

Wheathampstead Parish Council

29 October 2009, 19.30h

Present Councillors: A Brewster Vice Chairman
J Burgess
G Clark
N Clements
D Hills
N Page
J Turner
S Walford
A Waterfield

I Casper Deputy Clerk

Press 0

Public 0

628-09 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Begg and Reason (family commitment).

629-09 ABSENT

K. Stammers. The Standards Consideration and Sub-Committee of SADC met on Monday 28 September and decided to 'suspend' Councillor Stammers from his responsibilities and duties as a member of Wheathampstead Parish Council for a period of one calendar month commencing 1st October 2009.

630-09 PUBLIC SPEAKING - NONE

631-09 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Clark declared a personal interest in Minute 641-09, as she is on Plans North of the District Council Planning Authority. The way she votes at Parish Council will not necessarily be the way she votes at District Council.

Councillor Clark declared a non pecuniary interest in item 641-09 she lives on the same street.

632-09 MINUTES OF COUNCIL

The Minutes of the meetings held on 27 August 2009 were approved

Resolved: To confirm the Minutes of the meetings held on 27 August 2009 to be a true and fair account and for these to be signed by the Chairman.

633-09 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The following committee reports were received and receipted:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Allotments Committee | 8 October 2009 |
| Allotments Committee | 23 October 2009 |
| Village Plan Committee | 13 October 2009 |
| Village Day Committee | 20 October 2009 |
| Pump Committee | 27 October 2009 |

In receiving the draft minutes of the Allotments Committee of 8 October the Chairman informed members that the Committee had also met on the 23 October to consider a request which had been received to hold a bonfire on the Folly Fields Allotments.

Members agreed that local organisations should be contacted and informed that in future requests to hold bonfires/fireworks on Parish Council land should be received by the beginning of September so that the Council can consider such applications at the September meeting.

A request to install a gate at Glebe field had been received. Councillor Turner proposed that this item be moved to the Allotments Committee, seconded Cllr. Clark. Vote 7 For. Agreed.

Councillor Turner proposed, 'that Councillor Reason become a member of the Allotments Committee', seconded Councillor Clark. Vote 7 For Agreed.

In receiving the draft minutes of the Village Plan Committee of 13 October one amendment was made - Apologies from Cllr. Clements to be added.

In receiving the draft minutes of the Village Day Committee of 20 October the Chairman drew member's attention to the four working groups and formally invited all members to consider if they would like to join one of the groups. This invitation will be extended to the Parish. Members were asked to respond as soon as possible.

In receiving the draft minutes of the Pump Committee the Chairman informed members that the copy date for the winter edition is 10th November.

Resolved:

- 1 To receipt the Minutes noting the updated reports of**

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Allotments Committee | 8 October 2009 |
| Allotments Committee | 23 October 2009 |
| Village Plan Committee | 13 October 2009 |
| Village Day Committee | 20 October 2009 |
| Pump Committee | 27 October 2009 |
- 2 Local Organisations including Wheathampstead Scouts, Wheathampstead Cricket Club, Folly Residents Association to be contacted and asked to apply for permission to hold bonfires/firework displays on Parish Council land by early September. Copies of a Risk Assessment and insurance to be provided with request. Action Clerk.**
- 3 Request for gate at Glebe to go to the Allotments Committee.**
- 4 Councillor T Reason to become a member of the Allotments Committee**
- 5 Members to be emailed with details of the four Village Day working groups. Action Clerk.**
- 6 Copy for the Winter edition of the Pump to be received by 10th November 2009.**

634-09 VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE & PROJECT UPDATE

The Chairman informed members that 10 sailors from HMS St. Albans would be coming to Wheathampstead on Thursday 12th November to work on local projects. Members to put forward projects for the sailors to work on.

The Chairman proposed a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Payne of Hammersmatch thanking him for his swift response to requested tree work on Mill Quay. Agreed.

The Chairman informed members of tree work that was needed on the Marford Playing Fields. Cllr. Page has inspected the trees and advised that three trees be taken down, and a new Norwegian Ash to be planted between trees 3 & 4.

Three quotations have been received ranging in price from £700 to £1800.

Included in the £700 quoted the log wood to be cut into manageable pieces and left for local residents to remove for firewood. Contractor to remove any not taken.

Cllr Page informed members that the cost from a local contractor for one days stump grinding would be £270.

Councillor Turner proposed.' That subject to assurance that the stumps will be ground sooner rather than later the quotations for £700 to cut the trees and £270 for one days stump grinding be accepted', seconded Councillor Waterfield. Vote 8 For

The Chairman informed members that CMS funded tarmac work is taking place in the village. Tarmac work is needed to patch up a large dip that has been worn in the entrance to the Old 16th Green at Gustard Wood. This is a very well used car park and is the responsibility of the Council. While the contractors are working in the vicinity the Council have the opportunity to have this very large dip filled in at a cost of £1182.32. A quote of £2200 had initially been received for this work.

Cllr. Waterfield proposed that the quotation of £1182.32 from Stanmore Quality Surfacing Ltd be accepted, seconded Cllr. Burgess. Vote 7 For. Agreed.

The Chairman updated members on the progress of the new village signs. They should be ready within the next month. A small group of councillors, with a Highways Engineer are going to tour the area and choose suitable sites for the signs to be erected. Councillors Clark and Waterfield suggested that signs should go on/near the village boundaries. Members will be emailed with the suggestions of where the signs could go and were asked to respond as soon as possible with any queries.

The Chairman informed members that the public toilets were going to be inspected today by officers from St. Albans District Council, and the Mill Walk area will be cleaned today.

Councillor Turner asked that the Council be assured that the wooden bridge in Mill Walk is going to be safety surfaced.

Councillor Turner recommended that the Council registers its concern that in the season of slippery paths, there seems to be no urgency in resurfacing this area.

Councillor Burgess proposed, 'that the Clerk makes and appointment with the officer in charge at the Environment Agency to discuss the bridge surface and the cutting back of the trees in this area, seconded Councillor Turner.
Vote For 6 Against 2. So Resolved.

Resolved: 1 Members to inform the Clerk of projects for the sailors from HMS St. Albans to undertake.

- 2 Letter of thanks to Mr. Payne of Hammersmatch. Action Clerk.**
- 3 To accept quotation of £700 to remove trees on the Marford Playing Field.**
- 4 To accept a quotation of £270 for one days stump grinding.**
- 5 To accept quotation of £1182.32 to tarmac the entrance to the Old 16th Green.**
- 6 That the subcommittee including Councillors Brewster and Clements together with Highways engineer determine location of the entrance signs**
- 7 Clerk to make an appointment with Officer from the Environment Agency.**

635-09 CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH ON – 26 NOVEMBER 2009

The Deputy Clerk updated members.

The evening will start at 5pm with roundabout and attractions in the High Street/Station Road. The official lights switch on will be at 6pm.

The Environment Agency consent form to reinstall the pea lights at the Mill Race has been completed and will be hand delivered by the Deputy Clerk.

The Small Events Licence has been completed.

Resolved: 1 The small events licence to be sent to St. Albans District Council

- 2 Peckfords to be informed of 6pm switch on. Action Clerk**

636-09 WATER SUPPLY TO HILLEND FARM

A request for a wayleave for a water supply across Nomansland to Hillend Farm to a new farmhouse and farmyard has been received. A similar approach has also been made to Althorp estates for access across their land. The Deputy Clerk read out a letter received from Althorp Estates in response to a letter from the Clerk.

Cllr. Turner proposed that this item be passed to the Rights of Way Committee, seconded Cllr. Waterfield. Vote 6 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstentions. Agreed.

Resolved: The request for a wayleave from Hillend Farm be passed to the Rights of Way Committee

637-09 BENCH REQUESTS

Two requests for memorials in the form of benches or trees have been received. One for a bench or tree with plaque at Folly Fields, another for a bench near the river on the Meads.

The Chairman proposed this item be passed to the Rights of Way Committee, the Chairman of the Playing Fields Committee to liaise regarding the request at Folly Fields. Vote 9 For. Agreed.

Resolved: The requests for memorial benches/tree are passed to the Rights of Way Committee. The Chairman of the Playing Fields Committee to liaise regarding the bench/tree at Folly Field.

638-09 REQUEST FOR USE OF PARISH COUNCIL LAND

Wheathampstead Cricket Club had requested approval of a list of events to take place at the Club. This is to comply with the Cricket Club lease. Members considered the list.

Cllr Turner proposed approval of the list of events submitted by the Cricket Club, seconded Cllr. Waterfield. Vote 8 For. Agreed.

Resolved: The Parish Council approve the list of events to take place at Wheathampstead Cricket Club. Clerk to write to Cricket Club.

639-09 BUDGET REVIEW

Members reviewed expenditure against budget through the accounts for payment coversheet. They paid particular consideration to the 'council approved payments' budget.

Cllr. Turner proposed, 'the payment for the security hatch of £1039.00 to be moved to the administration budget, seconded Cllr. Hills. Vote 8 For. Agreed

Cllr. Clements proposed that payment of £21.00 for the small events licence be moved to the Highways and Public Transport budget, seconded Cllr. Waterfield. Vote 8 For. Agreed.

Cllr. Burgess proposed. 'the payment for the PCSO of £7250.00 be taken from reserves, seconded Cllr. Turner. Vote 8 For. Agreed.

Resolved:

- 1. Payment of £1039.00 for the security hatch to be put against the Administration budget.**
- 2. Payment of £21.00 for a small events licence to be put against the highways and Public Transport budget.**
- 3. Payment of £7250.00 for contribution to PCSO is taken from reserves.**

640-09 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The schedule of accounts for payment amounting to £16909.56 had been circulated.

Resolved: To pay the accounts per October 2009 schedule amounting to £16909.56 Nett

641-09 PLANNING

Councillor Clark, as Chairman of Planning Committee, took the chair for this Minute.

The following plans had been approved by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee:

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|-------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 5/09/1744CE | 82 Hilldyke Road | Certificate of Lawfulness (existing) single storey rear conservatory |
| 5/09/1848LB | Former Corn Mill, Mill Walk | Replacement of roof tiles |
| 5/09/1813 | 372 Lower Luton Road | Single storey lean to kitchen extension |

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|--|
| 5/09/1954 | 39 Brewhouse Hill | Rebuilding of single storey rear extension & terrace above, conversion of existing garage into habitable accommodation and internal alterations. |
| 5/09/1888 | 23 The Broadway, Gustard Wood | Single storey front extension, rear conservatory and first floor rear extension |

Resolved: **To note and approve planning decisions of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee**

The following plans were considered:

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 5/09/2005LB | The Grove, Pipers Lane, Harpenden | Provision of bathroom on the first floor |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|--|

Resolved: **Recommendation: NO OBJECTION**

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|-------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 5/09/2014LB | The Old Farmhouse, 55 Ash Grove | Replacement of ground floor windows and doors to rear with glass sliding doors, replacement of side window with double doors and insertion of roof light to rear. |
|-------------|---------------------------------|---|

Resolved: **Recommendation: NO OBJECTION**

Provided what is being proposed meets with the approval of the Conservation Officer

Cllr. Clements took the Chair for the following plan:

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|--|
| 5/09/2069 | 13 Tudor Road | Part single, part two storey front extension and two storey rear extension |
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Resolved: **Recommendation: NO OBJECTION**

642-09 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

Councillor Clark had attended a 'Shape East' Meeting.

This seminar was intended for planning officers and councillors involved in the planning process. The overall theme of the session was Master planning.

Councillor Clements had attended the following meetings:

Highways House – 1st October (*H. Highways Booklet in Parish Office*)

Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Board Meeting 1st October

Planning for the Parish Conference and Parish/District Charter 8th October

London Luton Airport Consultative Committee (LLACC) 12th October

Meeting with HCC Highways Engineers 13th October

HAPTC Plans Committee 13th October (*Response needed*)

LSP Community Conference 20th October

Meeting with Mr. Peers SADC re CCTV 20th October

Emergency Planning Conference 21st October

Highways Joint Member Panel (JMP)

Resolved: 1. To note reports

2. Cllr Clements to respond to the East of England Plan and its extension to 2031.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.20hr.

Dated this day of 2009

Chairman

