



# HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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

**HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016 AT 19.00 IN HERTINGFORDBURY COWPER SCHOOL**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Haidy Blake, Lizzer Bradbury, Tommy Brennan, Gary O’Leary, Paul Rochford, Barry Simkins

In attendance: Amanda Glew (Clerk), Peter Newson (resident), Martin Jack (resident), Peter Oakenfull (Herts Green Corridor Group) and David McCabe Innovation & Regulatory Affairs Manager Tarmac

### **50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were apologies from Cllrs Linda Haysey, Ken Crofton, Shobha Edgell and Roger Morris

### **51. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **52. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENT**

There were no Chairman’s announcements.

### **53. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

David McCabe introduced himself in his new role as Land Manager southeast for Tarmac and gave apologies for Mike Pendock who was unable to attend. Tarmac are the promoter of land proposed for housing allocations East of Welwyn Garden City (WGC) in Welwyn Hatfield BC (1,250 houses) and East Herts DC (1,300 houses) and owners of Panshanger Park and some additional fields in the Parish.

Mr McCabe said he and the company were keen to be involved in the Council’s Neighbourhood Planning discussions. The Chairman informed Mr McCabe that Tarmac had strongly objected (through detailed legal objections to EHDC and WHBC) to the designation of the Hertingfordbury Parish Neighbourhood Plan area. Tarmac objected to the inclusion of Tarmac land holdings, land promoted by Tarmac for development and Panshanger Park. This was in contrast to other large landowners in the Parish (Gascoyne Cecil Estates) who had been very supportive of the application. Mr McCabe said he was unaware of this and would get a briefing from the company.

The Chairman asked whether in the light of the constraints that have been identified on development East of Welwyn Garden City, whether lower levels of development were also being considered (proposals indicate 2,550 homes). Mr McCabe said that lower levels of development were not currently being considered.

The Chairman asked whether the Tarmac principal of Natural Capital Accounting was being applied to their work as the promoter of the extension to WGC. Mr McCabe was unable to confirm but



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recognised the value of this approach. Mr McCabe said Tarmac has recently engaged ecological consultants, but there are not any defined plans for their work at this point. The Chairman asked for more information on their brief/proposed studies to be shared with the Council.

Mr McCabe said he was supportive of the benefits of Neighbourhood Planning for local communities. He questioned the location of the Birch Green boundary as shown in the pre-submission local plan. The Chairman outlined the PC position on village boundaries and confirmed that this will be covered in the PC submission on the draft local plan to be submitted on 15<sup>th</sup> December. Mr McCabe shared a map which would form part of the Tarmac submission, proposing that a field on the edge of the village north of the Old Coach Road would be suggested for inclusion, with a view to possible development (although nothing was specifically proposed). Cllr Blake confirmed that this field sits in the Green Belt around the village and is an important open space and that development on this location has been consistently resisted by this Council.

The historic Cole Green landfill was queried and it was asked what Tarmac's position is on any development on or close to the historic landfill. Mr McCabe explained that preliminary technical reports have been undertaken and work is continuing on these. His understanding is that there has been some joint work with the two Councils involved. More detailed assessments will be undertaken. The Chairman confirmed that the PC would like to be informed on any assessment or technical studies with regard to the landfill site.

Mr McCabe mentioned that Tarmac were unsuccessful in their judicial review application against HCC's grant of planning permission for an inert waste recycling site. The implications for this on the East of WGC developments were not fully explained and the PC shall follow up with Tarmac.

Peter Newson queried whether there was a gravel extraction plan yet for East of Welwyn Garden City. Mr McCabe reported that there is in the northern part of the site and that there are active discussions with the County Council. He cannot say at present how deep excavations might be. Mr Newson reminded Mr McCabe that initial settlement takes place over 5 years and then continues to sink over the next 30 years so it is very difficult to build houses on top. Mr McCabe said no infilling is anticipated, that improvements are required and he will come back with the detail. Cllr Blake mentioned the large amount of inert material coming into Panshanger Park and Mr Newson suggested that a bypass to the A414 might be needed. Mr Jack was extremely concerned that the Hertingfordbury parish roads would become "rat runs" should large-scale development occur East of Welwyn Garden City and asked how this will be addressed. Mr McCabe recognised these concerns and confirmed that a transport assessment is being done.

Cllr Brennan was unhappy about lorries leaving the roads in a poor state and that this could be avoided if operators followed guidelines and kept to conditions set by the County Council.

### 54. THE MINUTES

There were no comments on the Minutes and they were signed.



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## 55. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

## 56. PLANNING

### (a) Current Applications

Planning ref: 3/16/2359/HH 26 Cole Green Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 2NL. Proposed single storey and two storey extensions, new entrance door with pitched roof porch, new first floor window opening and proposed detached double garage. No comment.

Planning ref: 3/16/2378/FUL 288 Hertingfordbury Road Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 2LG. Extension to existing house, and change of use of adjacent parcel of land from agricultural to residential/garden. No comment.

Planning ref: HCC Application Panshanger Quarry, Panshanger Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG14 2NL. Re-consultation on a planning application for the importation of inert restoration materials via a proposed new access off Panshanger Lane to restore phases F and H, together with the creation of a network of new permissive paths and development of existing old barn for community use. The provision of new paths was welcomed; however, the Council required these to be permanent in nature. The Council also agreed that a new path from the bridge across the A414 to the Old Coach Road is needed by cyclists/walkers; this is currently missing from the re-consultation plans. The provision of a new community facility in the old barn off Panshanger Lane was welcomed. The Council has asked for an extension to provide its detailed comments.

Planning ref: 3/16/2605/FUL Cole Green House Cole Green Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 2NL. New single storey glazed external link to provide under cover access between existing office buildings. No comment.

Planning ref: 3/16/2606/LBC Cole Green House Cole Green Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 2NL. New single storey glazed external link to provide level undercover access between existing office buildings. Two windows removed and replaced with new doorways. No comment.

Planning ref: 3/16/2580/FUL Joseph Rochford Nursery the Old Coach Road Staines Green Hertford, Hertfordshire. Construction of rainfall harvesting and water recycling storage reservoir (retrospective application). No comment.

Planning ref: 3/16/2629/HH 30 Woolmers Lane Letty Green Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 2NU. Two storey rear extension and associated alterations. No comment.

Planning ref: 3/16/2727/PNHH 24 Letty Green Hertford Hertfordshire single storey rear extension: Depth 3.2 metres, Maximum height 2.6 metres, eaves height 2.3 metres. General Permitted Development. No comment.



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## (b) Decisions on Outstanding Applications

There were no decisions.

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

The Chairman shared the draft submission to Councillors by email earlier. As there are no amendments from Cllrs it will be submitted by email on 15<sup>th</sup> December by 5 pm.

The next meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Group is yet to be arranged.

## 57. STANDING ITEMS

### (a) Works Programme

The draft works programme for the next financial year was put before the meeting. A plan is needed to work out how to use the reserves effectively. HPC need to look at any available grants.

The new Procurement Policy was put before the meeting and, subject to minor amendments, was approved and adopted.

### (b) Greens

The next meeting of the Greens & Crossings Committee will be arranged for January. Cllr Bradbury will email the Letty Green Risk Assessment to the Clerk. Actions following the risk assessments are being progressed. Cllr Simkins has sent a letter to Cole Green House regarding the track options.

It was noted that the money claimed from Veolia to cover repair of the village green at Letty Green has not yet been received. It was reported that the resident of 30 Letty Green may have sold the property in which case a letter regarding the vehicle access will need to be sent to the new owner.

Cllr Simkins reported that Thames Water had now repaired the hole they left in Cole Green.

### (c) Highways

It was agreed to arrange a site meeting at the new school entrance on the Old Coach Road between the Chairman, Clerk, Cllr Blake and Martin Sears Engineer, Integrated Transport Planning Highways.

### (d) Quarries

The next meeting to discuss progress at Waterhall is at County Hall on 17<sup>th</sup> January at 4 pm.

### (d) Panshanger Park

The Chairman reported that Mike Pendock (Tarmac) had said they would extract from the Lower Broadwater within the terms of the ROMPP permissions. There had been many overwhelming objections to the proposals to destroy a Grade II\* Repton landscape in this way. The latest



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indications from Martin Riley and Stuart Wykes are that the extraction will not go ahead and that other options are being considered.

The Country Park management plan which has been promised for several years was again overdue and is now promised by the end of January. The benefit of the delay is, however, that it may have a better context around heritage.

## 58. **FINANCE**

### (a) **Financial Statement**

The financial statement and summary were received.

### (b) **Payments Due**

<b>Cheques Issued</b>			<b>Amount</b>	<b>Chq No</b>
14-10-16	British Legion	Donation	30.00	240
14-10-16	HAPTC	Course for Chairman	220.00	241
14-10-16	DCK Beavers	Mthly payroll Nov/Dec	67.50	242
14-10-16	A Glew	Salary Nov/Dec	592.50	243
14-10-16	A Glew	Expenses Nov/Dec	45.84	244
14-10-16	G O'Leary	Expenses	29.99	245
<b>Other Payments</b>				
BACS	LGPS	Pension Nov/Dec	189.98	
			<b>1175.81</b>	
<b>Receipts</b>				
Groundworks				
Grant			1950.00	

### (c) **Budget**

It was agreed to raise the precept by 2.5% for 2017/18 and the Chairman and two Councillors signed the Precept upon Billing Authority form. It was noted that HPC holds reserves in excess of the recommended 12 months' normal expenditure.

### (c) **BACS Payment**

It was agreed to set up a monthly BACS payment to pay the Clerk's employer and employee pension payment to the Local Government Pension Scheme.



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## 59. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

There were no items discussed.

## 49. AOB

Mr McCabe brought to the meetings attention that Tarmac staff are encouraged to volunteer for one day a year.

Mr Oakenfull reported the sad news that the Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury died on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.

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

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017