

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING	: 19 th April 2010
TIME OF MEETING	: 7.30 p m
VENUE OF MEETING	: CHURCH HALL
TYPE OF MEETING	: ORDINARY
PRESENT	: MR D JOPSON (DJ)
	: MRS FLISS DAVIS (FD)
	: MR A HAIGHTON (AH)
CHAired BY	: MRS DINAH MURDOCH (DCM)
IN ATTENDANCE	: MR D BAKER (DB)
ALSO PRESENT	: CLLR PAM MUTTON (HCC) : CLLR PETER GIDDINGS (TVBC) : RUPERT CONDER

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies were received from Councillors Debbie Miller and David Sullivan.

2. Public participation

2.1 None.

3. Actions arising from the previous meeting:

3.1

Countryside Access map-board. Councillor David Sullivan would make alternative arrangements to have the map-board installed in the parish car park – DS to action – Completed
Speed Limit Reminder signs have continued to perform poorly. All four parishes involved with the system were complaining to both TVBC and the manufacturers to get the product defects and the service improved. Cllr David Jopson and Rupert Conder were tasked to continue their work with the other parishes to get their complaints addressed by TVBC. – DJ and RC to action. Meeting scheduled by the 4 Parish Councils with TVBC/Manufacturer on 28 April, Cllr P Mutton (HCC) will attend.
A letter was received from St Peter's PCC requesting a donation towards the upkeep of the churchyard. It was agreed to review this request at the April parish council meeting. The clerk was instructed to place this item on the April agenda – DB to action. Completed
Councillor Dinah Murdoch reported that the railings in Church St were due to be repainted. The clerk was instructed to place this item on the agenda for discussion at the April meeting. – DB to action. Completed

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

4. Approval of minutes of the meeting 15th March 2010

4.1 The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 15th March 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Declarations of Interest

5.1 None.

6. AGAS report

6.1 Rupert Conder presented the April AGAS report:

6.2 Please see Appendix 1 for full report details.

6.3 It was agreed to discuss at the June parish meeting residents' proposals for:

- 30mph Roundel at the North end of the village vs introducing a 40 mph buffer zone
- Use of yellow hatching on the narrow parts of Ibthorpe road near the A343 junction.

DB to action.

6.4 Proposal for 'gates' and the design of a new village sign at the north end of the village would be taken to the Annual Parish meeting for discussion and approval by parishioners.

6.5 Cllr Pam Mutton (HCC) informed the meeting that the HCC 'HATS aspirations document' did not include the expected road safety improvements planned for Hurstbourne Tarrant – this would be challenged by Cllr Pam Mutton.

7 Correspondence

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

7.2 . To consider a donation request from St Peter's church to assist with the upkeep and maintenance of the churchyard.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that a donation of £500 be made to St Peter's church towards the upkeep of the churchyard. - **DB to action.**

7.3 Notification from the Ramblers North Hampshire Downs Group about the creation of a long distance footpath (82 miles Andover – Aldershot) created in the memory of Brenda Parker that will go through Hurstbourne Tarrant. Route passes through Hurstbourne Tarrant – Grid Reference 3682 5128 Smannell FP7 continuing as Hurstbourne Tarrant FP 22 to A343 at Rag Copse. Trevor Wheeler was asked to confirm details of the exact route – **TW to action.**

8 Planning Applications

8.1 The following planning applications were discussed:

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that the actions documented below would be taken:

10/00636/LBWN	30 Mar 10	Internal alterations to include works to internal roof structure and raising floor level Upton House, Upton, Andover, Hampshire Mr and Mrs Edward Farquharson – No comment
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9 Councillors' reports:

9.1 Councillor Dinah Murdoch had nothing to report.

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

- 9.2 Councillor Alan Houghton had nothing to report.
- 9.3 Councillor Fliss Davis had nothing to report.
- 9.4 Councillor David Jopson commented on the release by TVBC of the publication of the Hurstbourne Tarrant & Ibthorpe Conservation Area – Character Appraisal. It was noted that there was a section that reported the church hall as a village amenity.

10 Clerk's report

- 10.1 ROSPA play-area safety inspections were scheduled to take place in May.
- 10.2 Summer parish council meetings would be held in the church hall. The clerk was instructed to make the additional bookings – **DB to action.**
- 10.3 HCC countryside services small grant scheme for 2010 had been announced. Details would be passed to Trevor Wheeler for consideration - **DB to action.**
- 10.4 Details of a training session provided by HALC informing parish councils on grant funding opportunities and bid submissions had been passed to Cllr David Sullivan and Andrew Russell for consideration in support of the new community centre project.
- 10.5 Dominic McGrath had been appointed as the HCC Traffic and Transport manager replacing Martin Wiltshire.

11 Agenda Planning – finalise agendas for:

- Annual Parish Council meeting was agreed.
- Annual Parish meeting was adjusted to reduce the number of planned individual speakers to allow more time for public discussion and questions.

12 Financial reporting for 2009/10:

- 12.1 David Baker briefly presented on the results of the internal audit carried out by Tammy King on the 9th April.
- 12.2 Councillors approved the following:
 - RESOLVED:** Approve the terms of reference for internal audit.
 - RESOLVED:** Councillors completed the review of Effectiveness of the Internal Audit and agreed to adopt the recommendations made to improve its effectiveness.
Councillor Dinah Murdoch agreed to act as the internal controller for the parish council - **DCM to action.**
 - RESOLVED:** Agreed that the statement of accounts contained in section 1 of the Annual Return fairly represented the financial position of the Council.
 - RESOLVED:** Approved the council's accounts and agreed to the Responsible Financial Officer and the Chairman signing section 1 of the Annual Return.
 - RESOLVED:** Approved the Annual Governance Statement and agreed to the Responsible Financial Officer and the Chairman signing section 2 of the Annual Return.
 - RESOLVED:** Noted Section 4 of the Annual Return together with any comments or recommendations arising from the internal audit.
 - RESOLVED:** Approved the financial report for 2009/10.
 - RESOLVED:** Approved the setting up of a chairman's allowance of £100.00 in 2010/11 subject to Cllr David Sullivan's agreement.

13 Railings in Church St –

- 13.1 Routine maintenance of the railings in Church Street was due.

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to the maintenance being carried out to the repaint the railings in Church St – **DCM to action.**

14 To review and approve the draft Annual Report

14.1 A draft Annual Report was presented. It was noted several sections required further update by councillors – **DS, DCM, AH, FD & DM to action.**

RESOLVED: Subject to updates being completed, approved the draft Annual Report for publication at the Annual Parish meeting on 17th May 2010.

15 Next meeting and forward plan update

15.1 The **Annual Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council** meeting will be held on Monday 17th May 2010 in the **Church Hall** at **6.30 p.m.**

15.2 Forward plan agenda items:

- Election of Chairman and election of Vice-chairman
- Declarations of Office
- Councillors' responsibilities in 2010/11
- Annual update of register of interests
- To appoint an internal auditor for 2010/11

To be followed by the **Annual Parish** meeting at 7.30 pm.

16 Disbursements – 19th April 2010.

16.1 The following cheques were presented for signature:

Number	Payee		Amount
718	HALC	Subscription	£ 217.00
719	D R Baker	Clerk's fees	£ 198.82
720	SLCC	Subscription	£ 72.00
721	Southern Water	Allotments	£ 12.35
722	B M Kitson	Fencing	£ 187.41
723	Southern Electric	Pavilion	£ 255.27
724	Tangley PC	SLR repair	£ 21.35
725	R Scull	Mapboard	£ 52.00
726	Murdoch Farms Ltd	Maintenance	£ 169.20

Total authorised: £1185.40

PART 2 Confidential Business under Standing Orders 38 and 68 – The public and press were excluded from the following agenda item.

17.1 A discussion and update on the planned sale of the church hall took place. It was noted that the sale of the church hall had been withdrawn – no further action was planned.

Meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date:.....

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

Appendix 1.

ACTION GROUP AGAINST SPEEDING THROUGH HURSTBOURNE TARRANT (AGAS)

REPORT TO THE PARISH COUNCIL APRIL 2010

1. Rupert Conder reported that he has been in corresponding with Martin Wiltshire of HCC by email. Unfortunately Martin is being transferred to another job within HCC and will no longer be responsible for Test Valley. A new Traffic Manager will be appointed in May.

2. **Safe Routes to School crossing of A343.** Martin Wiltshire commented that the existing width of the carriageway at the crossing point is already relatively narrow when taking into account the swept path of vehicles negotiating the tight bends on the A343. It could not be reduced further by extending the footway on the south east side without adjusting the kerb line on the opposite side of the road, which would reduce the visibility for pedestrians on the opposite side of the road, thus swapping the issue for pedestrians from one side of the road to the other. The design of the crossing is a careful balance of the physical constraints of the highway. In response, I replied that we accepted that the carriageway was probably a minimum width and that some of the larger vehicles which use this road have difficulty in negotiating the tight curves, frequently cross the centre line and sometimes even mount the pavement on the other side of the road. But he had agreed with me that the visibility improvement on pushing out the south side by a foot would be significantly greater than the loss of visibility from the other side of the road. I therefore requested a HCC Highways Safety Survey to see if, by implementing an adjustment, the safety of the Safe Routes to School crossing could be improved. I also pointed out that he had acknowledged that, even with a florescent jacket on and at a relatively "quiet" time of day when there was little traffic about, crossing the road at this point safely was a challenge.

I requested that this Safety Survey is done at the same time as the Safety Survey of the Bus Stop opposite the Bus Shelter

3. **Bus Stop opposite the Bus Shelter on the A343.** Martin Wiltshire stated that a safety survey of the Bus Stop on the A343 opposite the Bus Shelter would be followed up at the earliest opportunity. The further investigation of traffic management matters in Hurstbourne Tarrant is included in the 2010/11 Traffic Management programme which has recently been endorsed by the Test Valley Hampshire Action Team. The various issues to be investigated will be progressed as soon resources permit,

4. **Outstanding Items.** Martin said that he would arrange for the following three items of the outstanding works to be followed up and provided as appropriate at the earliest opportunity.

- a. **Extension of the Edge marking to the bus shelter and to the Post Office.**
- b. **The Installation of three Gladiator bollards at the Upton Lane/A343 Junction.**
- c. **HCC Installation of a timber bollard on the South East side of the school crossing.**

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

5. **Installation of Speed Camera signs.** In the first instance HCC will need to check with the Police and Safer Roads Partnership to see if Hurstbourne Tarrant is one of their enforcement sites, otherwise these signs cannot be provided. I may have to point out that a precedent exists for such signs in Enham.

6. **Disabled Parking at the school.** Martin sent a plan detailing the extent of the public Highway outside the school. The track to the pavilion is not public highway but is a Right of Way 'footpath'. He is still trying to obtain details of the ownership of the right of way, and will advise us accordingly as soon as possible.

7. **Constructive suggestions made by residents** . He commented:

a. **30 mph Roundel at North end of village.** The provision of a 30 mph roundel at the north end of the village will be considered subject to the outcome of County-wide review of the speed limits on the entire A & B road network which is currently being progressed. There have been initial discussions about reducing the extent of the 30 mph limit, bringing it closer into the village and introducing a 40 mph buffer speed limit. It would therefore be sensible to await the outcome of this review before installing a 30 mph roundel on the road and/or developing any gateway enhancement features. ***He requested to learn the view of the Parish Council on the previously suggested speed limit changes.***

b. **A large "Dangerous Junction" sign on the A343 Andover Hill.** There are no authorised "Dangerous junction" signs that could be provided in the circumstances. The layout of the A343 through the village and presence of the side roads to/from Upton and St. Mary Bourne are already conveyed on appropriate road signs on the approaches to the junction. Warning signs are also provided on the approaches to the junction warning of the likelihood of children crossing the road ahead, road narrow signs, chevrons for the bend together with appropriate road markings. The personal injury accident record for this location is, thankfully, very good.

c. **The construction of a pavement on the A343 bridge over the River Swift to provide greater safety for pedestrians and create a much needed pinch point to slow vehicles coming down the hill.** We receive many requests for improvements such as the construction of new sections of footways. Unfortunately the demand for improvements of this nature exceed the resources available. We have therefore placed your suggestion of a footway on the bridge over the River Swift on our Community Aspirations database. The database is reviewed periodically and work for further investigation is prioritised for action by members through the Hampshire Action Team committee process.

d. **Yellow hatching throughout the Square.** Yellow box hatch markings are provided at busy signal controlled junctions where traffic regularly queues across the junction. The marking is placed within the junction itself to keep the controlled area clear of queuing traffic therefore helping to ensure the efficient operation of the signals. These markings can also be used on a main road at a priority junction when queuing traffic on the main road regularly prevents traffic from entering or exiting the side road. The introduction of such markings on the A343 through The Square would be inconsistent with the prescribed uses.

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

e. Yellow hatching on the narrow parts of Ibthorpe Road to discourage drivers from blocking the road. Yellow Box markings are also sometimes effective in combination with priority signs to break queues through an exceptionally narrow pinch point and enable an opposing flow to continue without unnecessary delay. The marking may be used for this purpose only if the carriageway width is less than 4.5 m at the narrowest point. There are no proposals at present to introduce a priority working system and such a scheme would need careful consideration. The location of the give way line would need to be positioned so that vehicles could pass by each other, take into account location of accesses/driveways, inter-visibility between drivers at the give way line and vehicles entering from the A343, location of signs which are visually intrusive etc.

However a previous proposal for a Keep Clear marking was developed for this section of road and I have enclosed a copy of the drawing for your information. This matter was discussed with local residents and the Parish Council but at the time it was considered that the road marking alone would not address all of the issues. Such a road marking is likely to discourage drivers from blocking the road and I would be happy to provide the marking **if the proposal was supported by the Parish Council.**

f. Raised pavement edges in Ibthorpe Road to discourage drivers from mounting the kerb, thereby endangering pedestrians. The main objective was to improve pedestrian safety around and across the A343. This was achieved by the narrowing of Upton Road so as to provide a footway to give pedestrians some protection. An over-run strip was included to assist larger vehicles and does enable two smaller vehicles to pass when turning in or out of the A343. The scheme implemented in Upton Lane followed extensive consultation with the school, residents and Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council. The aim of the scheme was to improve pedestrian safety in the vicinity of the A343. Within Upton Lane itself the carriageway has been narrowed to allow a footway to be provided to assist pedestrians. In order to achieve this there was really no other option along Upton Lane other than to reduce the space available to vehicles. The Safer Routes to School Scheme was subject to a safety audit following its construction and no issues were raised concerning Upton Lane. In the circumstances the currently layout and objectives of the scheme would not accommodate raised kerb lines.

g. Double white lines extended to the end of the 30 mph zone at the North End of the village to discourage drivers from accelerating to, often, 60 mph or more to overtake whilst still inside the 30 mph zone. Double white lines are subject to strict criteria and are used to prevent overtaking where visibility is severely restricted. The minimum forward visibility distance criteria for a system of double white lines at the north end of the village is likely to be significantly higher than the minimum requirement.

8. Gates and a new village sign at North end of the village. At the last Parish Council meeting it was decided that the design of the new village sign and gates at the North End of the village should be shown and approval sought at the AGM. The matter is therefore on hold. If any other artists would like to submit their designs before the AGM they could still be considered. When the design has been approved, I will ask for

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

quotations as those already approached cannot give one without more detail. I am grateful to those who have taken the time and effort to submit designs.

9. **Speed Limit Reminder Signs**. Two SLRs are currently in HBT on the A343 and are having their "calming effect" on the speed of most cars. I am most grateful to David Jopson for the work he continues to put in to this project on behalf of HBT and to Pam Mutton and TVBC for their support.

If you have any constructive ideas to make the village safer and to reduce the speed of traffic through it, please telephone Rupert Conder on 01264 736346

