

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 12 July 2016

Present: Cllrs A Gribble (Chairman), S Hall, J Hawkins, G Pinney, A White.

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

The Chairman welcomed newly elected Councillor Grant Pinney to the meeting. Cllr Pinney signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4.1 To receive apologies for absence: Cllr P Corke due to work commitments.

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

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

4.4 To approve minutes of the Council Meeting on 14 June & Extra Meeting on 30 June:

Resolved: The minutes of the 14 June Meeting & Extra Meeting on 30 June were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: Cllrs Hall, Hawkins & White attended the June Market. Cllrs Gribble, Hall & Hawkins met with Knebworth FC. Cllr Hawkins attended the pre-opening of the newly refurbished Red Lion. Cllrs Gribble, Hall & Pinney attended the official opening of the Red Lion.

4.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: Correspondence from the Clerk at Welwyn PC informing the Council that travellers were occupying Ottway Walk car park. Notification from Serco that waste collection day is changing to Mondays. A letter from a resident asking why the speed limit on London Road is not 30mph and who to contact about it. A letter from a resident about the trees in the Garden Road playground. Notification that New Road will be closed sometime after 1 August. A letter from Bridget B's saying they have regretfully decided not to attend markets.

4.7 Planning: (*Cllr Corke*)

a) 6/2016/1266/HOUSE, 15 Oak Road, Erection of first floor side extension: No objection.

b) 6/2016/1251/HOUSE 22 Wolves Mere, Erection of single storey rear extension: No objection.

c) 6/2016/1153/PN11 22a London Road: Prior approval for a proposed change of use from office (class B1) to residential (class C3), to include the creation of 1no 4 bedroom house: No decision to report. Environmental Health has objected as they require more information.

d) 6/2016/0916/HOUSE 3 Broadfield Road, Replacement front porch to semi-detached two storey dwelling house: Application granted.

e) 6/2016/0880/FULL The Red Lion, 26 London Road, Erection of shelter: Application granted.

f) 6/2016/0548/ADV The Red Lion, 26 London Road, Installation of 4no illuminated signs and 3no non-illuminated signs: Application granted.

g) 6/2015/1645/FULL Mardleybury Farm, Change of use of from light industrial (B1) to cafes and restaurants (A3) to facilitate the move of the existing cafe from Unit 3c to Unit 1: Application granted.

h) 6/2015/1972/COND, The Fox, 21 New Road, Update on 3(landscaping), condition 4(highways report): The hedge at 2 Hay Wains has been removed which it is presumed will enable compliance with the highways condition. No further information on the landscaping which Planning Enforcement is dealing with.

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

a) To receive a report on hall windows: Awaiting quotes to replace the windows.

b) To review progress of installing a defibrillator: The British Heart Foundation has declined the application for a grant due to the equipment being stored in a coded box. The resident & first aid trainer who is advising the PC says using coded storage boxes is standard practice and has written to the Heart Foundation asking them to re-consider. Once the Heart Foundation have replied, whatever the outcome, the PC agreed to go ahead with installing a defibrillator using the "Wheels on Woolmer Green" donation, the Locality Budget grant if still on offer from County Cllr Richard Smith and Parish money.

Action: Clerk.

c) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: Deferred until next meeting. Cllr Pinney has visited the hall playground and has not noticed any problems.

d) To consider installing a height barrier at the entrance to Hall Lane: Following the recent problem of travellers camping in the hall car park, Cllrs agreed installing an openable height barrier would help prevent any future re-occurrence and alleviate resident's concerns. Cllrs also discussed measures that

could be introduced at the gate behind Bridge Road but were unsure who owned this land or was responsible for the gate. Borough Cllr Julie Cragg will be asked to investigate. Resolved: To install a height barrier costing up to £2,000. **Action Cllr Gribble.**

e) To consider positioning of the bench: It was agreed to position the bench between the two cherry trees. It was noted that a third cherry tree is dead and needs to be removed. Cllr Pinney will investigate the possibility of having a bench donated through his work. **Action: Cllr Pinney.**

f) To receive a report on the meeting with Knebworth FC: The football club want to use the pitch for their junior teams and require four smaller size pitches marked out instead of the present full size one. They will use removable goals which they will store in the changing rooms.

g) To consider a re-launch of Badminton Smash Up: It was agreed that information about Badminton Smash Up will be included in the next newsletter and a leaflet handed out to year six leavers at the School. If there is sufficient interest it could be re-launched in September. **Action: Clerk.**

4.9 Finance: (Cllr Hall)

a) To receive and approve the payments and accounts for June: It was noted that Village Day made a small loss. Resolved: To approve payments and accounts for June.

b) To consider charge to Knebworth FC: Based of the current charge of £55 to hire the pitch for one game the charge to Knebworth FC for a block booking would be approximately £2,530 before discount. It was agreed to find out what Knebworth charge for a block booking before deciding on how much discount to offer.

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

a) To receive a report on PPP work for 2016: Work to footpath 10 will begin next week.

b) To review progress of trees requiring a TPO: No progress to report.

c) To consider resident's suggestion of setting up a pond working party: In light of all the information obtained about the difficulty of controlling *Crassula helmsii* the PC agreed a working party is not necessary.

d) To discuss highways matters: (i) With regard to the mile post the volunteer has agreed to paint the three mileposts in Welwyn as well as one in Woolmer Green and Cllr Richard Smith has agreed to cover the cost of materials from his Highways Locality Budget. (ii) The PC noted that Highways are embarking on a programme to clean road signs and trim back vegetation. (iii) The issue of cars being offered for sale in the lay by outside the school has been reported to Trading Standards who say action will be taken. (iv) The issue of cars parking on pavements was discussed and it was agreed to include information on this in the next newsletter in an attempt to deter people from doing it.

4.11 To consider booking Councillor training for Cllr Grant Pinney: Resolved: to book Cllr Pinney onto the training session on 27 July costing £35.

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

a) It was suggested it may be a good idea to hold a New Year's Eve party aimed at families.

b) Organising an open gardens event was discussed.

c) Cllr Hawkins will attend the Cllrs Surgery on 6 August.

d) The £1,650 grant from Fields in Trust has been paid.

4.13 The next Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th September at 7.30pm.

JRP 13.07.16

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____