

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 9 December 2014

Present: Cllrs P Corke (Chair), A Gribble (Vice Chair), L Brooks-Payne, S Hall, A White.

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

7.1 To receive apologies for absence: Cllr Lloyd due to work commitments.

7.2 To consider requests for dispensation and pecuniary & other interests on items on the agenda: None.

7.3 To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public: None.

7.4 To approve minutes of the Council Meeting on 11 November: Resolved: The minutes of the 11 November Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

7.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: Cllr Corke attended the Fields in Trust Awards. Cllr Hall attended the Market.

7.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: A letter from Datchworth Parish Council offering support in the progress of the WHBC Local Plan. A copy of a letter residents in Holly Road have sent to the Housing Trust. Notification from a resident that the dog bin in New Road has been erected in the wrong place. A letter from a resident complaining of the noise during the night by the road workers and about parking by Marshall's. The Herts Traffic & Transport Data Report 2014. Notification that "Prohibition of Stopping and Restriction of Waiting Order" will become enforceable on 15th December.

7.7 Planning: *(Cllrs Lloyd)*

- a) N6/2014/2337/MA 59 London Road, Retention of nursing home with respite care and ancillary services: No objection.
- b) N6/2014/2330/TP 6 New Road, Fell ash tree and reduce six ash trees by 50% covered by TPO 105: The Council objected to the application as there was no evidence the trees were diseased or a danger to property.
- c) 14/2014/2285/FP 4 Wolvscroft, Conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation: No decision to report.
- d) 14/02153/1 Solar farm, Swangley's Lane: The application was withdrawn from the committee meeting in November as the applicant submitted amendments. WGPC notified NHDC that its objection was to stand. The revised proposal will now be considered at the next NHDC committee meeting on 17 December.
- e) 14/2014/2433/FP Erection of four semi-detached dwellings following the demolition of existing public house: No objection although the Council will comment to highlight the need for sufficient parking and ask that the trees be preserved.

7.8 Hall & Grounds: *(Cllrs Corke & Lloyd)*

- a) To receive a report on the fire doors: Resolved: To accept a quote for £1,048+vat.
- b) To discuss boilers: The service of the boilers reported that all needed work. One of the boilers in the loft is uneconomical to repair and it was recommended that both boilers be replaced by one boiler. This was estimated at £3,542. Further quotes will be obtained.
- c) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspections: Inspections have been carried out each weekend except 6/7 December due to bad weather and are satisfactory. The annual inspection had just been received and there were no major issues.
- d) To discuss stop net: No progress to report.
- e) To consider costings for erecting a seat at the hall grounds: The cost of a bench including fixing would cost £450 and Cllrs agreed to reconsider this in the Spring.

7.9 Finance: *(Cllr Hall)*

- a) To receive and approve the payments and accounts for November: These had been circulated. Resolved: To approve payments and accounts for November.
- b) To discuss the 2015/16 budget: No new items were added.
- c) To consider a donation to the Church: Deferred until next meeting.
- d) To consider paying staff in accordance with the National Salary Award: A staffing committee meeting will be held in January to discuss the pay rise which is payable from 1 January 2015. Resolved: To pay the one off payments in December and for Cllr Brooks-Payne to replace Cllr Gribble on the Staffing Committee.
- e) To consider paying staff a Christmas bonus: To pay all staff a £25 Christmas bonus.

7.10 Environment (Cllr White) & Transport: (Cllr Gribble)

- a) To receive a report on PPP work: Work to footpath 24 is completed. An application will be submitted for next year's work in due course and work has been identified.
- b) To receive a report on trees requiring a TPO: No progress to report.
- c) To discuss planters: A quote to move one of the planters to the southern entrance of the village is too costly.
- d) To discuss the new road scheme: WHBC received a complaint about parents parking on the verge opposite the school and this was passed on to the head teacher. A warden will visit on occasions before the end of the year. The Clerk has a contact number for the warden team if inconsiderate parking becomes unacceptable.

7.11 To receive a report on the Fields in Trust awards: The Chairman attended the Fields in Trust awards where many people were interested to hear about Woolmer Green's project. Woolmer Green did not win but had stiff competition from winners Belfast City Council who had moved a river in a multi-million pound project. There had been a large number of entrants to the awards and most Councils were bigger than Woolmer Green so it was a great achievement to be a finalist.

7.12 To consider registering a community asset: Cllrs discussed the feasibility of registering the furniture shop and The Red Lion.

7.14 To receive announcements. *(for information only):*

- a) Cllrs signed the Christmas Parish Cards.
- b) Carols 'round the Pond will be on Christmas Eve at 4.30pm.

7.15 Date of next meeting Tuesday 13 January at 7.30pm.

JRP 10.12.14

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____