

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 11 July 2017

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

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

3.1 To receive apologies for absence: None.

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

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

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

3.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: Cllrs Gribble, Hall & Hawkins had a positive meeting with Grant Shapps to discuss the Local Plan public inquiry (notes of the meeting had been circulated). Cllrs Hall & White attended the June Market.

3.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: Notification of changes to E On's Terms & Conditions. A letter about locating a dog bin in Wych Elm Lane. Correspondence about Highways works to London Road. Copy of correspondence between Highways, the developer and residents about installing a footpath to the front of the new houses in New Road. Information about plans to expand Stanstead Airport from Stop Stanstead Expansion. Change of address from Nationwide. Letter from the Clerk of Knebworth PC about the WHBC Local Plan inquiry. Questions from a resident about admission to Monks Walk School. Information from the Local Plan inquiry Programme Officer. Notification that White Horse Lane will be closed for works sometime in the next eighteen months.

3.7 Planning: (*Cllr Corke*)

a) 6/2017/1354/HOUSE, 5 New Road, Erection of a detached garage following demolition of existing: No objection.

b) 6/2017/1064/FULL, Knebworth Care Home, 59 London Road: No decision to report.

c) 6/2017/0952/HOUSE, 33 New Road: No decision to report.

d) 6/2017/0848/MAJ, Entech House: No progress to report.

e) To consider submitting a statutory listing application for the Art Deco house: Decision deferred until information has been obtained from the developer. **Action: Clerk.**

f) 16/02460/1 at Land At Junction Of Pottersheath Road And, Danesbury Park Road, Welwyn: The appeal hearing is scheduled for 5th December 2017.

3.8 Finance: (*Cllr Hall*)

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

b) To receive a report on the local government unions pay claim: The local government unions have submitted a 5% pay claim to include the deletion of pay points 6-9 to ensure that all points are above the Living Wage rate. HAPTC are asking for feedback on the impact this increase would have on councils, therefore WGPC will report that the wage settlement would cost the Council over £1,800 per year in order to maintain differentials, which would most likely mean at least a 7.28% increase in the precept. **Action: Clerk.**

3.9 Hall (*Cllr Pinney*) **& Grounds:** (*Cllr Hawkins*)

a) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: Weekly inspections satisfactory. It was agreed to ask for a volunteer to inspect the hall playground in the next newsletter. **Action: Clerk.**

b) To consider action regarding the dumped waste in the hall grounds: The Council agreed that tax payers should not have to pay to dispose of fly tipping waste. Cllr Corke will contact residents that have dumped waste in the hall grounds and ask them to remove it. Cllr Pinney agreed to dispose of any remaining waste. The penalties for fly tipping will be included in the next newsletter. **Action Cllrs Corke & Pinney & Clerk.**

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

a) To receive a report on progress of PPP grant: The £1,000 grant has been received. The total cost of resurfacing the remaining two thirds of Bridger's Path is £2,730. The Rights of way officer will be asked to contribute £865 towards the cost. Resolved: For the Parish Council to contribute £865 from its grounds budget. **Action: Cllr White.**

b) To discuss highways matters: The Parish Council received a number of complaints from residents about the constant closure of London Road in order to complete white lining. Disabled people, people

with heavy shopping and children had to disembark from a bus and walk from Knebworth, there were cases of missed trains and diverted buses causing alarm in Bridge Road. The Parish Council has sent a complaint to Highways and is awaiting a reply.

- 3.11** To consider a response to the Fire & Rescue change of governance consultation: The Council agreed not to respond.
- 3.12** To discuss arrangements for Wheels on Woolmer Green 2018: Cllr Pinney is unsure if he will be available on Bank Holiday, 7th May, therefore the event may need to be moved. Sunday 13th May will be provisionally booked in the hall diary as a possible alternative option. Confirmation of the date will be made in due course.
- 3.13** To discuss ideas for a New Year's Eve party: The Council agreed to hold a community New Year's Eve party. Making the event free or charging a nominal fee may increase attendance. Resolved: To set a budget of £60. **Action: Cllr Pinney.**
- 3.14** To receive announcements. (*for information only*):
 - a) A Clerks meeting with Head of Planning has been arranged for Tuesday 5th September.
 - b) Cllr Corke will attend the Cllrs Surgery on 5th August.
- 3.15** To agree the date of the next meeting: Tuesday 12th September at 7.30pm.

JRP 12.07.17

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____