

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 10 January 2017

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

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

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

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

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

9.4 To approve minutes of the Council Meeting on 13 December: Resolved: The minutes of the 13 December Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

9.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: Cllrs Corke, Hall & Hawkins attended the December Market where Cllr Hall played in the Woolmer Green Band. Cllr Pinney attended the Carols 'round the Pond & hosted the New Year's Eve Party which was a success. Also, unreported at the December meeting, during November Cllrs Gribble & Hawkins attended the Knebworth Public Meeting on the NHDC Local Plan and all Councillors attended Remembrance Day.

9.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: Information on the NHS Herts & West Essex Sustainability and Transformation Plan called "A Healthier Future". The valuation of the LGPS. A letter from a resident with concerns about the safety of the zebra crossing. HCC Traffic & Data Report. A letter of thanks for use of the village hall for their Nativity Play from St Michael's School Deputy Head. Notification from WHBC of the Woolmer Green Tax Base for 2017/18 which is 525.9. Correspondence from County Cllr Richard Smith on the B197 (see 9.10b). Information from Knebworth Parish Council about a landowner's land deposit application to close permissive rights of way in Knebworth.

9.7 Planning: *(Cllr Corke)*

- a) 6/2016/2565/LAWP, 14 Longmead, Certificate of lawfulness for the erection of loft dormer window: No objection.
- b) 6/2016/2330/HOUSE, 20 Broadfield Road: Application granted.
- c) 16/02460/1, Land At Junction Of Pottersheath Road And, Danesbury Park Road, Welwyn, Retrospective application for change of use of land to use as a residential caravan site: The application will be decided by committee on 18th January.
- d) 6/2015/1972/COND, The Fox, 21 New Road, Update on 3(landscaping), condition 4 (highways report): Deferred until next meeting.

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

- a) To consider quote to repair hall door: No progress to report.
- b) To consider accepting quote for new windows: Resolved: To accept quote of £13,600 to replace the large hall windows.
- c) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: The report will be deferred until the next meeting. Resolved: To repair the roundabout for £732+vat.
- d) To review progress of installing the bench: The Locality Grant has been received. Ordering of the benches is progressing.

9.9 Finance: *(Cllr Hall)*

- a) To receive and approve the payments and accounts for December: Cllrs noted that hall lettings are good and that surplus is above budget prediction. Resolved: To approve payments and accounts for December.
- b) To approve the 2017/18 budget: The precept will be increased by 1.9%. Resolved: To approve budget for 2017/18.
- c) To consider renewal of insurance: Awaiting quotes for renewal of insurance. If the current insurer provides a reasonable quote the Council would prefer to continue with them.
- d) To consider responding to the Hertfordshire Pension Funding Strategy Statement Consultation: The Council decided not to submit comments.

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

- a) To review progress of trees requiring a TPO: The tree officer confirmed that the trees at the Church, Entech and the willows by the pond are protected. He is prioritising his work on trees in areas of development at the moment.
- b) To discuss highways matters: County Councillor Richard Smith has the support of Welwyn & Woolmer Green Parish Councils and St. Mary's & St. Michael's Schools that will enable him to submit a bid to the PCC Road Safety Fund for funding for a Feasibility Study on the B197.

9.11. To discuss activities for Village Day: Deferred until next meeting.

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

a) Two volunteers came forward offering to deliver newsletters.

b) The PPP grant application form will be available in February.

c) An application has been made to HCC by the landowner to close permissive paths in Woolmer Green as well as Knebworth.

9.13 The next Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th February at 7.30pm.

JRP 11.01.17

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____