

# ***HURLEY PARISH COUNCIL***

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HURLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 PM ON THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2010 AT THE GILCHRIST THOMAS HALL, LITTLEWICK GREEN, BERKS**

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**PRESENT:** Cllr S Harrington (Chairman)  
Cllr J Addiscott  
Cllr Mrs S Baker,  
Cllr D Burfitt,  
Cllr Mrs K McLaren  
Cllr T Pratt  
The Clerk – Mrs C Woodley  
Two candidates for the current North ward vacancy  
Borough Cllr Mrs M Hunt  
1 member of the public

### **096/10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Harrington opened the meeting with a reminder to all in attendance of the fire safety regulations for the venue of the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Cllr D Jarvis, Cllr C Westacott and Cllr G Hill.

A Declaration of Interest was made by Cllr Mrs McLaren – Ref: Planning App. 10/01519 No 2 Wickstead Cottages, Bath Road. Mrs McLaren lives close to the boundary of this property.

### **097/10. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Cllr J Addiscott proposed acceptance of the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010, seconded by Cllr Mrs K McLaren. AGREED 3 in favour, 3 abstentions. The Minutes were then signed as a true record.

### **98/10. INTRODUCTION TO THE CANDIDATES FOR THE CURRENT PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

Two applications have been received for the Parish Council to co-opt a new member into the vacancy created by the resignation of Cllr H. Sparrow. These candidates had been invited to attend the meeting and Cllr Harrington introduced Mrs M Armson and Mr H Cottrell to members. After a short discussion with each candidate, they were invited to remain but would be asked to leave the meeting when a decision would be made under Part 11 of the meeting.

### ***OPEN FORUM***

Cllr Harrington closed the meeting.

Mrs Stephenson, the applicant for 10/01539 No. 10 East Arms Place, Hurley was in attendance to answer any questions over her application. An objection had been received from a neighbour.

Mrs Stephenson then left as the meeting re-opened.

**99/10. PLANNING**

**APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED AND DISCUSSED:**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Planning No.</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>PC's Comments</b>
<b>2 WICKHURST COTTAGES, BATH ROAD, Littlewick Green</b>	10/01519	Lexington Properties	Single storey rear extension following demolition of conservatory	Concern was raised that the plans show more proposals (changes to the driveway and boundary wall) than are included in the application. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Addiscott and seconded by Cllr Mrs McLaren to <b>REJECT</b> consideration of this application and press for amended plans. <b>AGREED.</b>
<b>10 EAST ARMS PLACE, Hurley</b>	10/01539	Mrs L Stephenson	Single storey side ext. And the insertion of a roof light to hallway and rear folding doors	Cllr Burfitt proposed acceptance of this application, seconded by Cllr Mrs Baker <b>ACCEPTED</b> unanimously.
<b>BURCHETTS GREEN HOUSE, BURCHETTS GREEN ROAD, Burchetts Green</b>	10/01584	Mrs Higgins	Consent to reduce a line of conifers by up to 4m and crown reduce a eucalyptus by 30%	Cllr Harrington proposed acceptance of this application, seconded by Cllr Addiscott. <b>ACCEPTED</b> unanimously
<b>HURLEY MANOR, HIGH STREET, Hurley</b>	10/01626	Mrs Oon	To crown reduce 1 lime by 4m on large limb towards "the studio" and crown reduce up to 5.5m on central main limb and clean crown	Cllr Burfitt proposed it be <b>DEFERRED TO THE TREE OFFICER</b> , seconded by Cllr Mrs Baker. <b>AGREED.</b>

RBWM DECISIONS (no Pending Appeals) – as at Appendix B.

**100/10. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Borough Cllr Mrs M Hunt's report was received as at Appendix C.

Rising Sun License

Cllr Mrs Hunt expressed concern over the confusion of the opening times stipulated in the license and felt that the evenings allowing drinking until 1am was unfair on neighbours. Mrs Hunt wants to take the matter to a Sub-Panel and hoped for the support of the Parish Council and the Village Association in order to get a review of the times. It was agreed that the Parish Council would lend its support so Cllr Mrs Hunt will keep Councillors informed of developments.

Parking in Hurley village

The Borough has received various complaints over the signage and it was generally felt that the existing signs should be placed further down the High Street away from the junction with the A4130. Cllr Burfitt commented that there was only a month left to run with the existing arrangements and during August RBWM would be in consultation with the whole village as to its success or otherwise.

Burchetts Green Road/Honey Lane

Cllr Mrs Hunt had today received an e mail informing her that the owner of Woodside meadows wishes to have the height of the curbs dropped for vehicular access through their gate. They have been given a Deed of grant from the Forestry Commission since they are likely to go for prescriptive rights even though gates should not be put on common land. The bollard blocking the gate way has been reinstated and the owner therefore has now to prove their right of access.

Grundon – Star Works

The court case in September relates to landslip. Cllr Mrs Hunt is pressing for the long awaited liaison meeting and Cllr Mrs Baker will e mail local residents once a date is known.

**101/10. CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk’s report was received as at Appendix D.

Implementation of “Paper Free” Planning – to be an item for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting.

Hurley Shopper Bus

Discussion took place on further publicity of this service. A timetable is currently displayed at the bus stop by Shepherds Close.

Community Payback – Cllr Burfitt reported that this was already being carried out to tidy up the Parish Churchyards. Suggestions included weeding and painting in the Hurley Play Area and litter collection in the Choseley Road Play Area.

Ye Old Bell, Hurley

Cllr Addiscott reminded members that no plan had as yet been received indicating an area in red to represent the bar area for the sale and supply of alcohol. The Clerk will press further for this.

Borough Cllr Mrs Hunt and the two candidates left the meeting at 9.06pm.

**102/10. REVIEW OF THE PARISH COUNCIL’S RISK ASSESSMENT**

Cllr Harrington reported on the discussion between Councillors held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2010 which instigated the Parish Council’s new proposed Risk Assessment Document (As at Appendix E). Cllr Harrington proposed acceptance of the Accident Risk Assessment Schedule, seconded by Cllr Burfitt. AGREED with 4 votes in favour and 2 abstentions.

Cllr Harrington proposed acceptance of the Financial and Administration Risk Assessment Document, seconded by Cllr Burfitt. AGREED with 5 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

Cllr Harrington commented that the document highlighted a number of control measures which need to be implemented and to ensure that they are carried out. It was agreed to hold a further meeting to establish this. In the meantime it was AGREED to implement the erection of contact signs in both play areas as soon as possible. The Clerk will proceed to organize this.

**103/10. FORTHCOMING PARISH WALKS**

The Parish Boundary Walk takes place at 10am on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2010 to start and finish in the main car park in Hurley. Coffee at The Old Bakery, Burchetts Green (Cllr Harrington’s house). Lunch at The Cricketers’ Pub in Littlewick Green. Tea at The Priory Room in Hurley village. The Clerk was asked to send out invites to bordering Parish Councils and the Chiltern Society. To be an agenda item to give walk details, at the next Parish meeting.

The Berkshire Loop – report from Mr R Booth

“I am pleased to be able to inform you that we are about to start signing the Berkshire Loop. We are planning to have the official launch on October 10th at Stubbings **(to be confirmed)**. **Our website is: [www.chilternsociety.org.uk](http://www.chilternsociety.org.uk)** .If you have any questions please do contact me on: **07949 177401 or 01628 521185**”

**104/10. FINANCE**

To consider a request to fence the new play area at Choseley Road, Knowl Hill

Councillors had been given a copy of a letter from a resident in Choseley Road in advance of the meeting. This letter voiced grave concern that dogs were able to enter the new play area and requested the Parish Council to give consideration to erecting fencing to alleviate the problem. Mr Callum Brown RBWM has confirmed that to fence the area is not against the Playbuilder criteria and the Parish Council is therefore at liberty to do this. He also provided approximate costings as an example.

The Clerk had also sought advice from the Royal Borough's Leisure Services Dept who confirmed that there was no Borough policy to fence play areas and suggested employing the services of the Borough Dog Warden.

After discussion, Cllr Harrington proposed that the Parish Council investigates the fencing of the open sides of the play area and that the existing double gates should be locked to prevent children running out onto the road and a key to be given to the mowing contractors. Seconded by Cllr Mrs Baker. AGREED.

A proper specification to be prepared and the Clerk to seek quotes.

To consider additional insurance cover for the Parish Council's newly acquired BT kiosks.

The kiosks are currently covered under the public liability clause. Aon Ltd has offered two quotes for additional cover, valuing each kiosk at £3K:

- i) Impact by vehicle or animal = £57.03 additional premium
- ii) All Risk cover = £82.48 additional premium

Cllr Harrington proposed acceptance of the All Risk cover premium, seconded by Cllr Mrs Baker. 3 votes in favour, 3 votes against. Cllr Harrington cast the deciding vote as Chairman, IN FAVOUR of the proposal. The Clerk will organize this with the Council's Insurers. To be an item on the agenda of the next Parish meeting to discuss future use of the kiosks and implementation.

To authorise Payments as listed in the Financial Report

The Finance Report was presented as at Appendix A. The Clerk also sought authority to transfer funds from the business account to the Parish Council's current account. Cllr Burfitt proposed approval, seconded by Cllr Addiscott. AGREED unanimously.

**105/10. CORRESPONDENCE AND COUNCILLORS' FORUM**

The "Big Society" Agenda

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has been chosen to pilot the Government's Big Society Agenda and Cllr Harrington reported on the meeting that he and the Clerk had been invited to, in order to discuss generally with Borough Cllr Burbage, the Leader of the Borough Council, the options and desires of parishes which could make up this Agenda.

RBWM – 2010 Design Awards. Nominations invited for the best new development in the Borough completed between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2004 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009. Closing date – 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2010.

RBWM – Amended plans were reviewed for planting and car park layout at Ye Olde Bell, High Street, Hurley.

Copy of a letter (with photos) from a Wargrave resident over the issue of parking tickets in Hurley village on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2010. Noted.

Community Council for Berkshire – Localism and Parish Council Influence on Housing.

Since RBWM has been chosen to pilot the Government's Big Society agenda, Ms A Kersley the Rural Housing Enabler for Berks has offered to come and discuss the benefits of community housing with the Parish Council. It was decided to decline this offer at this time.

BGVA – letter from the Acting Secretary requesting permission to re-paint the Burchetts Green telephone kiosk at their own cost and providing the cost of materials (telephone box red paint). It was agreed that this was a generous offer and should be accepted.

Footpath 1 (Thames Path) Upper Horse Bridge

Cllr Burfitt read out a response from Anthony Hurst, Footpath officer RBWM over the concerns he had raised over disabled access across the river bridge. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk asks Mr Hurst to reduce the width of the gripper strips on the bridge to allow the wheels of a wheelchair to pass either side of each strip and also to point out that the scalping at the end of the bridge are too loose causing wheelchairs to dip into the surface.

Remembrance Day Wreathes

Cllr Mrs Baker reminded members that an order must soon be placed for two wreathes to be placed on the war memorials on Remembrance Sunday. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk may order two wreathes at a cost of £18.00 each.

Environment Agency Moorings at Hurley Island

Cllr Burfitt reported that the EA is now proposing to fill in the gaps between the river bank and mooring jetties with safety netting.

**106/10.**

**DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Thursday 2nd September 2010 at 7.30pm in Knowl Hill Village Hall.

The meeting then closed at 11.07pm for a Part 11 discussion.

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**PART 11**

Cllr J Addiscott proposed that Mrs Marion Armson is co-opted into the current North Ward vacancy, seconded by Cllr Mrs Baker. AGREED.

The meeting closed at 11.10pm.