

WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 10th March 2020

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

In attendance: Mrs J. Pearce (Clerk).

10.1 To receive apologies for absence: None.

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 11 February: Resolved: The minutes of the 11 February meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10.5 To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors: Cllrs Hall, Horton & Pinney attended the February Market.

10.6 To receive correspondence: The Council received: A letter from Highways about the closure of White Horse Lane for gas works. Notification from the Local Pension Partnership about the result of an Age Discrimination Case (McCloud/Sargeant). Notification of new charges by PRS for Music. Confirmation from The Pensions Regulator that Woolmer Green Parish Council has completed its re-declaration. Notification of the allotment rent from October 2020. Notification from Welwyn PC that they are applying for designation for a Neighbourhood Plan. A copy of a letter from the Police & Crime Commissioner to Cllr Richard Smith (see 10.10b (iii)).

10.7 Planning (*Cllr Corke & Horton*)

a) 6/2020/0463/TPO 5 Evergreen Close, Reduce 2 x Silver Birch by 30% subject to TPO105 T5 and TPO105 T4: The Council agreed to comment that a 30% reduction is too severe and a 20% reduction would be more appropriate.

b) 6/2020/0182/COND Lessiters, 61 London Road, Submission of details pursuant to condition 11 (acoustic report) on planning permission 6/2018/0737/FULL: No comment.

c) 6/2020/0091/HOUSE 2 Holly Road: Application granted.

d) 6/2020/1291/HOUSE 59 Garden Road, submitted to appeal: No decision to report.

e) 6/2019/3152/COND Kellard/Entech House, Submission of details pursuant to condition 7: Application granted.

f) To receive update on Local Plan Examination: The Council approved the response to proposed changes to the Local Plan. Information about the consultation has been featured on the front page of the newsletter and will be further advertised to residents via social media. **Action: Clerk.**

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

a) To discuss annual playground inspection work: The bolts under the solar spinner have been inspected and found to be sound. A contractor has been instructed to re-inforce the supports on the basket swing.

b) To consider quotes for enlarging the bark pit in the Garden Road playground: Resolved: To accept quote for £1,260+vat. **Action: Clerk.**

c) To receive a report on the weekly playground inspection: All is satisfactory.

d) To discuss refurbishment of the ball skills court: Awaiting quotes.

10.9 Finance: (*Cllr Hall*)

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

b) To receive and approve the accounts for February: Resolved: To approve accounts for February.

c) To consider paying Clerk for some temporary caretaking duties: Resolved: To pay Clerk for 10 hours at caretaker rate. **Action: Clerk.**

d) To consider grant application from the church: Resolved: To award church £750. **Action: Clerk.**

e) To discuss the implications of the COVID-19 outbreak: The Council agreed that if hirers decided to cancel their event the Terms & Conditions would apply. If official advice was to cancel an event a full refund would be given. The Council's insurance provider will be asked what cover is available for any significant consequences of the virus outbreak. **Action: Clerk.**

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

a) To approve response to Railway Consultation: The Council approved the response. **Action: Clerk.**

b) To discuss highways matters: (i) The broken bollard outside of the Chequers has been repaired.

(ii) The pot holes between Entech & Monread Lodge has been reported. (iii) Cllr Smith's application to the PCC Road Safety Fund has been successful.

10.11 Community (*Cllrs Corke & Pinney*)

- a) To discuss Village Day 2020: The Council discussed progress.
- b) To discuss Wheels on Woolmer Green: The Council agreed to hire a band for the event.

Action: Cllr Pinney.

10.12 To consider back up of council data: No progress to report.

10.13 To discuss arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting: Cllr Smith and representatives from Lessiters and Knebworth Surgery will speak at the meeting.

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

- a) There is a Cllrs surgery on 4th April.
- b) There is a Highways Meeting on Thursday 12th March. Apologies will be sent.
- c) Cllr Corke agreed to repaint the "no parking" area and speed hump.
- d) A quote will be obtained to prune back fir trees overhanging the hall grounds.

10.15 To agree the date of the next meeting: Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 28 April at 7.30pm.
Council Meeting Tuesday 12 May at 7.30pm.

JRP 12.03.20

Signed: _____
Chairman.

Date: _____