

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 12th February 2019

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

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

9.1 To receive apologies for absence: Cllr 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 8 January: Resolved: The minutes of the 8 January meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

9.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: Cllrs Corke & Pinney attended the Councillors' Surgery. Cllrs Hall, Hawkins & White attended the January Market.

9.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: Information about "Stop Luton Airport Expansion". A letter from the curate regarding Christmas lighting (see 9.10b). Notification that Came & Co Insurance has been acquired by Arthur J Gallagher Co. Details of HCC Minerals Local Plan. A letter from a resident about inconsiderate parking which was passed to Parking Services. An open letter from the Chairman of NALC. An update on the crassula trials from CMS; the product could be marketable in 2020. Information from Sage UK Ltd. Notification of road closure in Heath Road/Potters Heath. A thank you letter from CJD Support Network for the Council's donation. Correspondence about the B197. Details of HCC stakeholder survey. A letter from a person asking about development in Woolmer Green. WHBC Hackney Carriage Vehicle Terms & Conditions Survey which the Council completed. A request from Knebworth FC (see 9.8d). Details of the Welwyn Hatfield Community Space Strategy. Details of the Great British Spring Clean 2019. An invitation to the Family Centre's Partnership Meeting. Details of the consultation on the expansion of Codicote Primary School.

9.7 Planning (Cllr Corke)

a) 6/2019/0155/HOUSE 29 New Road, Erection of a two storey side and rear extensions: No objection.

b) 6/2018/3287/HOUSE Paynes Farm, Retention of rear dormer windows to facilitate conversion of loft above car port: No objection if it does not compromise the character of the listed building.

c) 6/2019/0075/FULL 61 London Road, Alterations to approved parking & transport arrangements and addition of turning head for HGV's: The Council will support this application.

d) 17/02755/1 Retrospective application for gypsy site at Danesbury: The Council will continue its objection via the NHDC Local Plan Main Modifications Consultation.

e) To receive update on Local Plan Examination: The Council has submitted the Marshalls site to the WHBC "call for sites" initiative with support from the land owner who will also put it forward. The Council made clear that developing Entech and Marshalls would provide Woolmer Green's share of housing and enable the Green Belt to be preserved.

Knebworth Parish Council has forwarded an updated draft response to the NHDC main modifications consultation which included items suggested by WGPC. The Council approved the document.

9.8 Hall (Cllr Pinney) & Grounds: (Cllr Hawkins)

a) To consider quotes for electrical works: Resolved: Subject to further clarification to accept quote of £1,863.

b) To receive a report on the hall heating: Due to the underfloor heating having poor circulation a report recommends fitting an additional pump and power flushing the circuit. A corroded manifold would need replacing if this was carried out. A quote will be obtained. **Action: Clerk.**

c) To receive an update on Sunday am opening arrangements: Advice from HAPTC is that if a "volunteer" is paid they are regarded as a contractor. One person has agreed to open the hall on Sundays and the Council will ensure they have relevant insurance. **Action: Clerk.**

d) To discuss condition of football pitch: The contractor will be asked to level a bare patch of ground as soon as possible and to ensure any worn areas are reseeded after the football season. **Action: Clerk.**

e) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: All is satisfactory.

f) To receive a report on works required in annual inspection: Some posts have been secured further works are required to the gate and bark pit. **Action: Clerk.**

g) To consider quote to wood treat balance beam: A quote was obtained for £460+vat to sand & treat the balance beam. A further quote will be obtained to replace the wooden beam. **Action: Clerk.**

h) To review progress of new Children's Centre Underlease: The solicitor is waiting to hear from HCC.

9.9 Finance: (Cllr Hall)

- a) To receive and approve the payments for January: Resolved: To approve payments for January.
- b) To receive and approve the accounts for January: Resolved: To approve accounts for January.
- c) To consider grant application from the church: Resolved: To award £750 towards maintenance of the churchyard.

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

- a) To report annual closure the Twin Foxes gate: The gate was closed for 24 hours from Saturday 2nd to Sunday 3rd February. The gate will be closed annually on the first weekend in February.
- b) To discuss erecting village Christmas decorations: It was agreed that having fewer larger displays would have more impact than small lights the length of the village. Ideas for fund raising were discussed. Cllr Pinney will obtain information on Christmas lighting for the March meeting. **Action: Cllr Pinney.**
- c) To discuss erecting bollards in Mardleybury Road: The approximate cost for Highways to erect bollards in Mardleybury Road and to repair the grass verge is £4,500. The Parish Council would have to fund this. The Council agreed protecting the verge was important and asked for a more detailed quote. **Action: Clerk.**

d) To discuss other highways matters: Following complaints a letter will be written to Knebworth Care Home asking if visitors could refrain from parking on the pavement and use the care home's car park rather than parking in residential streets. The issue of parking on pavements will be included in the newsletter. **Action: Clerk.**

9.11 To review progress of GDPR compliance: There has been no communication from the company offering to help Parish & Town Council's comply with GDPR. The Parish Council will obtain independent advice on encryption and review its procedures. **Action: Clerk.**

9.12 To discuss arrangements for Wheels on Woolmer Green: This will be held on Bank Holiday Monday 6th May. Arrangements are underway. It was agreed that donations should go to prostate cancer charity Balls to Cancer.

9.13 To discuss arrangements for Village Day: Village Day will be held on Sunday 2nd June.

9.14 To discuss the Carol's 'round the Pond event: All agreed that the Carols 'round the Pond event has outgrown its space and become a higher risk due to residents spilling onto the road. It was proposed that either New Road should be closed or the event could be moved to the village hall grounds. Ways of decorating the hall grounds for the event was discussed. It was agreed to ask for feedback on these ideas from residents via the newsletter and discuss them at the Annual Parish Meeting.

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

- a) The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th April subject to Cllr Smith being available.
- b) Some residents in New Road have asked for their petition about an unfinished footway to be publicised in the newsletter. Cllrs had no objection.
- c) There will be an HCC Festive Lighting & Attachment Seminar on Monday 25th February.

9.13 To agree the date of the next meeting: 12th March 2019.

JRP 13.2.19

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____