

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 10th January 2023

Present: Cllrs A Gribble (Chairman), T Dix, R Horton & G Pinney.

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk). Borough Cllr J Cragg.

7.1 To receive apologies for absence: Cllr P Corke due to work. Cllr S Hall due to prior commitment. Borough Cllrs T Mitchinson & R Trigg.

7.2 To consider requests for dispensation and pecuniary & other interests on items on the agenda: Cllr Horton declared an interest on item 7.8c.

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

7.4 To approve minutes of the Council Meeting 12 December: Resolved: The minutes of the Council Meeting of 12 December were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

7.5 To receive reports on meetings & events attended by Councillors: Cllrs Corke, Horton & Pinney took part in the Carols round the Tree (item 7.11a). Cllr Gribble attended a presentation by HCC Highways on the Safer Routes to School proposals (item 7.10a).

7.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: Details from WHBC on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (item 7.9e). Information about the PARISH.UK Network. Notification from Highways of the closure of Bridge Road to replace a telephone pole. Information from the English Regional Transport Association (ERTA). Information from 20's Plenty for Herts.

7.7 Planning (*Cllr Corke & Horton*)

- a) 6/2022/2860/HOUSE 9 New Road, Erection of single storey rear infill extension with roof lantern, raised patio and replacement of existing windows following the demolition of an existing conservatory: No objection.
- b) 6/2022/2658/HOUSE 18A London Road: No decision to report.
- c) 6/2022/2611/LAWP 43 London Road: No decision to report.
- d) 6/2022/2619/HOUSE 43 London Road: No decision to report.
- e) 6/2022/1786/FULL 51-53 London Road: Application granted.
- f) 6/2022/0787/OUTLINE Land adjacent to 52 London Road: No decision to report.
- g) To receive update on Local Plan Examination: The Local Plan Main Modification consultation opened on 4th January and closes on 15th February. The Council discussed the modifications proposed for Woolmer Green which it generally agrees with. However, the Council still disputes that the development of the Green Belt should be found sound, with flooding a major concern. A representation will be submitted to the consultation and the Council will raise its concerns to the government via its MP.

Action: Clerk.

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

- a) To consider hall heating report: Proposals had been circulated and the Council agreed that a survey by an underfloor heating expert should be carried out.
- b) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: All is satisfactory.
- c) To consider quote to repair hall gutter soffits: Deferred.
- d) To consider quote for pruning work: Resolved: To accept quote for £880.

7.9 Finance: (*Cllr Hall*)

- a) To receive and approve the payments for December: Resolved: To approve payments for December.
- b) To receive and approve the accounts & bank reconciliation for December: Resolved: To approve the accounts & bank reconciliation for December.
- c) To consider hall hire rates: The hire rates had not increased for a number of years and are well below charges for other halls in the area. Resolved: To increase fees by 20% from 1 April. To increase regular hirers fees by 5% and keep these under review.
- d) To approve 2023/24 budget: The precept will be increased by 5%. Resolved: To approve 2023/24 budget.
- e) To discuss project for UK Shared Prosperity Fund: The fund will provide £5,000pa over three years. It was agreed to submit a proposal to install solar panels. **Action: Clerk.**
- f) To consider Parish Council insurance quote: Resolved: To approve quote for £4,007.04 and agree to a 3 year Long Term Agreement.

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

- a) To receive a report on the Safer Routes to School Meeting: Details of the meeting had been circulated of this long-term project for Woolmer Green and Oaklands. Highways will carry out a consultation in the summer of 2023.

b) To discuss other highways matters: The issue of flooding in New Road was discussed and it was agreed to raise this with Highways again.

Action: Clerk.

7.11 Community (*Cllrs Corke & Pinney*)

a) To receive a report on the Carols round the Tree collection: The event was a great success and £179.06 was collected from the carols event and Woolmer Green Band had collected £260.08 from other events where they had performed. A total of £439.14 will be donated to the Herts Charity for Deprived Children.

7.12 To receive announcements: A new microwave is needed for the hall kitchen.

7.13 To agree the date of the next meeting: Tuesday 14 February 2023 at 7.30pm.

JRP 11.01.23

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____