

# **WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

A risk assessment has been carried out to ensure the meeting is conducted in a Covid-19 secure way.

**Present:** Cllrs A Gribble (Chairman), P Corke (Vice Chairman) T Dix, S Hall & R Horton..

**In attendance:** Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk). A member of the public via video conference.

**3.1 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Pinney due to work commitments.

**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:** A member of the public asked which local authority is legally responsible if an accident should occur on the unowned common land. They also considered that, in their view, the website article on the pond contained inaccuracies.

**3.4 To approve minutes of the Council Meeting 8 June:** Resolved: The minutes of the Council Meeting of 8 June were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**3.5 To receive reports on meetings & events attended by Councillors:** Cllrs Hall & Horton attended the June Market.

**3.6 To receive correspondence:** The Council received: An enquiry as to who owned the former Marshalls site. Information from a resident on damage to the pavement in Bridge Road; this has been reported to Highways. A letter from the East of England Ambulance Service Trust asking that the defibrillator be registered on "The Circuit" which is the new national defibrillator network and this has been done. Notification from Highways that New Road will be closed sometime in the next eighteen months for works. Confirmation of the setup of the Council's direct debit instruction from EDF Energy. Correspondence from a resident about the common land. Notification from WHBC on the application for an Article 4 Direction to withdraw certain permitted development rights in Hatfield to protect a Grade 1 listed asset.

**3.7 Planning** (*Cllr Corke & Horton*)

- a) 6/2021/1723/LAWP 7 Garden Close, Certificate of lawfulness for a single storey rear extension: no objection.
- b) 6/2021/1777/COND Kellard House, Submission of details pursuant to condition number 13 (parking restrictions) on planning permission 6/2019/1382/FULL: No comment.
- c) 6/2021/1374/HOUSE 9A London Road, Erection of a single storey rear extension to facilitate dining room: No objection. Application granted.
- d) 6/2021/0344/VAR Kellard House (safe crossing): A road safety audit has been carried out. No decision to report.
- e) 6/2019/1291/HOUSE 59 Garden Road, Update on unauthorised works: Cllr Trigg is investigating.
- f) To receive update on Local Plan Examination: The examination inspector has now issued his latest series of letters and reports. With regards to Woolmer Green, he states that a smaller WGr3 could be found sound. He rejects the former Marshalls site for housing as it has already been allocated for employment. He accepts the Green Belt site HS15 but has reservations about the access road as it could impinge on the gap between Woolmer Green and Knebworth. The Council agreed to update our MP on the inspector's reports, liaise with the owner of the former Marshalls site and inform the public on social media. **Action: Clerk.**

**3.8 Hall** (*Cllr Pinney*) & **Grounds:** (*Cllr Dix*)

- a) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: All is satisfactory.
- b) To discuss annual playground inspection: It was agreed to contact Wickstead about the report that rotten posts need replacing on the hall grounds swings. **Action: Clerk.**
- c) To discuss hall gate: It was agreed to obtain a quote to modify the hall gate operation. **Action: Clerk.**
- d) To discuss fire alarm: The fire alarm display is occasionally erratic. The contractor warned that the main unit will eventually fail. The Council agreed to obtain a quote for its replacement. **Action: Clerk.**
- e) To discuss Covid-19 measures required after 19 July: The Council discussed what advice it should give to hall hirers and agreed mask wearing should be recommended to hirers and staff and the QR code will be retained. Advice will be updated this once guidance for community halls has been published.

**3.9 Finance:** (*Cllr Hall*)

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

b) To receive and approve the accounts & bank reconciliation for June: Resolved: To approve the accounts & bank reconciliation for June.

c) To receive a report on the Job Retention Scheme: £770.26 has been claimed for June. The Council has applied for a Covid Restart Grant.

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

a) To discuss highways matters: (i) Following the resurfacing of part of London Road the yellow lines at the junction with Heath Road have not been reinstated and this will be reported. **Action Clerk.**

(ii) The Council agreed it would be useful if Highways could notify the Parish Council of imminent works so that residents could be informed.

**3.11 Community (Cllrs Corke & Pinney)**

a) To discuss organising a community event: The date for a community picnic will be put back to 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> September or 30<sup>th</sup> August if a provisional booking does not go ahead.

**3.12** To discuss web site accessibility: Awaiting a response from a computer expert.

**3.13** To discuss instillation of a defibrillator at the Red Lion: The Red Lion have already raised sufficient funds to purchase a defibrillator.

**3.14** To receive announcements. *(for information only)*.

a) Mould has appeared on the ceiling in the ladies washroom due to poor ventilation through lack of use. Cllr Horton agreed to rectify the problem.

b) The contractor has not killed the weeds around the hall and they will be instructed that it needs to be done.

c) Cllrs noted that weeds are growing along the edge of hall lane.

**3.15** To agree the date of the next meeting: Council Meeting Tuesday 14 September 2021 at 7.30pm.

JRP 14.07.21

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

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