

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 13 October 2009

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

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

7.1 To receive apologies for absence: Cllr P Corke.

7.2 To receive declaration of interests: Cllr Collingridge declared a prejudicial interest with regard to the allotments as he is in partnership with the landowner.

7.3 To approve minutes of Council Meeting on 8 September: Resolved: The minutes of 8 September meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

7.4 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: Cllr Gribble attended a Children's Centre Advisory Meeting. Cllrs Watson & Collingridge attended a Herts Highways meeting and a meeting on the Children's Centre to agree the terms of the lease. Cllr Watson attended a Heritage Forum where she obtained information on applying for commemorative blue plaques and Great North Road information boards. Cllr Watson also attended econsult training at WHBC.

7.5 To receive correspondence: A letter was received from a resident suggesting the goal posts and car park perimeter fence need replacing. A letter was received from a resident in Wolves Mere asking for the trees in the hall grounds overhanging their garden to be pruned. A reply was sent to say the Council had no objection if they cut them back themselves. Information was received from ecovision about grants available for renewable energy. Information was received about the public consultation on the East of England Plan. The Council were invited to comment on the merger of East and North Herts PCT & West Herts PCT. It was agreed not to comment.

7.6 Planning: (Cllr Corke)

a) 80 Carvers Croft: Application approved.

b) To discuss and consider signs displayed outside the Red Lion: Cllrs agreed that the many signs displayed at the Red Lion look unsightly. WHBC will investigate the car wash facility and Herts Highways will write to ask for the boards on the public path to be removed.

c) To receive a report on e consultation training on 30 September: Cllr Watson reported the training was interesting and will clarify with WHBC whether it can be accessed by multiple users. It is due to be upgraded at the end of October.

Action: Cllr Watson

7.7 Hall: (Cllr Watson)

a) To review progress on the Children's Centre: The site meeting had reported that the building work is progressing well. The Council's solicitor has advised that the building be insured as a whole through one insurer. Advice is being sought from the Council's insurer on how to do this.

Action: Clerk

A hirer is concerned that the building work will look unsightly on the occasion of a wedding reception. A letter will be sent explaining how the Council plan to reconcile the situation.

Action: Cllr Watson

b) To receive a report on noise limiters: As there have been no complaints about the sound from the hall recently Cllrs decided to delay installing a noise limiter at present.

c) To review progress of installing environmental measures in the hall: The lottery fund has been approached for funding.

d) To consider appointing a handyman: Cllrs agreed a handyman is needed to carry out repairs to the hall.

Action: Clerk

7.8 Finance: (Cllr Day)

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

b) To consider budget items for 2010/11: Items to include in the budget are repainting the woodwork on the outside of the hall & decoration to the inside and new swing seats.

c) To receive a report on the external audit: The audit for 2008/09 has been completed. The Chairman congratulated the Clerk.

d) To consider implementing the NALC pay agreement: Resolved: To implement a 1.25% pay increase to all staff.

e) To consider paying a member of staff for extra duties: Resolved: That a member of staff should be paid for extra duties when covering for staff on holiday.

7.9 Environment & Transport: (Cllr Collingridge & Cllr Corke)

- a) To receive progress on the Parish Plan, B197 & consider setting up an Action Committee: A Parish Plan must be developed in consultation with the local community therefore a leaflet will be distributed to all households to encourage residents to come forward to work on the project. **Action: Cllr Watson.**
- b) To receive a report on the Highways Meeting: The minutes of the meeting had been circulated.

7.10 Publicity: (Cllr Collingridge)

- a) To review progress on Business & Transport leaflets: The leaflets should be printed at the end of October.

7.11 Grounds: (Cllr Gribble)

- a) To receive a report on the monthly playground inspections: Deferred until next meeting.
- b) To review progress of the playground and hall grounds entrance signs: The playground signs were approved and ready to be produced. **Action: Cllr Collingridge**
- c) To review progress of the old pavilion site: Deferred until next meeting.

7.12 Allotments:

- a) To consider setting up a working party to liaise between the Parish Council and Allotment Society: Cllr Day agreed to set up a Working Party along with Mr & Mrs Earl. **Action: Cllr Day**
- b) To consider approving the installation of an access track to enable a planning application to be submitted: Cllrs agreed that the Council should apply for planning permission to enable a track to be installed from B197. The PPC will be asked to reconsider access to the allotments through the church yard. **Action: Cllr Watson**
- c) To agree paying solicitors' fees: Resolved: To pay the Council's solicitor's fee of £430+VAT and the landowner's solicitor's fee of £1008+VAT.

7.13 To receive a report on the WHALC meeting on 15 September: The minutes had been circulated. Cllrs agreed to form a response to the East of England Plan.

7.14 To receive announcements: Cllrs were informed that Remembrance Day is on 8 November.

7.15 Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 10 November 2009 at 7.30pm

JRP 14.10.09

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____