

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 12 May 2009

Present: Cllr Mrs J Watson (Chair), Cllr N Collingridge (Vice Chair), Cllr P Corke, Cllr A Gribble.

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

2.1 To receive apologies for absence: Cllrs. M Burge and S Day.

2.2 To receive declaration of interests: none.

2.3 To approve minutes of Council Meeting on 10 March 2009, Extra Meetings on 24 March & 21

April and to note minutes of Annual Parish Meeting: Resolved: The minutes of 10 March, 24 March & 21 April were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting were noted.

2.4 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: Cllrs Watson, Burge & Gribble attended the Village of the Year judging day. Cllr Watson attended the launch of the Police Plan, Allotments Meeting, Heritage Committee Meeting and met with a legal representative from the Childrens' Centre. She also attended the Councillors' Surgery with Cllr Corke, Highways Meeting with Cllrs Collingridge & Corke, Planning Training at WHBC with Cllrs Burge & Corke. The Clerk attended a Childrens' Centre Meeting.

2.5 To receive correspondence: Letters were received from: Highways who cannot mount a mirror beside the highway as requested by a local resident; Mrs Westley who feels that the residents of Twin Foxes will not change their mind regarding access to the school across their land; WHBC requesting information to progress a consortium purchase of electricity from 1 October; The Planning Inspectorate acknowledging the Council's wish to attend the appeal of a planning application for the Petit Forestier site; a quotation from the landowner leasing land for the allotments (see 2.12c)

2.6 To receive a report on youth matters: Nothing to report.

2.7 Planning: (Cllr Corke)

a) To receive decisions on planning applications: 4 Holly Road: Application going to appeal. The Council have asked to attend.

b) To discuss new planning applications: N6/2009/0907/EI, Childrens' Centre, Hall Lane: Resolved: to support the application.

Action: Cllr Corke

c) To form a response to the Issues & Options Document: After much debate the Council formed their response to WHBC Core Strategy Issues & Options Document that will be submitted 13 May.

Action: Clerk

2.8 Hall: (Cllr Watson)

a) To review progress on the Childrens' Centre: The plans have been amended as requested by the Council.

b) To report on a broken table: A hall table is broken and needs to be repaired in time for the wedding on 13 June.

Action: Clerk

c) To discuss arrangements for bar & disco: A further complaint was received about the noise levels at a recent party. The resident barman provided the disco. Cllrs discussed installing a noise limiter and diverting the extractor fan to enable it to extract from the hall independently. This could discourage hirers from leaving the front doors open. Resolved: to investigate noise limiters and work needed to adjust extractor.

Action Cllrs Watson & Gribble

2.9 Finance: (Cllr Day)

a) To approve payments and accounts for March & April: These had been circulated. Resolved: to approve payments and accounts for March & April.

b) To approve submission of the external audit: The Chairman praised the Clerk for doing a good job. Resolved: to approve submission of the audit return which was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

Action: Clerk

2.10 Environment & Transport: (Cllr Collingridge & Cllr Cork)

a) To adopt the School Travel Plan & B197 Survey into the Parish Plan: Ian Thompson of Herts Highways had been invited to the meeting but was unable to attend. He explained that Highways are only able to work closely with two parishes a year and this has already been decided for 2009/10. He advised that producing a Parish Plan would be an advantage for Woolmer Green when two parishes are selected for 2010/11. Resolved: to adopt the School Travel Plan & B197 Survey into the Parish Plan.

b) To receive a report on the meeting with Highways: The minutes had been circulated. The 40 mph signs

in Mardlebury Road have been erected. White lining will be carried out after the road has been resurfaced. Highways have been notified of the lamp posts in need of painting. WHBC will clear the path between Monread and Knebworth.

- c) To discuss the positioning of the Footpath Boards: Resolved: The boards will be positioned on the front of the village hall and on the white wall in the high street next to the hairdressers if permission is granted by residents at 2A New Road.

2.11 Publicity: (*Cllr Collingridge*)

To review progress on Business & Transport leaflets: Still to be completed.

Action: Cllr Watson

2.12 Grounds: (*Cllr Gribble*)

- a) To receive a report on the monthly playground inspections: Deferred until next meeting.
b) To review progress of the playground & Childrens' Centre Signs: Progress is continuing.
c) To receive a report on the Allotment Society & consider paying landowner's solicitor's fees: Applications for funding are in progress. It will be possible to supply water to the site. Access may be from London Road if not possible through the Jolly Garden via the churchyard. Resolved: To apply for planning permission for access via B197 & to pay landowner's solicitor's fees up to £1000.
d) To review progress of the Jolly Garden: The Groundwork Trust has pruned the Jolly Garden and will finish the work in July.
e) To review progress of the old pavilion site: Waiting for result of funding application.

2.13 Village of the Year Competition:

- a) To receive a report on the Eastern Region entry: Woolmer Green was not successful.
b) To review progress of 2009 Competition: The entry has been submitted.
c) To receive a report on the new tree: The tree has been planted in the high street.

2.14 To receive announcements:

- a) To review the progress of Village Day: Help on the day would be appreciated.
b) To receive a report on the hall chairs: Help would be appreciated on the evening of Wednesday 10 June to clean the chairs.
c) To receive a report on the display cabinet: Two cabinets have been delivered for displaying the woodcarvings in the committee room.
d) To receive a report on advertising: It was suggested that the village hall could be advertised in the Datchworth Parish Magazine.

2.15 Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 9 June 2009 at 7.30pm