

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 9th February 2021

Present: Cllrs A Gribble (Chairman), P Corke (Vice Chairman) T Dix, S Hall, R Horton & G Pinney.

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk). Borough Cllr R Trigg, 1 member of the public.

10.1 To receive apologies for absence: Borough Cllr J Cragg.

10.2 To consider requests for dispensation and pecuniary & other interests on items on the agenda: None.

10.3 To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public: None.

10.4 To approve minutes of the Council Meeting on 12 January: Resolved: The minutes of the 12 January meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: None.

10.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: Notification from Network Rail of work to the railway from 27 February until 5 March from 22.00-05.15. Information on the NHS, Social Care and Frontline Worker's Day event planned for 5 July 2021. Information from 20s Plenty for Herts. A letter from a resident asking if she can train her dog in the tennis court; she was given permission. Communication between a resident and Grant Shapps on concerns of speed on the B197. A letter from WHBC Planning regarding the protection of employment sites; none are in Woolmer Green. A letter from Knebworth PC about a joint response to the WHBC Local Plan examination.

10.7 Planning (*Cllr Corke & Horton*)

a) 6/2021/0134/LAWP 5 Twin Foxes, Certificate of lawfulness for the erection of a single storey rear extension and garage conversion: No objection.

b) 6/2020/3399/ADV Tesco Express Commercial Unit: No decision to report.

c) 6/2020/3230/HOUSE 6 Bridge Road: Application granted.

d) 6/2020/3355/HOUSE 21 Bridge Road: Application granted.

e) 6/2020/3231/LAWP 6 Bridge Road Application granted.

f) 6/2020/3194/COND Kellard House, Submission of details pursuant to conditions: Part approved. Condition 9 (of site highway improvement) & 11 (soft landscaping) have been refused.

f) 6/2019/1219/HOUSE 59 Garden Road, Update on unauthorised works: No update to report.

g) To discuss Local Plan Examination: The planning consultant has submitted responses on behalf of the Parish Council to the windfall calculations and the treatment of enhanced Green Belt boundaries consultations. The Council agreed to submit a joint response with Knebworth PC objecting on the site adjacent to Knebworth which the inspector wishes to re-examine. The PC will also support the changed designation of the Marshall's site from employment to housing as it could protect the Green Belt.

10.8 Hall (*Cllr Pinney*) & **Grounds:** (*Cllr Dix*)

a) To receive an update on hall heating: A new boiler has been fitted and the heating is in working order. The Council agreed that a Vaillant approved engineer should service it.

b) To consider request for use of the hall car park: The owner of a hairdressers due to open at Kellard House has asked if staff can permanently use the hall car park. They agreed to pay the usual parking rate. The Council agreed to the request.

d) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: All is satisfactory. A missing fence panel has been replaced. Bolt covers have been ordered to replace some that are broken.

10.9 Finance: (*Cllr Hall*)

a) To receive and approve the payments for January: Resolved: To approve payments for January.

b) To receive and approve the accounts for January: Income and expenditure are both considerably reduced from budget but the overall position is not far below budget as at end of January. Resolved: To approve accounts for January.

c) To receive a report on the Job Retention Scheme: All staff are on flexible furlough and £1,446.90 has been claimed for January.

d) To receive an update on Covid-19 grant application: No update to report. Cllr Trigg agreed to investigate.

10.10 Environment (*Cllr Horton*) & **Transport:** (*Cllr Gribble*)

To discuss highways matters: (i) A resident has been in contact with Affinity Water regarding the repair of a water leak in New Road as further work is required. (ii) Following piling work taking place in the field adjacent to Payne's Farm, residents complained of muddy conditions in New Road. The land owner was contacted and has arranged for the contractor to clean the road at the end of each day.

(iii) Phase 2 of the resurfacing of the footpath in Longmead will be completed on 24 February. This is

being paid for via County Cllr Smith's Highways Locality Budget.

10.11 To receive announcements. *(for information only)*.

a) The Twin Foxes gate was closed for 24 hours on 6 & 7 February to prevent the establishment of a permanent Right of Way.

b) The new Tesco Extra store is due to open on 12 February.

10.12 To agree the date of the next meeting: Council Meeting Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 7.30pm.

JRP 10.02.21

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____