

Hullavington Parish Council Newsletter #1

<http://www.hullavingtonparishcouncil.org.uk/>

Hullavington Parish Council would like to improve communications with parishioners, the difficulty is finding the right ways to make sure nobody is left out, it is very easy to say visit the web site, the information is on there but not everybody has access to such communication.

The Parish Council recognises the need for a broader means to communicate important messages to all parishioners, this newsletter is the first step towards building more open two-way communications with parishioners.

Some quick information for everyone:

- The Parish Council meets on the second Wednesday in the month, except August, at 7.30pm in the village hall, everyone is welcome to attend. There is a 10-minute public question time at the beginning of the meeting, where parishioners can put a question to the Council, advanced notice of such questions is usually helpful.
- If you have access please use the Parish Council's website for information, there are several links to different websites that may be useful or of interest to you including Wiltshire Council, and several of its departments.
- The Clerk is available to be contacted by telephone, 01249 659842 answerphone available, or 07807 723609, or email hpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk. Please be mindful that the Clerk is part time.

Neighbourhood Development Plan:

The development by the school has passed the **Outline** Planning Application stage, but there are mixed messages going around the parish about the Provision of Open Space, the Play Area and Equipment, s106 monies and ownership of the open space.

A few simple facts to think about first, Neighbourhood Development Plans and their Policies are really helpful for communities such as ours and they must:

- Be pro-development and "evidence based".
- Neighbourhood Plans are only sound if they follow their planning policies.

Planning policies at all levels exist to:

- Set out requirements in advance of development – planning is about the future.
- Inform and guide decisions on planning applications.
- Ensure a multitude of individual decisions add up to something coherent for the area as a whole.

Without planning policies every planning decision would be made in isolation. Neighbourhood Plan policies are useful on the ground tools but sit below all Local Planning Authority Policies.

The Hullavington Neighbourhood Development Plan has 3 distinct Policies that directly relate to:

1. The Village Boundary
2. Specific to the New Development by the School (690)
3. Applicable to all other planning applications

As the PC Chair and ex Chair of the HNDP Steering Group, I encourage all parishioners to familiarise yourselves with the Neighbourhood Development Plan in particular policy 2, and what does it say in there that the developer must deliver.

Our policies are the only legally enforceable elements of a plan – The Developer – Wiltshire Council and The Parish Council must ensure development within the Parish comply with Policies 1, 2 and 3. Nothing else within the Plan is enforceable – it is guiding an outcome, and aspirations that may or may not be realised.

All Planning Applications are Applicant and Wiltshire Council Led. Applications first and foremost must meet with Local Planning Authority approval, all consultations are open to anyone to comment on, the only legally binding route to consultation is owned and managed by Wiltshire Council.

During the development of the HNBP, Hannick Homes committed to deliver, and agreed by the Steering Group, the following:

Option 2 will provide the following:

- About 70 houses of which about 40% (about 28 houses) will be in the form of low cost/affordable homes.
- 0.2 hectares of land for the expansion of the primary school.
- Provision of land for additional off street car parking area for the school and construction of a car park.
- New public parkland for the wider community to enjoy. There will be scope within this area for ecological enhancements, for example, water meadows along the stream running through the site.
- New equipped children's play area and also informal natural play features for children within the public park.
- Circular walk for local residents within the public park and enhanced green corridor through the proposed development along the public right of way and connecting to The Street.

The above will be provided on site, more detail will come forward in the Landscape Design – to be agreed between the Developer and Wiltshire Council as part of the Reserved Planning Matters.

Hot Topic s106 Monies:

Hannick Homes has provided a summary report of the s106 monies and drawings associated with the development and infrastructure which is available to be viewed on Wiltshire Council's website and the Parish Council website has a link to the planning application page. These will be of interest to you all where the Open Space Ownership is concerned.

There is no explicit detail as to what monies would have been commuted to the Parish Council, had Wiltshire Council, Hannick Homes and Landowner decided to pass the s106 liabilities to the Parish Council. The Parish Council must know what it is taking on before making irreversible decisions, which could potentially leave parishioners open to uncapped liabilities in perpetuity.

Commuting the management/maintenance responsibility for the upkeep of public open space and play equipment on developments to a management company is normal practice throughout the county. Town and Parish Councils do not have the resource or expertise to manage the 3 yearly contracts tendering burden, and onward monitoring.

Best Kept Village Competition:

The entry is in, but we are increasingly a working village and have not been looking our best of late.

Usually judging takes place in May each year, so please support your village entry, it is not just about your personal property, it is about clean and tidy villages, so if the road is a little dirty outside your homes if you would like to, please tidy it up don't wait for a road sweeper.

General Village Issues:

The roads will be swept through, and blocked gullies emptied, but in the meantime, please be mindful that not all the roadside farm debris through the village is generated by our local Farmers. Land around the village is rented out to other farmers from further afield who also use the highways to reach the land.

Projects:

One of the projects in development is the consideration of the garden area behind the bus shelter in the centre of the village adjacent to Watts Lane. The wall is falling into a state of disrepair, and before it needs emergency attention the Parish Council is looking at options it could take. One would be to rebuild the wall as it is. Another option put forward is to lower the wall and garden with a raised kerbing and railing around the perimeter to define the area with possibly a seating area. Please let the Parish Council know your thoughts, either on hpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk or drop your suggestions into the Chairman, Graeme Slaymaker, at 1 Hill Hayes Lane.

Replacement of the missing piece of Village Green Railing and providing seating for the Parklands Bus Shelter.

The Speed Indicator Device is to be replaced by a Solar Powered version that will be permanently sited at the Grittleton end of the village – highest percentile speeds recorded entering that end of village during recent surveys. It has arrived and is waiting for installation.

For the Kings Coronation, the Parish Council will be brightening up the village with red, white, and blue bunting on the Village Green Railings, Watts Lane Garden and the two Bus shelters, sorry, the King has expressed that he does not want beacons to be lit for his Coronation.

Hullavington Community Emergency Plan:

The plan is undergoing an annual review and has identified that the more volunteers there are the more resilient the plan will be. Councillors Atkey and House are leading on the update and seeking volunteers, they would be happy for you to discuss what it is they are looking for volunteers to do, so please contact them direct by e-mail:

jonatkeyhpc@gmail.com or mandyhouse.hpc@gmail.com

Precept and Annual Budget:

On receiving your annual Council Tax Statement, you may have noticed the reduction in your village Precept Payment by 27%. The Parish Council this year decided to keep the budget extremely tight, we are conscious that in the current financial climate, people need support. Good control will be required to make it through the year on the current budget level though, but there are reserves should we need to use them.

For information purposes the annual budget is agreed at the January Parish Council Meeting. Leading up to that meeting, it is important that the Parish Council gets to know about what low-cost projects that parishioners may want to bring forward that a slight increase in the precept would support, either short term or long term. So, before September 2023, think about what projects you may have that you would like to discuss with your Parish Council. Don't wait for a Parish Council meeting send the information in to the Clerk.

Village Initiatives:

Hullavington Oil Purchase Scheme – costs nothing to sign up, when registered with the scheme Ford Fuels will e-mail you the weekly price, you don't have to purchase, you can still shop around. Minimum order 500Litres with a 5 working day delivery target. For more information contact hullavingtonoil@gmail.com or myself on 01666 837073 if you don't have access to e-mail and I will pop a form round to you.

Community Fibre Broadband Scheme - Thanks to Sarah Tompkins and Toni-Anne Grant the Community Fibre Upgrade is back on track and progressing well. For those that signed up you will be kept informed on progress to roll out.

Message from the Chairman:

My work and weekend activities very often take me a way from the village, but I will make myself available for a one-to-one chat if that is a better way for you to get a message across to the Council. So please don't hesitate to contact me on 01666 837073, I will be happy to arrange a discussion with you.

Communications Questionnaire

If you would like to receive communications from the Parish Council, please complete the form below and pop it into the Chairmans House, **1 Hill Hayes Lane, Hullavington, Chippenham, Wilts, SN14 6EB.**

Alternatively download a copy of the form from <http://www.hullavingtonparishcouncil.org.uk/>

Fill it out and e-mail to the PC Clerk hpcclerk@yahoo.co.uk

Please complete the following:

I would like to receive information from the Parish Council (**Strike Through**) **YES / NO**

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I would like to receive the information by leaflet through my door, (personal details will not be used for any other purpose) my address is

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I would like to receive information via email, (your e-mail will not be used for any other purpose) my email address is

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I would like to visit the website to obtain information

.....

I would like to receive information via social media, my preferred platform is

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The above will help the Parish Council to improve communications with you all.