

# **WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of meeting held 9 February 2010**

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

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

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

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

**11.3 To approve minutes of Council Meeting on 12 January:** Following the report given by representatives of the Pre-school at the last Parish meeting, Cllr Watson informed the Council that she had written an article, stating the facts, to be included in the Welwyn Parish Magazine. Resolved: The minutes of the 12 January meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**11.4 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors:** Cllr Watson attended a Sports Meeting and a Heritage Meeting. Cllrs Watson & Collingridge attended a site meeting.

**11.5 To receive correspondence:** A letter from the School's Chair of Governors.

A survey from HAPTC which the Council will complete.

**Action: Cllr Watson & Clerk**

A letter from Herts Highways informing the Council that the new Speed Management Strategy is available to view online at [www.hertsdirect.org/ltp](http://www.hertsdirect.org/ltp).

A consultation questionnaire on the London Commuter Belt (West) draft Strategic Housing Market Assessment.

**Action: Cllr Watson**

A letter inviting the Council to participate in the consultation on the proposal that Monks Walk School become a Foundation & Trust School.

**Action: Cllr Gribble**

A letter on the Power 2010 movement. A quotation for maintaining the new Fire Alarm system from the installers (see 11.8b).

A letter offering an insurance inspection which raised the question of whether the War Memorial was covered by the Church Insurance. It was agreed that this should be clarified.

**Action: Clerk**

A letter from The Hadams Parish Council to say they will consider allowing the Council to borrow the Woodcarvers sign. A letter inviting the Council to attend a meeting about Welwyn & Oaklands Youth Club.

**11.6 Planning:** (Cllr Corke)

a) New planning applications: None.

b) Woolmer Green Allotments: Application approved. The approval notice is not clear as to whether permitted development allows the erection of sheds on a non permanent base. This will be clarified with WHBC Planning.

**Action: Clerk**

**11.7 Hall:** (Cllr Watson)

a) To review progress on the Children's Centre: The hand over of the Children's Centre by the contractors will be Friday 12 February at 2pm. The lease is not completed.

A letter of complaint will be sent to HCC pointing out that the development consultancy company should have been more sympathetic to the views of the Parish Council who needed to be much more actively involved and informed in the whole planning and construction process.

**Action: Cllr Watson & Collingridge**

b) To review progress of installing environmental measures in the hall: Awaiting the result of the Lottery Fund application.

c) To receive a report on the large water bill: After querying the latest water bill for over £500 it was discovered there was a leak from the loft water tanks which has been fixed. However this did not seem to explain why the water consumption is so high and the matter is still being pursued.

**Action: Clerk**

**11.8 Finance:** (Cllr Day)

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

b) To consider costs incurred by the Children's Centre: Insurance to cover the building as a whole is being provided through an insurance broker; new locks have to be fitted to the windows and the kitchen door. Cllrs agreed that the Parish Council should cover the cost of maintaining the Fire Alarm system but considered the quote from the installers too costly and further quotes will be obtained.

**Action: Clerk**

c) To consider paying staff for extra hours: Cllrs agreed that staff should be paid for the extra hours and duties after an unruly party in October out of the withheld deposit.

**Action: Clerk**

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

- a) To receive progress on the Parish Plan, B197: No progress to report.
- b) To receive a report on the PPP Grant: Residents Jack Webber and Ken Sisseman have carried out a survey of the footpath signs to identify which need replacing.

**Action: Cllr Burge**

**11.10 Publicity:** *(Cllr Collingridge)*

- a) To receive a report on the Heritage Fair display: Preparations for the Heritage Fair display on 20 March are underway. The booklet about the Woodcarver's life will be for sale.

**11.11 Grounds:** *(Cllr Gribble)*

- a) To receive a report on the monthly playground inspection: Will be carried out at the weekend. The refurbishment of the swings should be done shortly. PCSO Rob Taylor is organising a day for villagers to help with tidying the Garden Road playground. This should take place on Easter Saturday.
- b) To review progress of the hall grounds entrance signs: The sign will be erected shortly.
- c) To review progress of the old pavilion site: The concrete has been removed and the area will be seeded in the spring.

**11.12 To review progress of the Allotment Society:** The solicitor will be instructed to register the Allotment Lease with the Land Registry. The sub lease is not completed. An application to install a dropped kerb to allow access to the site has been submitted to Herts Highways.

**11.13 To receive announcements:**

- a) The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 14 April. Herts Museums Service will give a talk about the "Making Memories" web site. Herts Highways will be invited to talk about their new Speed Management Strategy. Local speakers will be invited.
- b) Organisation is underway for Village Day on Saturday 5 June.
- c) The next WHALC meeting is in Tuesday 2 March at Hatfield.
- d) CPRE are holding a Planning Training Day on Saturday 20 March in Knebworth Village Hall.
- e) Grant Shapps MP is holding a public meeting on Thursday 25 February in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

**11.14 Date of next Meeting:** Tuesday 9 March 2010 at 7.30pm.

JRP 10.02.10

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_