

# Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING	: 19 May 2008
TIME OF MEETING	: 6.30 p m
VENUE OF MEETING	: Church Hall
TYPE OF MEETING	: <b>Annual Parish Council</b>
PRESENT	: MR D JOPSON (DJ)
VICE CHAIRMAN	: MRS D MURDOCH (DCM)
	: MISS D MILLER (DM)
	: MR D SULLIVAN (DS)
	: MR A HAIGHTON (AH)
	: MRS FLISS DAVIS (DS)
IN ATTENDANCE	: MR D BAKER (DB)
ALSO PRESENT	RUPERT CONDER

Note: Councillor David Jopson took the chair

## **1. Election of a Chairman of the Council**

1.1. Councillor David Jopson opened the meeting and asked councillors for nominations for the office of chairman of the parish council. Councillor David Sullivan was proposed, seconded and elected unanimously to the office of chairman.

Note: Councillor David Sullivan then took over as chairman of the meeting.

## **2. To elect a Vice -Chairman of the Council**

2.1. Councillor David Sullivan asked councillors for nominations for the office of vice-chairman of the parish council. Councillor Dinah Murdoch was proposed and seconded and elected unanimously to the office of vice-chairman.

## **3. Declarations of acceptance of office**

3.1. All declarations of acceptance of office were duly signed by the Chairman, the Vice Chairman and the newly elected Councillor Fliss Davis and returned to clerk for counter signature and filing.

Note: The chairman formally welcomed newly elected Councillor Fliss Davis to the meeting.

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## 4. Councillors' responsibilities

4.1. The following portfolio responsibilities were allocated to Councillors for the duration of the municipal year 2008/09:

- Councillor David Jopson Planning
- Councillor Alan Haighton Highways and Transport
- Councillor Fliss Davis Upton
- Councillor Debbie Miller Environment
- Councillor Dinah Murdoch King George V Playing Fields and HbT Primary School
- Councillor David Sullivan Health and allotments

## 5. Annual update of the register of interests

5.1. Councillors were reminded that any updates to the register of interests should be completed and signed and returned to the clerk. Councillor Fliss Davis was provided with guidance on the register of interests and Model Code of Conduct and was requested to complete her register of interests. – **FD to action**

## 6. Subscriptions

6.1. Councillors reviewed the following 3 annual subscriptions:

- Fields in Trust (previously known as the National Playing Fields Association)
- Hampshire Playing Fields Association
- Hampshire Association of Local Councils

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed all 3 subscriptions would be retained and paid for the year 2008/09 – **DB to action.**

## 7. To review trust investments

7.1. Councillors had reviewed their trust investment at the parish meeting held on 21 January 2008, Ref Item 10.4. The investment would be next reviewed in January 2009.

## 8. Apologies

8.1. None

## 9. Public participation (for information only)

9.1. None

## 10. Actions arising from the previous meeting (for information only)

10.1.

Advert for the Annual Parish meeting to be placed in the parish magazine - DJ to action - <b>Completed</b>
A small grant application to be submitted to TVBC for a car park map board - DB to action - <b>Completed</b>
HCC request for service – report the pothole in Church St outside entrance to Parsonage Farm and submit chasers on 2 previous request for service – DB to action - <b>Completed</b>
Election costs to be determined – DB to action – <b>Completed</b> – <b>Costs incurred were £35</b>
Electricity consumption in the pavilion. A weekly meter reading has been carried out from the 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2008 to date, it has confirmed an 80% increase in consumption of the same period in 2007 – to date no explanation has been forthcoming – <b>DB to continue to monitor usage</b>

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Use of depreciation in parish accounting DB to Action – A poll of about 10 other parish councils revealed that only one council made use of depreciation of fixed assets in their accounting process. HALC recommended the use of an asset register where asset values were reviewed annually for insurance purposes only. It was agreed to place depreciation on the June parish council agenda – **DB to action.**

## 11. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

11.1. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 21 April 2008 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## 12. Declarations of Interest

12.1. None.

## 13. Correspondence

13.1. The list of correspondence received during the month was read and passed to the relevant councillor.

13.2. Councillor David Sullivan had received a letter from St Peter's Church PCC requesting a grant towards the general cost of upkeep of the churchyard.

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed a donation of £450 should be made for the upkeep of the churchyard. – **DB to action.**

13.3. Councillor Reports:

Councillor David Jopson reported the following planning applications had been received:

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed the following actions would be taken:

08/01013/LBWN	24 Apr 08	Provision of stud partition to master bedroom at first floor level Ibthorpe Manor Farm, Horseshoe Lane, Ibthorpe, Andover Mr and Mrs P Jensen – <b>No Comment</b>
08/01083/TREEN	25 Apr 08	T1 – Multi stemmed Ash tree – reduce crown by up to 40%, thin by up to 30% and remove 2 stems. T2 – Ash tree - reduce crown by up to 40%, thin by up to 30%. Bramble Bank, The Dene, Hurstbourne Tarrant Leopold J Antelme – <b>No Comment</b>
08/01146/LBWN	10 May 08	Internal and external alterations to provide boiler room enclosure within log store annex to threshing barn Ibthorpe Manor Farm, Horseshoe Lane, Ibthorpe, Andover Mr and Mrs P Jensen – <b>No Comment</b>
08/01170/LBWN	13 May 08	Provision of two conservation rooflights Ibthorpe Manor Farm, Horseshoe Lane, Ibthorpe, Andover Mr and Mrs P Jensen – <b>No Comment</b>
08/01288/TREEN	17 May 08	T1 (Ash) – Reduce by one third, remove lower branch; T2 (Horse Chestnut) – reduce by one third, thin by 20%; T3 and T4 (Sycamore) – fell. Maple Ridge, The Dene, Hurstbourne Tarrant Mrs Melanie Cushieri. – <b>No Comment</b>

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Councillor Alan Houghton had nothing to report

Councillor Debbie Miller reported that the next event planned for Upton was the biennial summer BBQ to be held on the common. It was requested that the common be cut in preparation for the event.

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to donate £50 towards the cost of cutting and tiding of the common. **DB to action**

Councillor Dinah Murdoch reported that the tennis court posts and net had been installed and the court was available for public hire at £2/hr. The parish's strimmer had been reclaimed. A broken window in the pavilion had been repaired.

Councillor David Sullivan reported that all the allotments were being used and the area was generally in very good shape. In the autumn it was intended to create one additional plot at the top of the allotment site.

## 14. To appoint an internal auditor for 2008/09

**RESOLVED:** Councillors agreed to appoint Tammy King as their internal auditor for the financial year 2008/09. It was further agreed to donate £25 of vouchers as a token of the parish council's appreciation of the time she had kindly volunteered to carry the annual audit for 2007/08 - **DB to action**

## 15. Next meeting and forward plan update

15.1. The next ordinary Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 16 June 2008 in **the Pavilion** at 7.30 p.m. It was agreed to add an agenda item to discuss depreciation of fixed assets owned by the council.

## 16. Disbursements – 19th May 2008.

The following cheques were presented for signature:

Number	Payee	Amount
589	Hampshire Playing Fields Assoc	£ 20.00
590	Four Winds Court Service	£ 478.23
591	Southern Water (pavilion)	£ 45.22
592	Southern Water (allotments)	£ 18.42
593	Murdoch Farms Ltd	£ 130.43
594	St Peter's Churchyard	£ 450.00
595	John Mills donation	£ 50.00
596	Scats Country Stores	£ 25.00

**Total authorised: £1,217.30**

Meeting closed 7.15 p.m.

Signed.....

*Chairman*

Date:.....

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Appendix 1

**ACTION GROUP AGAINST SPEEDING THROUGH HURSTBOURNE TARRANT  
(AGAS)**

## **REPORT TO THE AGM OF THE PARISH COUNCIL IN MAY 2008**

1. **Introduction.** Over the last year we have made a bit of progress! A repeater post has been erected near the bus shelter on the A343 and, for one week we did have a flashing Speed Limit Reminder sign and the average speed of traffic recorded at 38mph. We should get the device back annually for one week! The 20s Plenty signs have been erected by the school and the Tesco Warehouse Planning Application has been delayed whilst the impact is further assessed. The points raised by the school's Safe Routes to School questionnaire have been raised with HCC. Other proposals, put forward during the year to the HCC, have now been assessed and some work will be done in HBT as a result. We are also in the process of arranging, in cooperation with four other parishes, to purchase a Speed Indicator Device.

The main points that we have addressed in this report are:

- a. The Andover Airfield Planning Development which could add 250 juggernauts to the traffic going through the village every day;
- b. Hampshire County Council plans for traffic calming measures;
- c. A Speed Indicator Device.

2. **Andover Airfield Planning Development number 07/01951/OUTN.** With regard to the massive Tesco Warehouse development our concern is the impact of the increase in HGV traffic. The Planning officer has stated that "...any planning permission in respect of this application would have a legally enforceable condition barring certain routes of which the A 343 would be one. Their lorries and those of their suppliers would be barred from using this route and this can be enforced".

The developer's Transport Assessment still states that there will be 1667 HGVs per 24 hours visiting the warehouse of which 15% will use the A343 as well as 35% of the cars, increasing the traffic through our village by 33.05%, that would be an extra 1,650 vehicles each day. This Assessment clearly conflicts with the assurances that have been given by the Planning Officers at TVBC and HCC. So we must ask the question: is the Transport Assessment incorrect or have the Planning Officers been misled?

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Goodmans has employed Capita Symonds Ltd to provide a Vehicle Identification System to identify vehicles abusing the ban on prohibited roads. As Tesco is removing branding from their lorries, it will be impossible for villagers along a banned route to monitor infringements.

We need to be fully satisfied on a number of points relating to this system as described in the Proposal:

a. **Conflict of Interest.** All vehicles using the banned routes will have their registration numbers scanned, but there will be a "White List" of vehicle registrations permitted to use these roads. Matched data would then be deleted. The remaining list of Tesco Vehicle registrations would be violations of the Prohibited Routes. However the client (i.e. Tesco) will maintain the White List and could, in theory, delete all its vehicles from the VRM violation report by adding them to the White List. There is a conflict of interest.

b. **Location of Cameras.** The proposed locations of the Automatic Number Plate Recognition Monitoring cameras which would allow "rat runs" to develop to avoid them. For example, HGVs going to the site from Newbury could use the A343 and turn left at the Tesco roundabout onto the A3093 and join the A303, or even go straight on from the Newbury Road to New Street, East Street, Eastern Avenue to join the A303 avoiding all the cameras. Cameras should be positioned at points on all the banned routes to prevent this. We have asked that the planning application allow for additional cameras should "rat runs" develop?

c. **Civil Liberties/Privacy Issue.** The cameras will record the registration number of all vehicles traveling along the banned routes. This would be yet another invasion of your privacy in violation of the EU directive 95/46/EC and the 1981 Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data. Of course it could also be of benefit to the police in tracking criminals ... but to whom else might your movements be passed?

d. **Further Conflict of Interest Issue.** The integrity of the database will be protected through access assignment of appropriate levels of security. But who is to decide these access rights? Only the right people should have the right access at the right times. Clearly a comprehensive software package is needed to enforce security policy and monitor. Our experience tells us that this will cost a lot. We have asked who will be responsible for appointing, paying and providing the Management Company?

e. **Public Confidence.** Unless the public is permitted to have access to the Violation Reports, confidence in the system will be lost. We have asked that the cost of enabling public access must be borne by the developer.

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f. **Funding.** The cost of maintaining this system to ensure continued high performance will be considerable and will have to be funded for the whole of the life of the Distribution Warehouse. A regime of preventative maintenance, emergency callout and fault resolution, and regular monitoring would be vital. Capita's 5 year contract for running the London congestion charging system is worth £500M for 40K vehicles per hour; the system in Andover for 80 HGV's per hour will cost millions to run and maintain. Perhaps the most important question we should ask is: how would the Andover system be funded, will this be charged to the distribution warehouse occupier (Tesco), or will the local residents be expected to pick up this bill in their Council Tax, if the latter we could expect several pounds added to our individual council tax bills all for a system which would not be needed if planning permission for this was refused?

g. **Penalty for Infringement.** The matter of penalties has not been addressed in the proposal, we have asked:

- (1). What would the penalty be if the ban were infringed?
- (2). Will there be a standing charge for each violation or an increasing charge so that every violation is more punitive?
- (3). Who would be responsible for judging the infringements and imposing any penalty?

(4). Who would be the beneficiary of any fine, the parish councils of the villages that been inconvenienced, TVBC, HCC or the Treasury?

(5). If frequent infringements occurred could court injunctions be imposed?

(6). Would Parish Councils and/or private citizens be able to take out civil cases against Tesco if the ban is infringed?

(7). How are the "one off deliveries" accommodated in this Index system?... HGV's that deliver once and never again?... foreign HGV etc

(8). Lifting the Ban. When the A34 or A303 is blocked by an accident, the police have diverted all traffic along the A343. Would the ban still operate in such an event, and, if not, how would the system be aware that the use of a banned road was authorised?

h. **Amendment to the Transport Assessment.** As the developer's Transport Assessment still states that 15% of the HGVs will use the A343, it needs to be rewritten to show where the banned traffic will go, diverting all the traffic off the banned routes onto the permitted routes could have a significant impact elsewhere.

***We need satisfactory answers to these and other questions before withdrawing opposition to the Planning Application.***

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**3. Traffic Calming Project.** In relation to our Traffic Calming in the village, the North West Hampshire Action Team has stated that:

- a. The central hatching on the A343 Newbury Road will be reduced in width and the portion of hatching taken will be moved to both sides of the road to give greater separation between pedestrians on the pavement and vehicles on the road on the South-East side and to give greater visibility to residents on the North West side of the road when exiting their driveways.
- b. There is due to be a speed limit review of the A343 and on the B3048 during the year.
- c. The signage off the Andover Ring Road will be reviewed; however, as most HGVs now have Sat-nav systems, even if the signs are changed, it is not likely to have much benefit.
- d. A more defined village boundary, particularly at the North West end of the village might have a significant impact on vehicle speeds. A plan for a new village sign, gates and road markings has been submitted to TVBC for a cost estimate.
- e. The proposals put forward for the school crossing point on the A343 for consideration were discussed. Advice was given that in relation to:

(1) Two mini-roundabouts: Mini-roundabouts are currently “out of fashion” and such changes to the priority of an A road would be unlikely to be approved.

(2) A 20mph zone in The Square: At present such a speed limit on an A road would not be approved.

(3) Pushing the SE crossing point kerb out: This will be the subject of further discussion with HCC as the most likely to receive funding.

**4. Speed Indicator Device.** HCC told us that it has no funding available for Speed Indicator Devices and that we should co-ordinate our requirement and funding with some other parishes. Tangley, Enham Alamein, Vernham Dean and Smannell have expressed such an interest and we are trying to get a firm commitment from all of them as soon as possible so that we can place an order. The sooner this is done, the sooner we should get the benefits. HBT has already allocated sufficient funding for a 20% share of a Speed Indicator Device.

**5. Other Developments.** Although the Tesco Megashed planning application if approved would have the most significant impact on the

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village, I should mention that there are two other large developments proposed which might also have a serious impact on our traffic problem. These are the ASDA warehouse at Solstice Park on the A303 in Amesbury and the ProLogis distribution warehouse at Greenham Park in Newbury.

5. Summary. We have made some progress during the year but it is apparent that with limited funding, several levels of committee to discuss our proposals and many interested parties, we must maintain our pressure and keep our focus on the safety of our village and particularly on the children. As the A343 was built for chariots, carts and coaches the village is not an ideal thoroughfare for modern traffic, so we must persevere with adapting the village to keep it safe.