

Minutes of the meeting of Hertingfordbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 14 January 2009 at 7.30pm in Hertingfordbury Cowper JMI School, Birch Green

PRESENT: Cllrs R Lester (Chairman), D Bonner, E Bradbury, S Edgell, C Edwards, N Hunt and B Jones

In attendance: the clerk, Mr G Irwin, and 1 elector.

100. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Morris, Rochford and Raymond and the reasons were accepted. District Cllr Haysey also sent her apologies.

101. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

102. ELECTORS' COMMENTS

Concern was expressed at the state of a large Oak tree adjoining the highway between Pipers End and East End Green about 60 metres beyond Woolmers Park. The clerk will report to Highways.

103. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2008 be confirmed and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

104. MATTERS ARISING

104.1 (Minute 89.1) The clerk has received a letter from Gascoyne Cecil Estates regarding the use of land as access for car parking at Birch Green saying they were unable to help.

104.2 (Minute 89.2) Cllr Hunt has still to meet with the owner of 25 Birch Green.

104.3 (Minute 89.3) Cllr Hunt has prepared a specification for pin kerbing; this is to be circulated to members.

104.4 (Minute 89.4) Little further progress had been made made regarding registration of title of the village greens. Cllr Hunt is to review the papers. The clerk reported that he had tracked down an Order of Limitations in respect of the greens made by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries dated 16 October 1930.

104.5 (Minute 99.3) No response had been received from J Dass regarding the state of the war memorial. The clerk was asked to write again saying that if the repair work was not carried out the council would get another stonemason to undertake the work and send him the bill.

All other matters had either been completed or were a separate agenda item.

105. FINANCE

105.1 The financial statement was received and noted.

105.2 RESOLVED that four payments: £883.60 to Coopers for October grass cutting, £692.08 to Coopers for November grass cutting, £230.00 to Infoweb for the website and £980.25 to GR Irwin for 3rd quarter salary and expenses be approved.

106. BUDGET AND PRECEPT

RESOLVED that the budget for 2009/10 be approved and that the precept be set at £9,900 (no increase).

107. PLANNING

107.1 An update on planning applications was received and noted. It was reported that there are proposals for over 4,000 homes south-east of Welwyn Garden City and partly within Hertingfordbury parish.

107.2 RESOLVED that the council has no objections to the B+T Motors application.

108. REPORTS

108.1 Crossings and Greens:

108.1.1 It was reported that an Oak tree on Letty Green at the corner of Woolmers Lane is overhanging a couple of gardens; the clerk will ask Cllr Rochford to examine the tree on his return. Cllr Rochford will also be asked to clear the greens of any debris before grass cutting starts and to replace a couple of bollards at Labby Green.

108.1.2 It was noted that the pathway at Cumberland Green had been cleared but that sods of earth had been left on the green; the clerk to thank Highways for clearing the area and ask them to remove the debris.

108.2 Highways and Byways:

108.2.1 Noted that the missing chevrons in Birchall Lane had not yet been replaced.

108.2.2 Cllr Bonner reported that plans of Cumberland and Cole Greens had been sent to HCC solicitor regarding the proposed land-swap.

108.3 Play Area: Nothing to report.

108.4 Waterhall: Nothing to report.

108.5 Walter Wallinger's Charity: Nothing to report.

108.6 Neighbourhood Watch: Nothing to report.

108.7 Greens Car Park: It was reported that some progress is being made.

108.8 Panshanger Quarry: Nothing to report. Councillors visit to Panshanger is confirmed as 4 April.

109. RISK ASSESSMENTS

The clerk was asked to write to the owners of 15 and 17 Birch Green to repair a hole in their joint driveway which could constitute a trip hazard.

110. PIN KERBING

Deferred until the February meeting.

111. CORRESPONDENCE

There was nothing of note.

112. MATTERS TO NOTE OR FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

112.1 The clerk was asked to write to the residents in the vicinity of 34 to 60 (evens) Birch Green to ask for their cooperation in ensuring vehicles were not parked on the village green.

112.2 The clerk was asked to report graffiti on a couple of road signs in the Cole Green and Letty Green area.

112.3 The clerk was asked to report yet again that the road along Birch Green still had not been swept.

112.4 The clerk was asked to report fly tipping in Panshanger Lane.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm

Signed

Dated