

# **WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of meeting held 14 February 2017**

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

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

**10.1 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr G Pinney due to a prior commitment.

**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 10 January:** Resolved: The minutes of the 10 January Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**10.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors:** Cllrs Gribble, Hall, Hawkins, Pinney & White met with Rev. Gladwin. Cllrs Hall & White attended the January Market. Cllrs Hawkins & Pinney attended the Councillors Surgery.

**10.6 To receive correspondence:** The Council received: An article about the woodcarver, Harry Macdonald, from a 1939 edition of the Cyclists Touring Club Gazette from member of the club (now named Cycling UK). A complaint from a resident that the quality of resurfacing in Carvers Croft is poor quality. Highways have inspected the work and reported it is satisfactory. Information on the CPRE Annual Award Scheme. Notification from the Police and Crime Commissioner of a survey asking for suggestions on the recently compiled Victim Support Booklet. Information from Affinity Water about the launch of the new open retail market for water and waste services. An enquiry from Aston Parish Council about defibrillators. Notification of the closure of 35 meters in Wolves Mere for highways works. Correspondence between Cllr Richard Smith and Welwyn residents about congestion at the clock roundabout.

**10.7 Planning:** (*Cllr Corke*)

- a) 6/2017/0166/HOUSE, 19 Oak Road, Erection of double storey rear extension, following proposed removal of conservatory. Installation of 2no rooflights: No objection.
- b) 6/2017/0150/PN8, 21 Bridge Road, prior approval for erection of 4 x 3 x 3m rear extension: No objection in principle but no detailed drawings are available.
- c) 6/2017/0138/HOUSE, 16 Birch Road, Conversion of garage, insertion of new flat roof over play room and alterations to existing rear openings: No objection.
- d) 6/2017/0082/PN8, 10 New Road, Prior approval for the erection of a single storey pitched roof rear extension measuring 4m. in depth, 3.8m. in height and 2.8m. to the eaves: No objection.
- e) 6/2016/2565/LAWP, 14 Longmead: Application withdrawn.
- f) 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: Application refused.
- g) 6/2015/1972/COND, The Fox, 21 New Road, Update on 3(landscaping), condition 4 (highways report): A front footpath is due to be constructed but an order to enable the developer to carry out the work is not completed so no date has been set for the work. No update available on the outstanding conditions.

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

- a) To consider quote to repair hall door: Work to be carried out on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February.
- b) To consider quote for re-decorating the hall: Resolved: To accept quote of £3,030.
- c) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: Inspections have been carried out each weekend and are satisfactory. It was agreed to advertise in the newsletter for a volunteer to inspect the Garden Road playground. **Action: Clerk.**
- d) To discuss issues relating to the height barrier: It was noted that on occasions the barrier has been left open. Often cars park under the barrier preventing its operation and notices have been attached to these vehicles. One quote has been obtained to paint yellow hatching and NO PARKING at the entrance to the hall grounds and further quotes are awaited.
- e) To discuss security of the access gate from Bridge Road: It was agreed to contact the key holder of the gate to suggest keeping it locked and a pedestrian access created. **Action: Clerk.**
- f) To discuss maintenance of the orchard/playground: The chain-link fence at the foot of the railway bank is damaged and Network Rail will be asked to repair it. The grounds contractor will be asked for a quote to cut back trees overhanging the play equipment. The sleepers have been removed at a cost of £340+vat. Residents will be reminded in the newsletter not to let dogs loose in the play area. Also it was agreed to remove the waste bin near the entrance to the hall grounds as it is a hazard for the caretaker to empty and there are alternatives. **Action: Cllr Hawkins & Clerk.**

**10.9 Finance:** *(Cllr Hall)*

- a) To receive and approve the payments and accounts for January: Cllrs noted that the accounts were on track to provide a surplus to fund the replacement of the windows. Resolved: To approve payments and accounts for January.
- b) To consider a donation to St. Michael's Church: Resolved: to donate £750.
- c) To consider renewal of insurance: Resolved: To accept quote of £3,586.75 with a three year long-term agreement.

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

- a) To receive a report on progress of PPP grant: Awaiting application form.
- b) To discuss highways matters: (i) The parents of Oaklands and Woolmer Green schools have organised a petition asking for traffic calming on the B197. Cllr Richard Smith has submitted a bid that, if successful, would enable a viability study to be carried out. (ii) An accident occurred on Friday evening whereby a car travelling north clipped the curb by the Chequers and careered across the road into 9 London Road damaging the house. (iii) Work by the build out near Heath Road has been started. The Council will ask Highways for information. **Action: Clerk.**

**10.11.** To discuss activities for Village Day: Cllrs discussed possible activities. The Woolmer Green Band will be participating. It was agreed to advertise in the newsletter to see if there were musicians in the village that could also provide live music. **Action: Clerk.**

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

- a) A meeting with Taylor Wimpey has been arranged for Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February.
- b) Taylor Wimpey wants to hold a public drop in session sometime in March.
- c) The Highways Liaison Meeting will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.
- d) A resident brought emails to the meeting highlighting the representation to the Local Plan by the owners of the rejected site adjoining Knebworth.

**10.13** The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm subject to speakers being available.

JRP 15.02.17

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

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