that the Localism Bill due to be approved in November would provide for a more "bottom up framework"

It was agreed that a letter be written to WNJPU asking them to put approval of the LDS on hold until the Localism Bill had been passed.

Cllr Larratt also noted that Andy Clarke of UCN was currently doing some work at the University of Northampton on Neighbourhood Plans and that the Clerk should speak to Mr Clarke to seek his guidance on this matter.

2011_37. Finance:

- a. To approve the payments made in July 2011

It was unanimously resolved to approve the payments to be made in July as per the schedule supplied.

2011_38. Administration and Service requests

Cllr Collard noted that the Walk in the Park Banner at the Queen Eleanor roundabout needed to be removed.

Cllr Penny noted the broken bollard at the bottom of Curtlee Hill

Cllr Gurney asked if it was possible to obtain a list of unoccupied properties in the Parish.

Cllr Rayner noted that the drainage at the Berry Lane slip road had flooded at the weekend.

**2011_39. Date of Next meeting – Wednesday 21st September 2011 at Wootton Fields
Library**

Signed

Date 14th July 2011