

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 11th February 2025

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

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

9.1 To receive apologies for absence: Cllr Pinney, County Cllr T Kingsbury.

9.2 To consider requests for dispensation and pecuniary & other interests on items on the agenda: Cllr Horton declared an interest in item 9.7c. Cllr Hall declared an interest in item 9.9d. Cllr Gribble declared an interest in item 9.8e.

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

9.4 To approve minutes Council Meeting 14 January: Resolved: The minutes of the Council Meeting of 19 January were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

9.5 To receive reports on meetings & events attended by Councillors: Cllr Hall attended the January market. Cllrs Gribble & Hall attended the Alzheimer's Research cheque presentation. Cllr Gribble met with an officer from HCC Countryside Management Service (CMS).

9.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: A letter from a hirer asking if they can lock the hall front door while in attendance for security reasons. Details of the HCC budget survey. Notification from National Highways of the closure of the A1(M) on 28 January. A letter on behalf of parents about cars for sale in the layby beside the school (item 9.10c). A request for a meeting from HCC to discuss the Family Centre lease. Correspondence from WHBC relating to parking in Mardleybury Road. Notification from Network Rail that vegetation management will take place on 16 February. A request from a company asking to hire parking spaces (item 9.8d). An update on Lord Foster's lithium-ion battery safety campaign. Information from HCC about the Devolution Bill.

9.7 Planning (Cllr Dix & Horton)

a) 6/2025/0115/HOUSE 40 Twin Foxes, Erection of single storey side extensions and internal alterations: No objection.

b) 6/2024/2371/HOUSE, 14 Wolves Mere: Application granted.

c) 6/2024/2069/FULL 22A London Road. Amended application: Objection to a second storey and due to the glass frontage being out of character and not in keeping with the street scene.

9.8 Hall (Cllr Corke & Pinney) & Grounds: (Cllr Dix)

a) To consider quote to replace fire alarm panel or system: Resolved: To accept quote for £1,730.62. The Council also agreed to change service provider if the costs were cheaper than currently.

b) To receive update on lighting tennis court: Awaiting quote. It was suggested the resident consider purchasing portable rechargeable floodlights.

c) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: The fencing is decaying, and a quote will be obtained to repair or replace. The hinges on the orchard gate will be removed. All else is satisfactory.

Action: Clerk

d) To consider company request for car parking spaces: Resolved: To hire out 4 spaces for staff.

e) To consider pruning chestnut tree: A quote will be obtained.

9.9 Finance: (Cllr Hall)

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

b) To review accounts performance against budget – January: Awaiting payment from HCC for the January-March portion of former Family Centre lease. Hall takings have dipped below budget. It was agreed to pay for the basket swing repair from the Entertainment Fund account so £1,025 will be transferred to the main account.

c) To receive and approve the accounts & bank reconciliation for January: Resolved: To approve the accounts & bank reconciliation for January.

d) To consider grant payment to Woolmer Green Band: Resolved: To award £400.

9.10 Environment (Cllr Dix & Horton) & Transport: (Cllr Gribble)

a) To receive update on puffin crossing: HCC & WHBC are arranging a meeting with the site owner in April.

b) To discuss other highways matters: Some residents have raised the issue of a car parked on a drive and obstructing the pavement. The Council will write to the letting agent.

Action: Clerk.

c) To discuss issue of cars for sale in the school lay-by: Borough Cllr Mitchinson raised this with a senior officer at WHBC. This is not against any planning or parking rules and the officer recommended applying for a parking restriction for the lay-by. Cllr Mitchinson advised applying for the restriction with support from the school.

Action: Clerk.

d) To discuss recent CMS visit: A land management officer from HCC Countryside Management Service (CMS) visited the pond recently to ensure the maintenance programme followed by the Parish Council was still relevant. He subsequently wrote to the Parish Council with his findings and did not recommend any changes. The letter will be published in the newsletter along with the results of a survey conducted by Grant Shapps. **Action: Clerk.**

9.11 Community: *(Cllrs Corke & Pinney)*

a) To receive a report on arrangements for Village Day: The Council discussed arrangements which are progressing.

b) To discuss charity to support at Wheels on Woolmer Green: A volunteer that helps organise the event asked if donations could go to Garden House Hospice. the Council agreed to the request.

9.12 To agree date of Annual Parish Meeting: 15 April 2025.

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

a) The Council were grateful to County Councillor Tony Kingsbury for kindly donating £1,061 from his Locality Budget towards the new boiler for the showers.

b) The car dealership site will have a change of tenant for a new five-year period.

c) The Council set a date for a litter pick on Sunday 23 March at 10.30am.

9.14 To agree date of next Council meeting – Tuesday 11 March at 7.30pm.

JRP 12.02.25

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____