

**Wheathampstead Parish Council  
Village Day Committee  
20 July 2010, 19.30h**

Present	Councillors	A Waterfield	Chairman
		T Reason	
		S Bates	
		J Bell	WDPS
		B Dawes	
		L Coates	
		S Johnston	WDPS
		A Patel	
		N Whitwood	WEB
		J Warren	Clerk to the Council
		Press	0
		Public	0

**1214 -10 Apologies & Substitutions**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Brewster and Clements (personal reasons)

**1215-10 Public Speaking**

None

**1216-10 Specific Declarations of Interest**

None.

**1217-10 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of 28 June were approved but could not be signed as the meeting was inquorate.

**Resolved To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2010 to be a true and fair account and for these to be signed by the Chairman when the meeting was quorate.**

**1218-10 Review of weekend celebrations 10 -11 July 2010**

The Chairman thanked everyone, including the Clerk, for their support up to and throughout the weekend. He believed it was far busier than usual, the only exception being the fine weekend some years previous after a long period of inclement weather.

A large number of compliments had been passed by both individuals and Village organisations. The partnership with WEB and local businesses had worked well and both WEB and WDPS members had assisted significantly with the Saturday barn dance.

The Hall was busy with over 100 people watching the talent show and the calibre of the contestants was fabulous. Refreshments had been readily available as the bar was being set up for the evening's entertainment. More than 100 people also joined in the barn dance and it was particularly good to see a broad age range.

All present recommended that barn dance and talent show be repeated. A future bar stocked with a real ale would be appreciated by many.

The budget report to date was noted, income from programme advertising was yet to be received.

Consideration was given to catering at a similar future event, perhaps using different Village organisations. A higher ticket price to cover elements of band and food should be considered as specific grant funding was unlikely to be available and the demand had been proven. It was believed that if approached a number of local businesses may sponsor part of the event, offer prizes or give donations.

**Future thoughts:** It was noted that the disabled parking bays were misused in some instances. Greater signage may help alleviate the problem freeing the closer parking to the less mobile.

Consideration was given to closing off the Memorial Hall car park Saturday evening if another barn dance were held. This would discourage vehicles parking up and later being moved on. The attendant as previously to advise that it was a drop off zone with all vehicles gone by about 11.30am. Mr Patel would be happy to continue this duty in 2011.

Signposting that the Wheathampstead House School car park would be shut following departure of the procession and provision with the Social Club for Pipe band and horse box parking had worked well. Set up positioning of the various floats/processions assisted the organisers in directing stray participants.

The committee was disappointed however that, despite detailed planning and police support for this, the parade had failed to go anticlockwise around the Lamer Lane/Codicote Road roundabout.

A large crowd had congregated near the bridge to witness the mayor unveil the Village sign.

Some difficulties had arisen regarding repositioning and location of stalls including the ferrets and those sited most recently and had to be delicately handled.

The positioning of BBQ stalls and hog roast was debated. The hog roast needed access to power so was well positioned close to the dramatic society hut but somewhat more visible as some villagers had difficulty locating it. The Tennis Club had similarly been

somewhat obscured. Smoke from the BBQ adjacent to the hog roast and organ had caused nuisance and as its stock was stored in an adjacent vehicle it was recommended it were repositioned in future.

Electricity was also required for the PA sound system, and some stalls. Suggested the Tennis Club be approached.

The PA system was inaudible in parts of the field, masked especially by the ferret stall's PA. Reluctantly it was agreed the ferrets not be invited in 2011.

Many were pleased to see young people act out the Charter ceremony and hear the winner of Wheathampstead's Got Talent sing.

As an alternative 'animal' attraction it was recommended that a mare in foal be brought (source Mrs Coates) and also some chickens and ducks (Clerk to approach Mr Cox)

Limited provision was made for vegetarians, perhaps another year a vegetarian food stall option would be considered. It was a particularly warm July day and the queues long for refreshments, cold drinks particularly difficult to obtain. Cllr Reason knew a contact for Water Aid who had indicated an interest in selling cold bottled water for the charity. This idea was applauded.

The siting of a number of stalls in the Hall received positive feedback, both from stall holders and the public. No complaints were received on the changes to attractions on previous years. Consideration to be given to altering positioning of stalls for interest.

Marking out and 'taping' the arena had provided a made to measure football pitch Saturday evening – an added benefit.

Fairground and slide and go karts were well received, candy floss to be alternated between fairground persons.

To also include hog roast, icecream vans, police, fire fighters, Pipe Band, Morris Men, vintage motorcycles, St John Ambulance, sound system and WEB fair in 2011, and to once again invite Heart FM

It was noted that Radio Wheathampstead had been previously successfully used – a wavelength broadcasting for the day to the Village. Clerk to look into this. *Post meeting note – run from the Swan but by people who had since left the Village.*

A number of requests had been received for early purchase of the Village Day programme. Mr Patel confirmed that he would be happy to sell these in the weeks prior to Village Day. Agreed that 600 be printed and offered for sale in the Post Office, Parish Council Office and other venues which subsequently agreed.

Programme to be finalised for printing one month prior to Village Day.

The Explorer Scouts had as in previous years assisted with set up and set down for the day including moving the heavy metal furniture. It was agreed that should a Saturday event be run the tables and chairs be used for both days. The Scouts were to be thanked and a contribution made of £100 to their funds.

It was suggested that in future flags and bunting be removed the weekend after Village Day rather than the following Monday.

The RAF flypast had been most successful and the Spitfire's wing wagging as it flew over and back the field appreciated by endless people. The Help for Heroes stall acknowledged its influence in the donations made.

To encourage all food stalls, particularly BBQ type to have an adjacent rubbish sack. Bin sacks to be tied to appropriate locations of r easy of removal. Paladin bins to be made accessible and utilised for landfill rubbish in the first instance. Arrangements to be made, as in previous years for Litterblitz to collect recyclables. Clerk to thank Litterblitz for their assistance.

It was recommended that the Rights of Way & Commons Committee be asked to consider crown lifting some of the larger trees parallel to Necton Road as they inhibited the gazebos and restricted maximum use of the field.

To agree at the next meeting the theme for 2011 Village Day and to consider breakdown of tasks. The chairman suggested that he look into some appropriate software for designing the layout and if possible a projector be bought/ borrowed for better committee participation.

It was further recommended that the committee become a working group with full community participation. The chairman of the Wheathampstead Social Club be invited to attend.

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|--------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Recommendation<br/>to Council</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>To note the report</b>                                                                                                          |
|                                      | <b>2</b> | <b>To thank those who assisted both on Saturday and Sunday, particularly members of WEB and WDPS, committee members and Clerk.</b> |
|                                      | <b>3</b> | <b>To recommend that a barn dance and talent show be repeated in 2011</b>                                                          |
|                                      | <b>4</b> | <b>To charge a higher ticket price for barn dance and refreshments</b>                                                             |
|                                      | <b>5</b> | <b>To actively seek sponsorship for future events</b>                                                                              |
|                                      | <b>6</b> | <b>To note that the bar worked well</b>                                                                                            |

- but in addition to request real ale at a future barn dance.
- 7 To consider using alternative local food outlets for another year.
  - 8 To provide more and clearer signage for disabled bays
  - 9 To cone off Memorial hall carpark on Saturday evening to facility its use as a drop off zone Sunday
  - 10 To note arrangements at Whatehampstead House School and Social Club
  - 11 To adhere to route plans for parade
  - 12 To consider repositioning of stalls in particular Horticultural Society BBQ and to minimise any obstruction of stalls
  - 13 To utilise inside facilities for stalls
  - 14 To approach the Tennis Club for access to electricity
  - 15 To look at means of improving the acoustics
  - 16 Not to invite the ferret stall for 2011
  - 17 To include a mare in foal and chickens and ducks as alternative 'animal' attractions
  - 18 To encourage vegetarian food options
  - 19 To encourage more refreshments, including a Water Aid stall for water.
  - 20 To mark out and rope off arena on Saturday
  - 20 To include fairground and gokarts/ slide, sound system, St John Ambulance, police , fire fighters, ice cream vans, hog roast, Pipe Band, Morris Men, Vintage motor cycles and WEB fair, and to invite Heart FM.
  - 21 Clerk to look into provision of Radio Wheathampstead
  - 22 To finalise programme and send to print one month before Village day and offer for sales at various locations in the Village.
  - 23 To thank the Explorer Scouts and make a donation of £100 to their funds
  - 24 That bunting and flags be removed a week after Village Day in 2011 rather than the following Monday.

- 25 To note the success of the RAF flypast and thank the pilot and events team.**
- 26 To make additional provision for litter collection**
- 27 To recommend that Rights of Way Committee consider crown lifting trees parallel to Necton Road.**
- 28 To consider a theme for 2011 next meeting**
- 29 Chairman to source appropriate software for designing field and stall layout**
- 30 To recommend that a projector be purchased or borrowed to enable group participation in design**
- 31 To consider a change from committee to working group**
- 32 To invite the Chairman of the Wheathampstead Social Club to attend the next meeting**

**The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 22.00h.**

**Dated this            day of            2010**

**Chairman**