

# **WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

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

**In attendance:** Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk). Borough Cllr T Mitchinson. Borough Cllr Cragg for part of the meeting. 1 member of the public for part of the meeting.

- 2.1 To receive apologies for absence:** County Cllr T Kingsbury & Borough Cllr R Trigg.
- 2.2 To consider requests for dispensation and pecuniary & other interests on items on the agenda:** Cllr Hall declared an interest in items 2.8d & 2.10d. Cllr Horton declared an interest in item 2.9c.
- 2.3 To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public:** A resident congratulated the Council on a successful Village Day. They informed the Council that the Church is organising an event on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> September to celebrate Woolmer Green's Arts & Crafts Church and the Wood Carver. They asked the Council to publicise and attend the event. The Council agreed and said the event sounded very interesting.
- 2.4 To approve minutes of Extraordinary Council Meeting 3 May:** Resolved: The minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting of 3 May were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
- 2.5 To approve minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council 13 May:** Resolved: The minutes of the Council Meeting of 13 May were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
- 2.6 To receive reports on meetings & events attended by Councillors:** Cllrs Gribble & Pinney attended a cheque presentation to the representatives from JOCA. Cllrs Hall & Horton attended the May Market. Cllrs Corke, Hall, Horton & Pinney attended the Wooly Fest music event. All Cllrs attended Village Day.
- 2.7 To receive correspondence:** The Council received: Notification of the Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan consultation. Notification of NHC Statement of Community Involvement consultation. Notification from Gamma of a 14.3% increase to business phone number charges. Notification from EDF informing of the end to the gov. Energy Bill Relief Scheme. A letter from a member of the public suggesting the Parish Council purchase a coronation bench. A thank you letter from JOCA for the car show donation. Notification from payroll provider, Sage, that the subscription will increase by £2 per month from July. Information from Groundwork offering a Carbon Literacy course. A letter from a resident about Village Day arrangements. Correspondence between a resident and Cllr Horton about a planning application (item 2.8b). A letter asking when Village Day will be held. A copy of the HCC wedding ceremonies brochure.
- 2.8 Planning (Cllr Dix & Horton)**
- a) 6/2023/1153/HOUSE 6 Broadfield Road, Erection of single storey side, rear and front extensions and new porch: The Council considered the extension was overdevelopment and that the poor design would detract from the character of the area. Resolved: To object to the application. **Action: Clerk.**
- b) 6/2023/0980/HOUSE 46 New Road, Erection of a part first floor extension, ground floor infill with modification to existing dormer, new ground floor windows and internal modifications: The Council considered the extension to be overdevelopment and would adversely impact the neighbouring property. Resolved: To object to the application.
- c) 6/2023/0827/TPO 5 Evergreen Close: Application granted.
- d) 6/2023/0109/HOUSE 19 Hay Wains: No decision to report.
- e) To receive update on Taylor Wimpey landscaping obligations: Enforcement has instructed Taylor Wimpey to plant two lime trees and one oak tree in line with the landscape plan. The Council has enquired whether the front hedge will be planted which was also on the approved plan.
- f) To receive update on Local Plan Examination: The planning inspector has issued a schedule of further modifications to the Local Plan. A consultation will take place from 12<sup>th</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> July.
- 2.9 Hall (Cllr Corke & Pinney) & Grounds: (Cllr Dix)**
- a) To consider purchasing new tables: Quotes will be obtained for six and 10 trestle tables.
- b) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: All is satisfactory.
- c) To consider quote to repair hall gutter soffits: Awaiting quote once an inspection has been carried out.
- 2.10 Finance: (Cllr Hall)**
- a) To receive and approve the payments for May: Resolved: To approve payments for May.
- b) To receive and approve the accounts & bank reconciliation for May: Resolved: To approve the accounts & bank reconciliation for May.

c) To consider utility quotes for 2024: Quotes were obtained from Utility Aid to fix energy prices for the end of the Council's contract in July 2024. The Council asked if the electric quote could be extended and aligned with the gas quote to September 2026 but, if this is not possible, to accept the quotes as they stand. Resolved: To accept gas and electricity quotes from provider SSE. **Action: Clerk.**

d) To consider a payment to Woolmer Green Band for playing at Parish events: Resolved: To donate £450. **Action: Clerk.**

**2.11 Environment (Cllr Dix & Horton) & Transport: (Cllr Gribble)**

To discuss highways matters: (i) The footpath on the Chequers bend has been reinstated. The Council expressed thanks to Cllr Kingsbury for arranging this through his Highways Locality Budget. (ii) A serious accident occurred on London Road on 24<sup>th</sup> May. The police and air ambulance were in attendance. (iii) The Council asked for an update on when the puffin crossing by Kellard House will be installed.

**Action: Clerk.**

b) To consider HCC green space audit: The HCC initiative supports green projects and funding is available. The Council will consider what areas in the village could qualify for the scheme.

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

a) To receive a report on Village Day: The Chairman thanks Cllrs Corke and Pinney for organising the event which was well attended and a great success

b) To receive a report on Woolly Fest: 140 tickets were sold and it was an enjoyable evening. Income from tickets is £1,382.99 and costs were £1,117.17. The local caterer, Wildfire Catering and the Red Lion will be asked for a donation. **Action: Cllr Corke & Clerk.**

c) To discuss holding Woolly Fest in 2024: The Council agreed that as the event is likely to grow it would not be appropriate to risk public money in funding it. It was concluded the event should be organised independently.

d) To consider setting up a children's Warhammer Club: Cllr Pinney will run the club for under 12 year olds. Games Workshop will be asked if they will provide a starter pack to the Parish Council.

**Action: Cllr Pinney.**

e) To consider purchasing gazebo: The Council decided against purchasing a gazebo.

**2.13 To approve Annual Report 2022/23:** Resolved: To approve Annual report.

**2.14 To receive announcements:** None.

**2.15 To agree the date of the next meeting:** Parish Council meeting Tuesday 11 July 2023 at 7.30pm.

JRP 14.06.23

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

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