

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 9 September 2008

Present: Cllr Mrs J Watson (Chair), Cllr N Collingridge (Vice Chair), Cllr M Burge, Cllr S Day, Cllr A Gribble.

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Acting Clerk).

- 1. Mr Paul Underwood:** Mr Underwood of WHBC gave a presentation on the achievements and targets of WHBC. He asked Councillors to identify local needs and priorities. Councillors raised issues regarding the pond, roads, housing, difficulties with WHBC Planning and Parish funding. (see 10b & 14a)
- 2. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr H Bryant.
- 3. Minutes of Council Meeting on 12 August 2008:** The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record. Future minutes will be circulated and approved at the next meeting.
- 4. Meetings attended by Councillors:** Woolmer Green hosted the WHALC meeting on 1 September (minutes will be circulated to councillors). Cllr Watson attended a Focus on Environment Meeting, a Customer Services Public Meeting, she met with Mr S Trower of Finesse Leisure regarding the BMX Track and she helped at Pond Clearance Day.
- 5. Correspondence:** None.
- 6. Youth Matters:** Cllrs agreed to set up a Youth Computer Group to meet at the hall. The emphasis would be on learning. An adult volunteer would be needed to supervise the group. **Action: Cllr Watson**
- 7. Planning: (Cllr Bryant)**
 - a) Planning Portal: Investigations through the Government Planning Portal have established that WHBC's Planning Portal is independent from theirs. It was agreed that the link on WHBC's site inviting comments on applications should be discussed with a member of the Welwyn Hatfield Planning team. **Action: Cllr Watson**
 - b) 59 London Road: Application refused.
 - c) New Planning Applications: None
- 8. Hall: (Cllr Watson)**
 - a) Councillors Surgeries: Cllr Watson attended the Surgery on 6 September and will attend the next one on 4 October. Cllr Day will attend the Surgery on 1 November. It was proposed that future Surgeries may be held alternately at the hall and Wickfield Close. A list will be circulated so that councillors can book to attend future surgeries.
 - b) Theft of Lead Roof: The roof has been repaired.
 - c) Hall Floor: The contractor that resurfaced the hall floor has requested a written recommendation. Cllrs agreed. He also advised that an expansion strip could be cut along the edges of the floor to prevent it lifting. Cllrs agreed to this action. **Action: Cllr Watson**
 - d) Repair to Table: Repair not completed. **Action Clerk**
 - e) Display Cupboard: Quotes range from £500-£800. As the budget is £1000 Cllr Watson will make further enquiries. **Action Cllr Watson**
 - f) Appointment of Handyman: Mr S Blackman has agreed to carry out any hall repairs. Two other contractor's details will be kept on file for future reference.
 - g) Repair of Windows: The details of a quote for £450 did not appear to remedy the source of the problem. The contractor will be consulted. **Action Cllr Watson**
 - h) Double Glazing: A quote will be obtained for installing secondary glazing to the committee room, lounge and kitchen. **Action Cllr Watson**
 - i) Kitchen Hob: Cllrs agreed to replacing the broken hob at a cost of around £60 **Action Cllr Watson**
- 9. Finance: (Cllr Bryant)**
 - a) Payments and Accounts for August: These had been circulated and were agreed.
 - b) Annual Audit Report: The audit has been successfully completed.
 - c) Cheques: Cllrs approved the cheques to be paid in September.
 - d) Budget Items: It was agreed to include the relining of the curtains in next years budget.
 - e) Mr A Edmonds: Cllrs agreed to spend £50 on a leaving present for Mr Edmonds to thank him for his work as Parish Clerk **Action Cllr Watson**
- 10. Environment & Transport: (Cllr Collingridge)**
 - a) Mardley Heath BMX Track: Cllr Watson, Welwyn Parish Council & the police met with Mr S Trower of

Finesse Leisure to discuss re-instating the BMX Track on Mardley Heath. All parties were in favour. Welwyn Parish Council will continue the negotiations.

- b) Lorry parked in Mardleybury Road: A lorry parked in Mardleybury Road is destroying the grass verge. Mr P Underwood of WHBC has agreed to look into the problem.

11. Publicity: Notice Boards: awaiting quotes.

12. Grounds: (*Cllr Gribble*)

- a) Old Pavillion Site: Awaiting a quote to landscape the site.
- b) Monthly Playground Inspection: Deferred until the next meeting.
- c) Yearly Playground Inspection: WHBC are still to carry this out.
- d) Playground Signs: No progress to report.
- e) Allotments: A meeting will be held on 11 September to set up an Allotment Society.

13. War Memorial: Awaiting three quotes. A grant will cover half the cost.

14. Pond Matters:

- a) Pond Waste: Mr P Underwood will look into the possibility of WHBC disposing of the pond waste.
- b) Access across Council Land: As the access track to 6 New Road is used for parking the Council will look into the legal implications. **Action: Cllr Watson**

15. Village of the Year Competition: The entry form was circulated. An extra meeting will be held to discuss ideas.

16. AOB:

- a) Planning Training: WHBC are holding a Planning Training course on 29 September.
- b) Village Day: Some ideas for Village Day were circulated. Further ideas are welcome.

17. Date of next Meeting: 14 October 2008 starting at 7.30pm.

JRP 10.9.08