

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 12th June 2018

Present: Cllrs A Gribble (Chairman), S Hall, J Hawkins & G Pinney

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

- 2.1 To receive the Vice-Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office:** Deferred.
- 2.2 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Corke due to family commitments. Cllr White as he is on holiday.
- 2.3 To review Registers of Interest – Cllrs Corke, Pinney & White:** Cllr Pinney signed to say his Register of Interest remained true.
- 2.4 To consider requests for dispensation and pecuniary & other interests on items on the agenda:** Cllr Hall declared an interest in item 12.11c & 12.11d as she is a member of the Woolmer Green Band.
- 2.5 To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public:** None.
- 2.6 To approve minutes of the Council Meeting on 8 May:** Resolved: The minutes of the 8 May Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
- 2.7 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors:** Cllrs Hawkins attended the Councillors Surgery. Cllrs Hall & White attended the May Market. Cllrs Gribble, Corke, Hall, Hawkins & White attended Village Day.
- 2.8 To receive correspondence:** The Council received: A letter dated 1st May from Network Rail saying tree & vegetation management will take place between 21st May & 8th November. Network Rail have also verbally informed the Council that the tree work is delayed until after August. A second letter from Network Rail dated 30th May to say vegetation will be removed from walls & structures. Notification of the closure of Mardleybury Road for eight days from 14th May. Details of Merchant Navy Day on 3rd September. An enquiry proposing the installation of a clothes bank which the Council declined. A letter from a resident about the Local Plan Examination. A letter from a resident about a willow tree (see item 2.12b). A letter from the tenant at Entech about the lack of progress with the planning application for the site. A letter from Network Rail informing of overhead line work taking place overnight between 23rd July & 26th July. Two letters from the public about Village Day. Notification of road closures in Garden Road for gas works and Robbery Bottom Lane.
- 2.9 Planning (Cllr Corke)**
- a) 6/2018/1043/FULL Knebworth Care Home 59 London Road: Application granted.
 - b) 6/2018/0737/FULL 61 London Road: No decision to report.
 - c) 6/2018/0672/COND Care Home, 59 London Road: Conditions granted.
 - d) 6/2018/0316/HOUSE Paynes Farm: No decision to report.
 - e) 6/2018/0317/LB Paynes Farm: No decision to report.
 - f) 6/2017/0848/MAJ Entech House, appeal 18 September: No decision to report.
 - g) 17/02755/1 Retrospective application for gypsy site at Danesbury: No decision to report.
 - h) To receive update on Local Plan Examination: Hearing Session 4 will take place at the end of June to discuss Welwyn Garden City & Hatfield only. The inspector is not examining sites affected by the Green Belt until the Green Belt Review is completed.
- 2.10 Hall (Cllr Pinney) & Grounds: (Cllr Hawkins)**
- a) To consider purchasing new soap dispensers for toilet refurbishment: Resolved: To purchase soap dispensers for approximately £80.
 - b) To consider Guides request to install a cupboard: The Council declined allowing a free standing cupboard to be placed in the committee room and suggested three alternative storage solutions.
 - c) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: Inspection satisfactory.
 - d) To review progress of clearing rubbish: A police officer said that disposal of the rubbish was the responsibility of the resident who hired the contractor. He & the Chairman planned to visit the resident but he was not at home. The police will be contacted to ask if a visit took place or if not whether it could be re-arranged. The matter is also being passed to the Borough Council. **Action: Clerk.**
- 2.11 Finance: (Cllr Hall)**
- a) To receive and approve the payments for May: Resolved: To approve payments for May.
 - b) To receive and approve the accounts for May: Resolved: To approve accounts for May.
 - c) To consider a payment to the WG Band for their attendance at Wheels on Woolmer Green: Resolved: To donate £50 from the Grants budget.

d) To consider a payment to the WG Band for their attendance at Village Day: Resolved: To donate £100 from the Entertainment Fund.

e) To consider re-investment of reserves: Resolved: To re-invest in the Nationwide or Barclays account with the highest return. **Action: Clerk.**

2.12 Environment (Cllr White) & Transport: (Cllr Gribble)

a) To review progress of PPP work: The £1,000 grant has been received and the work has been commissioned.

b) To consider resident's request to prune willow tree: The Council had inspected the tree and found that access to some residents' back gates are not obstructed. The willow branches are easily parted to allow passage through therefore the Council agreed the tree does not require pruning.

c) To discuss village sign: Some residents had reported that the village sign is black and not aesthetically pleasing. The producer of the sign will be contacted for advice. **Action: Clerk.**

d) To discuss event signs erected on the corner of Mardleybury Road: Cllrs thought it would be a courtesy if local event organisers notified the Council before erecting advertising signs in Woolmer Green. It was agreed to ask Datchworth Parish Council to ensure event organisers do not obstruct visibility on the Mardleybury Road junction. **Action: Clerk.**

e) To discuss highways matters: (i) Highways considered that erecting bollards on the verge in Mardleybury Road was a possibility if supported by Cllr Smith via his Highways Locality Budget. However if any works could be implemented as a result of the B197 feasibility study this could be a priority and it is not known how much funding may be available or whether the Parish Council would need to contribute. Further discussions are required with Cllr Smith following his meeting with officers on the B197 report.

(ii) The issue of gravel on the path outside the school, which has now blocked the drain, has been passed to Highways enforcement. The Clerk will chase progress. **Action: Clerk.**

2.13 To review progress of GDPR compliance: The Council is working towards computer encryption. The Government has tabled an amendment to the Data Protection Bill to exempt Parish & Town Councils from appointing a data protection officer. Despite this the Parish Council are appointing the DPO Centre to ensure full compliance with GDPR.

2.14 To consider responding to Hackney Wheelchair Accessibility Vehicle Consultation: The Council discussed its response. **Action: Clerk.**

2.15 To receive a report on Village Day: The Council thanked Cllr Corke for organising Village Day. Preliminary accounts suggest a £200 surplus was made.

2.16 To consider a report on Wheels on Woolmer Green: The event was successful and £450 was raised for children's charity SPACE.

2.17 To receive announcements. *(for information only):*

a) A meeting with YMCA, which will be running the Children's Centre from September, is on Monday 2nd July.

2.18 To agree the date of the next meeting: 10th July 2018.

JRP 13.06.18

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____