

# **WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of meeting held 9 June 2009**

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

**In attendance:** Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk), members of the public.

**3.1 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr S Day.

**3.2 To receive declaration of interests:** Cllr Watson declared a personal interest in planning application N6/2009/0817/FP 4 New Court as the occupants are close neighbours.

**3.3 To approve minutes of Annual Meeting of the Council and Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 May 2009,** Arising from these minutes Cllr Burge agreed to continue to take responsibility for village appearance and has signed to confirm his Register of Members' Interests remain true. Resolved: The minutes of 12 May Meetings were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**3.4 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors:** Cllr Watson attended a meeting to elect the Mayor, gave a talk to Age Concern and met with representatives of the Children's Centre. Cllrs Watson, Gribble & Collingridge attended the Village of the Year judging. Most Cllrs attended Village Day.

**3.5 To receive correspondence:** None.

**3.6 To receive a report on youth matters:** James helped with clearing up after Village Day for which he will be thanked. He had asked if he could have a key to the hall so he could maintain the CCTV installation but Cllrs agreed to continue with the present arrangement of him gaining access when the caretaker is present.

**3.7 Planning:** (Cllr Corke)

a) 4 Holly Road: No decision received.

b) Application N6/2009/0950/MA 59 London Road, Erection of nursing home with respite care & ancillary services following demolition of existing building: Cllrs agreed that the new plans are a great improvement. Resolved: To positively approve the application. **Action: Cllr Corke**

c) Application N6/2009/0876/FP 65 London Road, Erection of two storey side extension incorporating integral garage and single storey side extension: Resolved: To support the application. **Action: Cllr Corke**

d) Application N6/2009/0817/FP 4 New Court, Erection of single storey front extension: Cllrs approved the application as it added character to an otherwise featureless building. The extension is in line with the adjacent garages. The Case Officer is recommending a refusal. Resolved: To call in the application to the Planning Committee. **Action: Cllr Corke**

e) 3 Evergreen Close: The Enforcement Officer was contacted with reference to the rear extension. The Parish Council were informed that the resident had made a Building Regulations Application and that planning permission is not required.

**3.8 Hall:** (Cllr Watson)

a) To review progress on the Children's Centre: The Children's Centre staff are concerned about the stability of the display cabinet so it will be fixed to the wall. **Action: Cllr Watson**

b) To review progress on the broken table: The table has been repaired.

c) To receive a report on noise limiters: Cllr Gribble is still investigating and will try to obtain a noise limiter on approval. The cost of a noise limiter is approximately £400. **Action: Cllr Gribble**

**3.9 Finance:** (Cllr Day)

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

b) To adopt new financial regulations: These had been circulated. Cllrs decided to approve the financial regulations leaving the standing figures unchanged. It was proposed to change item 11.1i to read "the Clerk/RFO shall request three quotations". Resolved: To adopt the Financial Regulations with amendment.

**3.10 Environment & Transport:** (Cllr Collingridge & Cllr Corke)

To receive reports: Mardleybury Road is being resurfaced which will enable the white lining to go ahead. Cllrs agreed that White Horse Lane was in poor condition.

**3.11 Publicity:** (Cllr Collingridge)

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

**Action: Cllr Watson**

### **3.12 Grounds:** (Cllr Gribble)

- a) To receive a report on the monthly playground inspections: Cllr Burge carried out the playground inspection and reported that all is satisfactory.
- b) To review progress of the playground & Children's Centre Signs: Cllrs approved the Children's Centre signs and it was suggested that directions to the hall & Children's Centre be included on one large finger sign rather than two separate ones. Progress is continuing on the playground signs.
- c) To receive a report on the Allotment Society: The Landowner's Solicitor is progressing with the lease agreement. Highways said they would refuse an application for vehicle access from B197.
- d) To review progress of the old pavilion site: Waiting for result of funding application. Cllr Corke to investigate delay. **Action: Cllr Corke**
- e) To consider a quote for turfing the football pitch: Cllrs agreed that the pitch was in need of repair but stressed the importance of implementing a regular watering regime. Resolved: To accept the quote of £595+VAT.
- f) To consider a request for positioning a sign by the pond: Cllrs agreed that allowing one sign by the pond could encourage others. It was decided to refuse the request and also remove the display board that is unused. **Action: Cllr Watson**

### **3.13 Village of the Year Competition:**

To review progress of 2009 Competition: The judging took place on 3 June. Cllr Gribble gave a presentation. Cllrs Collingridge and Watson showed the judges the proposed site for the allotments and the judges finished their tour with tea at Cllr Collingridge's house.

### **3.14 To receive a report on Village Day:** Village day was a success. Over twenty households took part in the scarecrow competition.

### **3.15 To receive a report on HAPTC AGM and decide which candidates to vote on to the Executive Committee:** All Councillors & Clerks are invited to the AGM in Woolmer Green Hall on 17 June at 7.00pm. Cllrs chose five candidates to vote on to the Executive Committee.

### **3.16 To receive announcements:**

- a) The results of the Village of the Year competition will be announced at County Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> June. All Cllrs are invited to attend.
- b) The next WHALC meeting will be held on 15 September at Welwyn Civic Centre.
- c) A representative of the Knebworth Secondary School Campaign has asked to give a presentation to Woolmer Green Parish Council.

### **3.17 Date of next Meeting:** Tuesday 14 July 2009 at 7.30pm