



# HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016 AT 19.00 IN HERTINGFORDBURY COWPER SCHOOL**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Haidy Blake, Lizzer Bradbury, Tommy Brennan, Shobha Edgell, Roger Morris, Gary O'Leary, Barry Simkins, Paul Rochford.

In attendance: Cllr Linda Haysey (EHDC), Amanda Glew (Clerk), Alison Richards (Headteacher) and Paul Hunt (School Governor)

### **17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chairman declared an interest as a Governor of Hertingfordbury Cowper school and that as such he would not vote on any resolutions with respect to Parish Council decisions on school matters.

### **19. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Chairman informed the meeting that Mr Matt Hay had stood down from the Council due to work commitments.

### **20. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mrs Richards, Headteacher for Hertingfordbury Cowper Primary School, addressed the meeting. She explained that the school is growing and currently has 218 pupils and is 1 one form entry. It has been awarded a gold sports mark, has a forest school area and has recently applied for a science gold mark. Councillors were invited to the open afternoon on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July to observe the school in action. The Chairman complimented the Head on the success of the school.

Parking at the school was discussed. The Old Coach Road gate can only be used in the morning as the road is too fast at 40 mph for afternoon use. It was resolved that the Parish Council and the school would request a speed adjustment to the Old Coach Road by the gate.

There is a lot of vehicle movement due to the swimming pool. Mrs Richards confirmed the pool is not used in the school holidays or on Sundays. Cllr Blake has witnessed cars parked on the pavement by the chicane on the Old Coach Road which make the area extremely dangerous. Lorries and buses have to pass by on the wrong side of the road and pedestrians need to cross the road to pass. Cllr Haysey informed the meeting that although there is no current legislation, new orders are soon to come in to make parking on the pavement an offence. It was discussed whether the Parish Council



# HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

could organise a Drivesafe scheme to monitor speeds. The school will write to pool users reminding them to park considerately and legally.

Mrs Richards explained HCC have specified that the school gate and fence are too low for safety and child safeguarding. The recommendation is to replace the gates to the main playground to a height of 1.8m, although it may be possible to have a lower fence at the car park end. (There is a pedestrian gate, a car park gate and a fence.) As the footpath comes round the pool, everyone has to walk around the car park. The Chairman pointed out there may be restrictions to laying a surface across Village Green and the Parish Council has taken legal advice on that matter already. Mrs Richards questioned whether temporary access for a wheelchair user might be possible. It was resolved to discuss the request for a new pedestrian crossing later in the meeting under Village Green topics.

## 21. MINUTES

Cllr Blake requested more information on what is required for the regular inspection of the playground. The Clerk will investigate and report back. It was discussed whether to purchase the two benches requested by resident Seb Hellum. The Clerk will investigate a suitable supplier.

## 22. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

## 23. PLANNING

### (a) Current Applications

Planning ref: 3/16/1279/HH 57 Birch Green Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 2LR for a first floor side extension and single storey rear extension. No comments made.

Planning ref: 3/16/1295/HH 19 Chapel Lane Letty Green Hertford Hertfordshire SL14 2PA for a single storey side and rear extension incorporating a front porch. No comments made.

Planning ref: 3/16/1295/HH 19 Chapel Lane Letty Green Hertford for a two and single storey side and rear extension, front porch, garage conversion, alterations to openings (**RECONSULTATION - AMENDED DESCRIPTION**). No comments made.

Planning ref: 3/16/1358/HH 12 Foxdells Birch Green Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 2LS for a two storey side extension. New first floor front and rear window openings. New ground floor front window opening. No comments made.

Planning ref: 3/15/1569/PNHH Birchwood 26A Birch Green Hertford for a single storey rear extension Maximum depth 8 metres: Maximum height 3.616 metres. General Permitted Development Application



# HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## (b) Decisions on Outstanding Applications

Planning ref: 3/16/0961/HH 28 Chapel Lane Letty Green Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 2PA for a single storey rear extension. It was decided to Grant Planning Permission subject to Conditions.

## (c) E Herts Local Plan and Neighbourhood Planning

The Neighbourhood Planning Steering Committee met on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July. The main focus of the committee (until East Herts DC future village policies are defined) will be potential development East of Welwyn Garden City as this will have a major impact on the parish and also matters affecting Panshanger Park a 1000 acre English Heritage Grade II\* park, wholly within the parish.

Regarding East of WGC, Cllr Haysey explained that a Memorandum of Understanding between Welwyn Hatfield and EHDC has been drawn up to co-ordinate council activities and that the Hertingfordbury Parish Neighbourhood Planning group has been recognised in that document.

The other focus for the committee will be Panshanger Park. The Beacon Report (Panshanger Park and its Environs Heritage Assessment) commissioned and now published by East Herts and Welwyn Hatfield councils, outlines very clearly the importance of Panshanger Park, as nationally significant heritage park and gardens. It was agreed that heritage planning (for protection and restoration) of the park has been weak and implementation of a number of interventions in the park is now degrading this important heritage value. There is now no formal interaction between Tarmac and the Parish since the demise of the Panshanger Liaison Group.

East Herts DC has now given the Parish Neighbourhood Planning (NP) Committee clear direction which allows it to set aspirations for the park from a heritage policy, development and land use perspective. The NP committee has engaged with Herts Garden Trust and written to Tarmac and HCC to request their input.

It was proposed and resolved that the Parish Council writes to EHDC to request that Article 4 restrictions be placed on the Park as soon as possible to help stop further deterioration of the heritage value and encourage Tarmac to engage in more proactive heritage planning and reversing some of the damage caused by interventions now in place. Cllr Brennan queried whether a hard copy of the Beacon Report was available.

## 24. STANDING ITEMS

### (a) Works Programme

A further quote had been obtained for repairs to the Cole Green village well. Cllr Simkins temporarily left the meeting whilst the two quotes were discussed and compared. It was resolved to award the contract to Barry Simkins Renovations & Refurbishments as the quote was considerably less expensive.



# HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## (b) Greens

It was noted that two risk assessments had been completed. They will be discussed when the other three had been undertaken. The Greens Committee will be reconvened to discuss risk assessment issues and Greens improvement initiatives.

Cllr Simkins reported that Mr Grover had been in contact to propose a land exchange and was advised to put his suggestion in writing to the Clerk. The meeting discussed whether to claim Green reinstatement costs and legal bills from Mr Grover. It was resolved to write to Mr Grover outlining these costs and requesting reimbursement of the costs which followed from the parish request to reinstate the Green damaged by Mr Grover in creating an illegal crossing.

It was agreed to also write to Mr Grover regarding the crossing to 32 Letty Green and thank him for providing the information. It has been noted by the Parish Council and will be considered by the Greens Committee at their next meeting. The Clerk was asked to look through the Minutes for 1995 for information on Greens Crossings.

The Clerk will circulate the letters and process for dealing with cars illegally parked on Village Green.

The meeting discussed the new crossing request from the school. It was resolved that it will not be possible to grant this crossing and to refer the Head to the advice from Counsel available on the Parish website. The Clerk will write to the school with this information. It was suggested that it may be possible for a suitable entrance to be found when the school fence is renewed by HCC.

## (c) Highways

The P3 grant was discussed and the Parish Council resolved for the work to go ahead.

Cllr Blake requested that the Clerk write to thank Ringway on behalf of the Parish Council. Tom Harman and Phil Holtby were helpful in realigning the road sign and cutting the hedge to the west of 12 Birch Green as well as cutting along Hertingfordbury path. Cllr Blake updated the Council on the situation with the gypsy field.

## (d) Quarries

There was no update regarding Waterhall, next HCC meeting update is awaited.

## (d) Panshanger Park

The Friends of Panshanger Park had a meeting recently with Tarmac regarding future plans and ideas for the Country Park.

## 25. FINANCE

### (a) Financial Statement

The financial statement and summary were received.



# HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## (b) Payments Due

<b>Cheques Issued</b>				<b>Chq No</b>
12-07-16	G O'Leary	Projector	269.99	221
13-07-16	DCK Beavers	Monthly payroll May	30.00	222
13-07-16	DCK Beavers	Monthly payroll June	30.00	222
13-07-16	Longmores	25-11-15 to 13-04-16	500.40	223
13-07-16	A Glew	Salary June & July	621.36	224
13-07-16	Cooper	Grass cut May	554.40	225
13-07-16	Cooper	Grass cut June	1647.60	225
13-07-16	A Glew	Expenses June/July	89.64	226
13-07-16	DCK Beavers	Monthly payroll July	30.00	227

**3773.39**

## **Receipts**

13-07-16	Coop Bank	Interest Bus Fix Rate Dep Ac	54.09
----------	-----------	------------------------------	-------

**54.09**

## (c) New Financial Regulations

It was resolved to accept the new Financial Regulations for Hertingfordbury Parish Council.

## (d) Fixed Assets Register

Items on the Register are to be checked and given a location.

## (e) Clerk Hourly Rate

The new hourly rate of £10.944 was agreed.

## 26. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

To arrange cleaning of parish seats and benches.

## 27. AOB

The CDA Herts subscription request was refused.

Cllr Edgell reported dead Elm trees at East End Green which should been put on the risk assessment.

The Clerk will chase up receipt of the tree report.



# HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Simkins asked when Cole Green could expect to be offered high speed broadband.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016