

# **WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

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

**In attendance:** Borough Councillor Roger Trigg, Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

**9.1 To receive apologies for absence:** None.

**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 9 January:** Resolved: The minutes of the 9 January Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**9.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors:** Cllr Hawkins attended the Cllrs Surgery & met a representative from WHBC regarding their Sports & Playing Pitch Strategy, Cllrs Hall, Hawkins & White attended the January Market, Cllr Pinney met with Knebworth Parish Council to advise them on installing a sound system and, in his capacity as a vintage car enthusiast, gave a talk to children at St. Michael's school about how a combustion engine works.

**9.6 To receive correspondence:** The Council received: Notes of the HCC Meeting Hertfordshire Challenges Event. A copy of a letter from CPRE to Hertfordshire MPs about "Flawed Formula for Housing Need". A letter from the WHBC Sports & Playing Pitch Strategy consultancy. Two letters from a resident raising issues pertaining to the hall grounds (see item 9.8h). Details of the HCC Waste Local Plan Initial Consultation. A letter from Essex & Herts Air Ambulance asking for a donation. Notification of A1M road closures. Copy of a letter to a resident from HCC about the footpath outside the houses on the former Fox pub site. An invitation to join the "Your Community Space" web site.

**9.7 Planning (Cllr Corke)**

- a) 6/2018/0316/HOUSE Paynes Farm, Conversion of existing outbuilding to a games room: No objection.
- b) 6/2018/0317/LB Paynes Farm, Conversion of existing outbuilding to a games room: No objection.
- c) 6/2017/0848/MAJ Entech House, submitted for appeal: Comment that, if approved, s106 contributions should be agreed by the developer.
- d) 17/02755/1 Retrospective application for gypsy site at Danesbury: No decision to report.
- e) 6/2017/2881/HOUSE, 59 Garden Road: Application granted.
- f) 6/2017/2861/HOUSE 15 Twin Foxes: Application granted.
- g) 6/2017/2695/MAJ Entech House: No decision to report.
- h) To receive update on Local Plan Examination: The Parish Council's consultant will attend the Hearing Session on 21<sup>st</sup> February where the designation of EA10 for employment will be discussed.

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

- a) To consider quotes for refurbishing the ladies toilets: Awaiting a third quote.
- b) To consider purchasing new signs & trestle tables for use at the market: Cllrs agreed that new signs are not necessary and that free advertising on social media would be more effective. Resolved: To purchase 8 6ft & 2 4ft trestle tables at an approximate cost of £200. **Action: Cllr Pinney.**
- c) To discuss the School's use of the hall: It was agreed that the school could have free use of the hall for their end of year performance and Nativity Play due to the inadequate size of the school hall, but that any other requested booking should be charged at resident's rates.
- d) To receive a report on the new Barleyfield's under lease: The Parish Council's solicitor has been instructed to draw up the necessary permission for the under lease at cost to HCC.
- e) To receive a report on the new fuel contract: The offer made by British Gas for a 3 year contract has been accepted which includes a total of £300 cash back and one free boiler service for switching.
- f) To review progress of clearing rubbish: The contractor has been given 21 days to remove the rubbish but this has not been done.
- g) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: Inspections satisfactory.
- h) To discuss a resident's concerns on the hall grounds: The Council agreed its response. **Action: Clerk.**
- i) To receive an update on preventing the establishment of permanent rights of way: Letters have been sent out to residents for signature by the solicitor. Twin Foxes Residents Associations 1 & 2 can sign on behalf of the residents in the flats.
- j) To consider Brownies request for a time capsule to be buried in the orchard: Cllrs welcomed the idea subject to consulting with Cllr Hawkins on a suitable location.

k) To discuss storage solution for football equipment: The Council agreed that Knebworth FC could erect a vandal proof shed on the hardstanding at the rear of the hall at their expense.

l) To consider installing fence in orchard to run parallel with boundary fence: A quote will be obtained.

**Action: Clerk.**

**9.9 Finance:** *(Cllr Hall)*

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

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

a) To discuss highways matters: (i) A traffic enforcement officer was present outside the school recently. (ii) An accident occurred outside the Red Lion on 9<sup>th</sup> February and the zebra crossing lighting on the north bound carriageway was severely damaged and will need replacing. (iii) Work to repair the lighting on Stevenage Road is ongoing but the road is still not illuminated at night. (iv) A resident has complained that there are still loose chippings on the pavement on London Road. (v) The resident in the cottage next to the school has put gravel along the edge of their fence which has over spilled onto the public footpath making a slip hazard and is falling down the drain as well as looking untidy.

**Action: Clerk.**

**9.11** To discuss arrangements for Village Day: Wrestle Force is keen to attend. Woolmer Green Band will play and it was suggested the school band could be asked to participate.

**9.12** To discuss arrangements for Wheels on Woolmer Green: It was agreed to ask residents which charity the event should support this year. This will be included in the newsletter.

**Action: Clerk.**

**9.13** To consider holding a Rock & Roll evening: Cllrs agreed and it will take place on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**Action: Cllr Pinney.**

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

a) It was proposed to hold the APM on 17<sup>th</sup> April.

b) Cllrs were sorry to hear of the death of the Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield, Cllr Lynne Sparks. The Parish Council will send condolences.

**9.15** To agree the date of the next meeting: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

JRP 14.02.18

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

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