

# **WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of meeting held 10 October 2017**

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

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

**5.1 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Hall as she is on holiday.

**5.2 To consider requests for dispensation and pecuniary & other interests on items on the agenda:** Cllr Hawkins declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 5.7a as she is a near neighbour.

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

**5.4 To approve minutes of the Council Meeting on 11 July:** Resolved: The minutes of the 12 September Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**5.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors:** Cllrs Hall & White attended the September Market. Cllr Pinney attended the Councillors Surgery.

**5.6 To receive correspondence:** The Council received: A query from a resident about the pond. An invitation from the Guides to hear about what the Parish Council does and listen to the Guides ideas. An update from Cllr Richard Smith on the successful Road Safety Fund bid (see item 5.10).

**5.7 Planning:** (*Cllr Corke*)

a) 6/2017/2002/HOUSE 8 Holly Road, Erection of two storey side extension: No objection.

b) 6/2017/1924/HOUSE 5 Evergreen Close: No decision to report.

c) 6/2017/1717/PN15, Harmergreen Wood Scout Group Robbery Bottom Lane: Prior approval granted.

d) 6/2017/1503/HOUSE, 20 Oak Road: Application granted.

e) 6/2017/0166/HOUSE, 19 Oak Road: Awaiting an appeal decision.

f) 6/2017/1064/FULL, Knebworth Care Home, 59 London Road: Application granted.

g) 6/2017/0848/MAJ, Entech House: Application refused.

h) 16/02460/1 at Land At Junction Of Pottersheath Road And, Danesbury Park Road, Welwyn: An update on the appeal will take place on 12 October.

i) To receive an update on the Local Plan Examination: Following the first hearing the planning inspector was undecided on whether WHBC had complied with the duty to co-operate. He will decide after the second hearings starting on 24 October. The first hearing of the NHDC Local Plan is on 13 November.

j) To consider a response to NALC on the "Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places" consultation: The Council approved the prepared response which made suggestions on assessing housing need and supported more involvement of Parish Councils. **Action: Clerk.**

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

a) To review progress of clearing rubbish: Cllr Pinney has taken some rubbish to the recycling centre. Despite a resident agreeing to remove the rubbish behind his property it has still not been done. The Council agreed to send them a letter. **Action: Clerk.**

b) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: Weekly inspections satisfactory. Resident Chris Tyler has offered to inspect both playgrounds on a weekly basis.

c) To consider quotes for repainting of the Garden Road playground equipment: Cllr Richard Smith has agreed to consider a Locality Grant donation to cover up to half the cost of refurbishing the spider climbing frame. Resolved: To accept a quote of £2,460 to sand blast and re-paint the spider climbing frame. **Action: Clerk.**

d) To consider quotes for refurbishing the ball skills court: The cheapest quote for new fencing was £10,000. The resurfacing quote came to over £25,000 which the Council considered expensive. Funding options will be investigated. **Action: Clerk.**

**5.8 Finance:** (*Cllr Hall*)

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

b) To consider items for the 2018/19 budget: Suggestions included a road speed sign, refurbishment of the ladies toilets, loft flooring, windows, projector.

c) To consider a donation to the Royal British Legion: Resolved: To donate £50. **Action: Clerk.**

d) To consider a response to the Government precept consultation: The Council approved a response resisting automatic referendums for Parish Councils. **Action: Clerk.**

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

To discuss highways matters: (i) Cllrs noted that the spilt lining paint outside Marshalls has not been rectified. (ii) A resident received a ticket for parking on the zig zag lines outside of the school. (iii) An accident occurred outside the school on Friday 6 October when a motor cyclist was hit by a vehicle. The motor cyclist suffered a broken wrist. (iv) An accident occurred in Heath Road recently when a car hit a stationary vehicle. (v) The legislation concerning cars advertised for sale beside a road is dated. An offence occurs when two or more motor vehicles are parked within 500 metres of each other. Perpetrators are often aware of the law and act within it. (vi) The Council is pleased to receive an update from Cllr Richard Smith that there is progress on the successful bid to the PCC road safety fund and that a feasibility study of the B197 will be commissioned. Residents will be consulted to hear their views.

**5.11** To discuss date for Wheels on Woolmer Green 2018: The event will be held on Sunday 13 May.

**5.12** To review progress of the Parish Council Christmas card: The Guides and Brownies agreed to participate. The Brownies have submitted artwork which was viewed by Cllrs. Awaiting artwork from the Guides.

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

- a) Jigsaw which is running ambulance training at the hall has offered to run a free first aid training session for residents. The Children's Centre is involved in arrangements.
- b) The Highways Liaison Meeting is on Tuesday 17 October.
- c) The Borough meeting scheduled for 25 October is cancelled.
- d) The Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 12 November at 9.30am.
- e) Planning Code of Conduct Training will be held on Thursday 30 November at 7.30pm.
- f) The Allotments AGM will be held on Tuesday 24 October.
- g) The Parish Council web site host is discontinuing its service. An alternative host provider will be found.
- h) The new windows are installed and the opening mechanism will be fitted on Wednesday 11 October.
- i) The current market manager will step down after the December market. The vacancy will be advertised in the next newsletter.
- j) Due to low numbers Badminton Smash Up is suspended until the New Year.
- k) Condolences will be sent to Herts County Council following the death of its leader, Cllr Robert Gordon.

**5.14** To agree the date of the next meeting: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm.

JRP 11.10.17

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

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