



WOOTTON and EAST HUNSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

***Wootton Community & Sports Centre, Curtlee Hill, Wootton, Northampton, NN4 6ED
Tel: 01604 705055 Fax: 01604 705777***

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 19th November 2009

Present: Cllrs J Nunn (Chair), A Gonzalez De Savage (Vice Chair), S Bartley, B Eldred, J Penny, N. Prescott, G. Pickett, Y Rayner, D. Savage.

1. Opening Procedures

- a. To receive and approve apologies for absence – apologies received from Cllrs Collard and Gurney due to work commitments. I was resolved to accept these apologies.
- b. Confirmation of [Minutes](#) from 29th October 2009 – the minutes were reviewed and it was resolved to sign them as correct.
- c. Declarations of interest -

2. Police and public session (15 minutes maximum)

Ron Calvert reported that two houses had been broken into in Wootton at the weekend, thanks to the vidulents of a local resident the burglars were caught and charged; one had only been released from prison on the Friday before. The method they used was to throw a ball into the garden – to state that they were collecting it, if caught.

In East Hunsbury bags have been taken from Dog Bins and thrown at passing cars- parents have been spoken to. It was reported that Graffiti was becoming a problem again in the area – it was resolved for the clerk to write to the schools in the local area to rally their support in this matter.

Sargent Kevin Smith is moving to a new role and the councillors wished to record their thanks for the support he has given the Parish in the last two years. He was involved visually at events and with the youth project he has been proactive in all areas.

It was asked why our Parish Council excluded the public from some items of the agenda – it was explained that personnel issues could not be discussed publically and it was resolved to move the item on the agenda to nearer the end and remove exclusion if no personnel issues were to be discussed.

3. Grant request for Abbey Centre Baptist Church

A discussion was held around the benefits of the centre – it should be pointed out that the grant request was for the Abbey Centre and not the Baptist Church.

A budget of £10,000 was allocated for grants in 08/09 – S137 allowance being £6 per resident. It was resolved to grant the Abbey Centre £8,000 this financial year with the VAT element to be reviewed as it could be more beneficial to purchase items for the centre rather than give them a cheque directly. A further £2,000 to be granted at the end of the financial year.

It was reported that the Memorial Hall would be approaching the Council for a grant for their roof fund in next year's budget.

4. Sure Start Centre at Wootton Primary School

Michael Robinson, Area Co-ordinator Children and Young Peoples Services NCC presented a proposed development with the Wootton Primary School. The development supported the school in achieving an extension to the school and also enabled the facility to be used as a venue for the Sure Start programme.

The Councillors supported the proposed extension to the school, if in keeping with the conservation area, but were gravely concerned about additional traffic moving into an already congested area. It was resolved to email Michael the Council's concerns and suggested that a traffic survey was conducted by the NCC traffic impact assessment team and consultation take place with the Highways department before any open consultation taking place. Concerns were also raised about the lack of a crossing patrol from the school which also needed to be considered. The councillors suggested that we worked together with the NCC to establish viability before planning permission was sort.

5. Youth Council – update

Hannah, Tizzy and Jade attended with Jenny Evans to update the Council on their progress with the new Youth Council.

The Councillors were invited to a launch of the Youth Council on the 2nd December 2009. After this date they will be ready to become involved with projects set by the Council. They will have their own notice board and be mentored by Cllrs, Bartley and Prescott.

6. Training for Councillors – update

The date of the 20th March was agreed for the Councillor's training day. Topics for the training to be decided nearer the time.

7. Community Seniors Club – update

The Senior's club have meet twice with a good attendance. They meet every other Wednesday at WCSC. The group have positive ideas about what they would like to achieve and the only concern was involving the residents from East Hunsbury more.

Cllrs Eldred and Savage agreed to come into visit the group on the 2nd Dec. in Cllr Penny's absence.

8. Internal charging of hall hire.

Discussions were held around the need to treat the community centres as separate businesses and charge for the Parish Office and Youth for use of the centres – this year this is a costing process and the monies will not be taken from the budgets of the relevant groups.

It was asked if the Community Centre meeting could become public meetings and also be held in the evenings when more Councillors could attend.

9. Finance:

- a. To approve the payments made in November 2009
It was resolved to approve the payments as correct.

10. Exclusion of press and public

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

11. Personnel matters – none raised

12. Administration and Service requests

The large green on Farmclose road is being parked on and driven over – report to NBC
Generic note to be posted in each house around the green to stop parking.
Gate at Blacky more to be painted
Dog bins to be emptied on a Thursday/Friday

13. Post

14. Date of Next meeting – Wednesday 16th December 2009 at Wootton Community & Sports Centre

Meeting closed at 9.50pm