

MINUTES

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Woodham Walter Parish Council.
Held at 8.00pm in Woodham Walter Women's Club, Top Road, Woodham Walter.

Monday 11th August 2014

Present:

Cllr. Peter Warren
Cllr. Andrew Newland
Cllr. James Bunn
Cllr. Joanna Symons

Others: Jacky Bannerman (Parish Clerk)
District Councillor Henry Bass

Public: 3

1246. Welcome Cllr Peter Warren welcomed those present to the meeting.

1247. Apologies For Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Mark Durham and Cllr. Angus Neale.

1248. Disclosure of Interests/Consideration of Dispensations To disclose the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, other Pecuniary Interests or Non-Pecuniary Interests relating to items of business on the agenda having regard to paragraphs 6-10 inclusive of the Code of Conduct for Members. (Members were reminded they are also required to disclose any such interests as soon as they become aware should the need arise throughout the meeting).

Cllr. Andrew Newland declared a Non-Pecuniary interest in the planning applications at the Warren Golf Club as he is a member of the club.

No other interests were declared and the book was duly signed.

1249. Public Forum To receive the views of members of the public on items of business on the agenda or other village matters to be considered by the council.

There were 3 members of the public present. Mr James Rushton & Mr Ivor Brearley were in attendance regarding the vacancy for a Parish Councillor.

Mrs Ursula Lawton was in attendance regarding the electricity lines on Little Baddow Road between Brooklands and Top Road which are overgrown and she is concerned that windy conditions will result in a power cut. Councillors advise that UK Power Networks should be contacted, this is out of the scope of the Parish Council's responsibilities but clerk will report.

Mr James Rushton commented on the Warren Golf Club Planning Application. He was concerned that it is very complicated to decipher exactly what was being proposed as the document contains information on future master plans, some of which are of concern. Many people in the village would be unaware of the application and the process should be more transparent to the village at large. Councillors agreed that the application had contained vast quantities of complicated information but advised that they can only consider the actual planning proposal in this application. The master plan cannot be part of the discussion. Just because the Parish Council or anyone supports one application does not necessarily mean they will support all proposals. However, councillors agreed that plans should be seen in context.

1250. To approve the Minutes Of Parish Council Meeting Held On Monday 14th July 2014 The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed.

1251. Matters Arising from Minutes of 14th July 2014

1251.1 Broadband. Clerk has received a few readings and will collate information to demonstrate that we are not achieving the speeds BT think we are getting. Clerk to submit evidence to ECC, BT, Priti Patel MP and District Councillors and also ask if and when the Woodham Walter area is programmed for roll out. The letter will be made available should other residents wish to write similarly.

1251.2 (1243.2) Vehicle Activated Sign. Clerk has received some initial information that a sign would cost in the region of £2500-£3000. If additional posts were erected/utilised the sign could be moved around the village in order to maintain maximum impact. Data (general, non-identifiable data) from the sign could also be used to demonstrate the speeds in the village and help identify specific times for the Community Speed Watch team to attend and also to request tailored visits from the police for enforcement.

The funding needs to be investigated, this could be from several different sources e.g. The Parish Council could provide funding from the precept (i.e. monies collected by the Parish Council element of the Council Tax paid by residents), other grant funding could be investigated (e.g. Bell Meadow Legacy Fund/ECC Community Initiatives Fund/grants from other sources) or specific fundraising could be instigated. Councillors think that having our own sign would be popular with residents and local views are to be sought. Clerk to enquire with Hatfield Peverel Parish Clerk.

1252. Woodham Walter Village Design Statement Working Party Nothing further to update. Members of the committee will have a display of information at the Bell Meadow Day event.

1253. Planning – APPLICATIONS

1253.1 FUL/MAL/14/00556 & LBC/MAL/14/00557 Warren Golf Club

Clubhouse redevelopment and internal alterations, incorporating a new building to provide changing room facilities and plant room.

It was noted that one letter had been received from a resident regarding the future plans and the comments were acknowledged.

Discussions included some comment on the enabling works including future proposals for some houses on the area which the Parish Council fought for a Section 106 agreement in order to protect from further development.

Councillors agreed to support the application for the clubhouse redevelopment in isolation but support for this should not be construed as acceptance or support of the wider future proposals.

1253.2 WTPO/MAL/14/00728 Warren Golf Club

TPO 1/14 Area 1 – T1 – Leylandii – Removal of 1 leylandii adjacent to the front entrance of the clubhouse.

Councillors support the application.

1253.3 WTPO/MAL/14/00729 Bunsay Downs Golf Club

TPO 1/14 Area 1 – T1 – T3 Eucalyptus – Removal of three Eucalyptus trees which are causing shading and damage to adjacent area.

Councillors support the application.

1253.4 WTPO/MAL/14/00730 Warren Golf Club

T1-T37 Leylandii – Removal of 37 Leylandii trees to allow extension of car parking area.

Councillors support the application.

1253.5 WTPO/MAL/14/00731 Warren Golf Club

TPO 01/14 Area. Trees to front of demountable office T1- T6, T8-9. Oak tree. Remove 7 of the 8 small oak trees, leaving the best specimen. Remove T7 Hawthorn.

Councillors support the application.

1253.6 HOUSE/MAL/14/00703 7 Mead Pastures

Single storey side extension and partial conversion of existing detached garage. Internal alterations and new stairwell window.

Councillors viewed this application which had only arrived earlier in the day. Councillors concluded on initial inspection they support the application but neighbours would be consulted to ascertain if they have any material planning considerations, in which case the council view would be reviewed. Clerk to liaise.

1254. Planning – DECISIONS None

1255. Other Planning Matters

1255.1 St Michael's Drainage Easement – Cllr. Bunn has delivered a drawing to the PCC in order that they may now sign the document. Clerk to chase up.

1255.2 MDC – Conservation & Design Awards 2014. The nomination documents have been sent to Maldon District Council.

1256. Payments The following payments were authorised and cheques duly signed.

1256.1 e-on –Monthly DD

1256.2 A&J Lighting Solutions – Monthly DD

1256.3 Mrs J Bannerman - Clerks Salary/Allowance including 27 hours

1256.4 D Wallace (DW Maintenance) £470

1256.5 Universal Services £40.20 (Annual inspection of goal posts)

1256.6 Payment of annual community grants: Woodham Walter Women's Club £147; Woodham Walter Village Hall £200; St Michael's Church £189; Silver Threads £150; Essex Wildlife Trust £105.

1256.7 A&J Lighting Solutions – DD £42.60 works carried out during annual maintenance visit. It was noted that the sensor of the light adjacent to Ferndale is obstructed by vegetation and that the light works intermittently – clerk to report.

1257. Other Financial Matters

1257.1 Summary of Accounts to date

DATE	ACCOUNT / TRANSACTION DETAIL	AMOUNT IN	AMOUNT OUT	BALANCE
Business Reserve A/C				
14-Jul-14	Balance			11158.38
11-Aug-14	Transferred to Community A/C 60978876		1600.00	9558.38
Community Account				
14-Jul-14	Balance			632.82
06-Aug-14	Allotment Association (re: NSALG)	55.00		687.82
11-Aug-14	Transferred from Business Reserve A/C 40622818	1600.00		2287.82
11-Aug-14	August Debits		1693.24	594.58

1257.2 Party Tents – Cllr. Bunn continues to investigate bags and tie down kits or sourcing pegs & rope. Clerk has forwarded links to James to aid his investigation. Measurements of existing bags to be taken.

1258. Report Of The District Councillor & County Councillor Cllr. Henry Bass was in attendance but there was nothing to report specific to Woodham Walter. He informed that Cllr. Kevin Bentley at ECC is the councillor responsible for the Superfast Essex broadband rollout. Cllr. Bass informed that he had raised the issue of whether or not Woodham Walter is on the list and he is aware of the exaggeration of available speeds. Cllr. Bass also commented on the Vehicle Activated Signs which are in Wickham Bishop and that the date collected can be used to decide when to relocate the signs. Cllr. Bass left the meeting room following his report

1259. Other Council Matters

1259.1 Councillor Vacancy. Notice of election by co-option was given in the agenda. There is one Parish Councillor position vacant. Two candidates have expressed an interest in the position. Ivor Brearley and James Rushton were both present and were given the opportunity to speak briefly about themselves before leaving the room in order that a vote could be taken. Councillors voted and agreed to co-opt by an absolute majority decision of the Council, James Rushton. The candidates were invited back into the room and the Chairman declared James Rushton duly elected.

1259.2 Risk Assessments – Clerk confirms details of school playground equipment conformity Cert BS EN1176 are on file. Clerk to request copy of latest inspection certificate of the playground from school. The annual inspection of the goal posts at Bell Meadow has been carried out. The report indicates that two of the posts are damaged but are still in useable condition. The goal nets are in a poor state of repair. Cllr. Bunn to inspect further.)

1259.3 Employee Annual Review – to be arranged.

1260. Consultations/Questionnaires None

1261. Highways

It is noted that there are still a large number of on-going highways issues which clerk is seeking updates.

1261.1 2322398 The pot holes at the junction of West Bowers Road/Rectory Road have been repaired.

1261.2 2311641 The road adjacent to Ravens, Little London Lane has been surfaced.

1261.3 It is noted that the road between The Warren & The Anchor is scheduled for surface dressing works.

1261.4 2337005 Clerk has requested vegetation around village gateway to be cut back at Herbage Park Road entrance to village.

1261.5 Clerk to report the Road Closed sign which has been left along Little Baddow Road. Clerk to report the stones along the highway verge adjacent to Albany Orchards which are considered to be very dangerous.

1261.6 Parish Clerks Forum – guest speaker was Mike Thompson from ECC Highways. Parish Clerks were able to highlight frustrations of the service offered and were encouraged that a new Parish Portal system is being developed (due Autumn) which will aid reporting and increase the information available/status of jobs to parish clerks. Clerks were also informed that they can directly contact the Highways Rangers for certain jobs (e.g. vegetation/drainage) and that the Highways Panel can be approached for other schemes and may consider repairs/renewing of finger posts.

1262. Local Issues

1262.1 **Bell Meadow/Playground.** It was noted that the community playground at the school had been closed for a period of time at the start of the school holidays. Cllr. Symons to ask the school to

notify the Parish Council in future if the playground is to be closed in order that a sign can be erected informing villagers. There were no other issues to report and the book was duly signed.

1262.2 **Bell Meadow Day.** Sunday 24th August. Clerk liaised with BMVA regarding hedges at Bell Meadow and confirmed that they can carry out necessary work for the event but that the Parish Council do not consider that the remedial work is essential so it will be funded by the BMVA. Clerk is seeking quotes to reduce branches and vegetation to stop encroachment on the meadow. Clerk has prepared the necessary paperwork in order to comply with the terms of the Premises License for the event and awaits feedback from MDC/Essex Police.

1262.3 **Footpaths Report** Cllr. Warren reported that the footpaths have now been cut by Essex County Council and a thorough job has been done for which Peter has thanked them. Branches have been removed from Footpath 19 and 22. Following horse riders complaints about the Bridleway between Ravens and Retreat Farm. Road plannings were supplied by ECC and spread and holes filled by George Thompson to good effect. An incident with cyclists on FP 16 at Willow Cottages has been reported to the police.

1262.4 **School Report** Notified of works due to take place at the school during holidays including enlarging the hard playground area and erecting a fence and gate next to class 4. Cllr. Symons to liaise with Headteacher on best route of communications with the school.

1262.5 **Crime Report** PC Lea Keene had submitted her report, there were no further crimes to report.

1262.6 **Litter** None to report.

1263. Correspondence

1263.1 Vodafone Rural Open Sure Signal Programme. Information received from Priti Patel MP regarding pilot programme for reliable 3G coverage. Cllr. Newland had accessed the information and indicated that whilst there was some merit, it relies on broadband signal.

1264. Points of Information None

1265. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting: Date of next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Monday 8th September 2014 at 8pm in Women's Club.

Signed

Meeting ended at 9.50pm

Dated