

# **WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of meeting held 8 November 2016**

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

**In attendance:** Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

**7.1 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr P Corke who is unwell.

**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 4 October:** Resolved: The minutes of the 4 October Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**7.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors:** Cllrs Corke, Hall, Hawkins & White attended the October Market. Cllr Hawkins attended the CPRE Awards where she was presented with the individual award and the Parish Council won the Mercury award; both for the wild flower meadow. Cllr Hall attended the Knebworth Rail Users Group Forum. All Councillors attended the public meeting on the Local Plan and Cllrs Gribble, Corke, Hall, Hawkins & White attended the handover of the Save Woolmer Green petition to the Executive Member for Planning.

**7.6 To receive correspondence:** The Council received: A letter from a company that has been commissioned to complete research on the Fox pub asking for information on its history; they have been sent photos and information. Notification of the North Herts Local Plan consultation. Notification from Nationwide of changes to Terms & Conditions. Notification of the East Herts Local Plan consultation. Information that a resident has concerns about a tree; Ringways will investigate. A letter from HAPTC to say the 2017/18 subscription will be £582.08. Notification from the Valuation Office Agency saying business rates are being reviewed.

**7.7 Planning:** (Cllr Corke)

a) 6/2016/1872/HOUSE 19 Oak Road: Application refused.

b) 6/2016/1835/LAWP 83 Carvers Croft: Application granted.

c) 6/2016/1644/LAWE 22a London Road: Application granted.

d) 6/2015/1972/COND, The Fox, 21 New Road, Update on condition 3(landscaping), condition 4 (highways report): Highways have visited the site and are deciding what the next step will be. The landscape officer is due to visit the site this week.

e) To consider a response to the North Herts Draft Local Plan consultation: The PC's response is complete. A public meeting is due to be held by Knebworth Parish Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> November which some Cllrs will attend and this will inform as to whether there should be any amendments. Resolved: To approve the prepared response to the draft Local Plan subject to information at the public meeting.

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

a) To consider quote to repair hall door: A resident who is a carpenter has agreed to repair the door at cost.

b) To review re-launch of Badminton Smash Up: So far WHSPAA have been unable to provide an activator for the sessions. The position has been advertised in the newsletter.

c) To consider replacing the sound equipment: All the equipment & lighting is outdated and not user friendly. It was proposed that the cost of new equipment could be offset by selling the current equipment and using funds raised at the New Year's Eve party. Resolved: To purchase new sound and lighting equipment up to the value of £800. **Action: Cllr Pinney.**

d) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: Deferred until the next meeting.

e) To review progress of installing the bench: No progress to report.

f) To review progress of grant application to fund moving the basketball net: A grant application has been successful. £395 has been awarded.

**7.9 Finance:** (Cllr Hall)

a) To receive and approve the payments and accounts for October: Resolved: To approve payments and accounts for October.

b) To consider items for 2017/18 budget: The hall floor needs re-lacquering. The large hall windows need replacing and the lowest quote is £13,600. The ladies toilets, corridor and committee room need painting and this could come out of the hall maintenance budget. It was proposed to increase the precept by 1.9%.

c) To review progress of insurance claim for torn wedding dress: Following correspondence with a claims investigator the claim has been settled at £250.

d) To consider a donation to the Royal British Legion: Resolved: To donate £50.

**Action: Clerk.**

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

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

b) To discuss highways matters: none.

c) To consider a response to the HCC Herts Transport Vision 2050 consultation: Cllrs discussed responses to the questions in the document and suggested ways of reducing traffic that would not disadvantage car users.

**Action: Clerk.**

d) To consider a response to the Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR) 2018 Timetable consultation: The consultation document contained errors and is due to be updated to confirm that there will be a fast peak service at Knebworth and two trains per hour off peak. The Council will support these proposals and add that there needs to be an adequate service after 10pm and that the longer route risks more frequent disruptions.

**Action: Clerk.**

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

a) Remembrance Day is on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am.

b) There will be planning training at WHBC on Thursday 24 November at 7.30pm.

c) Cllr Pinney will attend the Cllrs Surgery on 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

**7.14** The next Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.

JRP 9.11.16

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_