

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 8 March 2016

Present: Cllrs A Gribble (Chairman), P Corke (Vice Chairman), J Hawkins, A White.

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk). Member of the public.

10.1 To receive apologies for absence: Cllr S Hall due to a prior engagement.

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

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

10.4 To approve minutes of the Council Meeting on 9 February: Resolved: The minutes of the 9 February Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: Cllrs Corke, Hawkins and White attended the February Market. Cllrs Gribble and Hall attended the HAPTC Neighbourhood Planning Workshop (see 10.7g).

10.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: An invitation from Historic England to comment on their initial assessment of the war memorial (see 10.7f). Copy of a letter from a resident sent to Monks Walk School objecting to their admissions rules. A letter from HCC calling for sites to be considered for inclusion in the Herts Minerals Local Plan. A letter from UK Power Networks (see 10.12). A letter from Head of CMS referring to guidance on treatment of crassula helmsii. Notification on the date of the Highways Liaison Meeting; 23 March. A letter from Barclays Bank informing of changes to the Terms and Conditions of the Business Savings account.

10.7 Planning: (*Cllr Corke*)

a) 6/2015/1645/FULL, Mardleybury Farm, Change of use from light industrial (B1) to cafes and restaurants (A3) to facilitate the move of the existing cafe from Unit 3c to Unit 1: No objection.

b) 6/2016/0216/PN8, 9 Wolves Mere, Prior approval for a single storey rear extension measuring 4.5m deep, 3.58m, high and 2.4m. to the eaves: No objection.

c) 6/2015/2430/HOUSE 2 Mardleybury Court, Erection of a part single and part two storey front extension: Application granted.

d) 6/2015/1972/COND, The Fox, 21 New Road, Approval of details reserved by condition 2 (materials), condition 3(landscaping), condition 4 (highways report), condition 5 (construction method statement), condition 6, 7 and 8 (archaeological scheme) on planning permission N6/2015/0560/FP: No progress to report.

e) To receive progress of registering the Red Lion as a Community Asset: The application has been submitted to WHBC.

f) To consider commenting on Historic England's initial assessment of the war memorial: The assessment is comprehensive and the Council had no further comments.

g) To receive a report on the HAPTC Neighbourhood Planning Workshop: The workshop covered policy writing, evidence gathering, engagement & consultation, supporting documentation, submission & referendum. A Neighbourhood Plan typically takes 2 years to produce. It is important to be clear on what the objectives of a Plan should be before deciding whether to produce a Neighbourhood Plan.

10.8 Hall & Grounds: (*Cllrs Corke & Hawkins*)

a) To consider three year proposal for maintenance of the hall grounds: The proposal is to freeze the cost of maintenance for two years and increase it by RPI but not exceeding 5% in the third year.

Resolved: To accept the proposal.

Action: Clerk.

b) To receive a report on the school Friends circus event: The booking has been confirmed and the Friends are awaiting the paperwork. Parking information will be well publicised to avoid problems. The Friends will have a presence at Village Day where tickets will be on sale.

c) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: Inspections have been carried out each weekend and are satisfactory. The mound in the Garden Road playground has paving laid on it which protrudes but this area is little used and was not mentioned in the annual inspection.

d) To receive a report & consider quote for Garden Road playground: One bench in the playground has been fitted with new legs and the remains of the other bench has been removed. Awaiting quote for bark resurfacing.

10.9 Finance: (*Cllr Hall*)

a) To receive and approve the payments and accounts for February: Cllr Hall sent comments on the accounts which had been circulated. Resolved: To approve payments and accounts for February.

10.10 Environment (Cllr White) & Transport: (Cllr Gribble & Wilson)

- a) To receive a report on PPP work for 2016: The grant application and quote has been submitted for approval.
 - b) To review progress of trees requiring a TPO: The TPO for the trees round the Church has been served. Paperwork for a TPO for trees on the Entech site will be progressed this week.
 - c) To discuss highways matters: Waiting for the results of the Safety Audit on the B197 scheme. No volunteer has come forward offering to paint the mile post.
 - d) To consider quote for repositioning south planters: Resolved: To accept the quote of £296+vat to reposition the planters. **Action: Clerk.**
 - e) To discuss Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trusts Living Landscapes initiative: The Wildlife Trust is working with Stevenage Borough Council to create wild flower margins in the town to connect wildlife habitats. The Council agreed to ask the Trust if they have considered working with WHBC. **Action: Cllr Hawkins.**
- 10.11** To receive a report on the Allotments: The Allotments are to hold a Committee Meeting on 15 March to discuss whether dwarf trees are permitted and accumulation of rubbish.
- 10.12** To discuss UK Power Networks Partnership working: UK power networks are looking to identify vulnerable residents that would benefit from extra support during a power cut. Clls agreed to arrange a meeting to discuss the scheme. **Action: Clerk.**
- 10.13** To discuss arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting: Cllrs finalised arrangements.
- 10.14** To discuss arrangements for Village Day: The band is booked. A quote is awaited for an entertainment package. The Church are doing teas & cake. Chequers will run the bar. Pre-School have been asked if they want to provide the barbeque.
- 10.15** To receive announcements. *(for information only)*:
- a) The curtains are being fitted on 8th April.
 - b) The kitchen will be painted on 23rd & 24th March.
 - c) During a call out to replace a fire sensor it was discovered the access to the loft over the committee room has been obstructed. This requires investigation.
 - d) The Clerk has had a discussion with the Wickfield Warden who says they are in need of funding.
- b) Cllr Hawkins agreed to attend the Cllrs Surgery on 2nd April.
- 10.16** The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th April at 7.30pm.

JRP 09.03.16

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____