

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HERTINGORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2015 AT 19.30 IN HERTINGFORDBURY COWPER SCHOOL**

Present: Cllr. Mrs. C. Edwards (in the Chair)

Councillors: G. O'Leary, B. Jones, Mrs S. Edgell (for part of the meeting), T. Brennan, Mrs E. Bradbury, B. Simkins, R. Morris

In attendance: Ms. Nina L. Villa, Parish Clerk

Several Members of the Public

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs P Rochford and Mrs H Blake

**2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A member of the public noted that minutes has not been uploaded on to the website since September 2014. The Clerk advised that this was in hand.

There was a discussion about the recent work undertaken by Hertfordshire Highways on the footpath outside the school. The Chairman explained the purpose of this work, which was to make access to the school easier, safer and to try and dissuade cars from driving in to the village. Further work was expected to be undertaken in due course. It was noted that the newly appointed Parking Enforcement Officer should be made aware of the ongoing parking issues at and around the school.

A member of the public suggested that the Parish Council should have a regular slot in the Parish Magazine to update residents on parish matters and to list meeting dates. It was noted that this could be investigated.

The issue of the track repairs at East End Green was discussed and a proposal for a more permanent solution was presented to the Council however there was a question relating to the cost of ongoing maintenance which required clarification. It was agreed that the Clerk would investigate additional quotes and options in consultation with Cllr. Rochford and report back to the next meeting for formal consideration.

One resident apologised for the manner in which his car was recently parked at East End Green, explaining that this was necessary due to access arrangements and that he would seek to keep this to minimum in future. He also expressed his gratitude for tree work recently undertaken at East End Green, which is the first work undertaken for many years.

The members of the public left the meeting

### **3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman reminded Members to make any Declarations of Interest that may arise during the meeting.

### **4. MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015 be approved as a correct record and the Chairman be authorised to sign the same.

### **5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

It was noted that the issue with dog training at East End Green remained unresolved and no planning application had yet been submitted. It was agreed to follow this up with Cllr. Mrs. Haysey.

### **6. WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15 – PROGRESS REPORT**

The Clerk had received a quote for the memorial repairs and was authorised to proceed with the works.

A date has been set for the clearance of the pond.

### **7. FINANCE**

It was noted that the financial reports were still a challenge as the Clerk does not have access to the online banking system but had been able to reconcile the accounts using a paper bank statement forwarded by the previous Clerk.

There was a question as to whether the Council should have reduced the precept in light of a slightly higher than anticipated New Homes Bonus (NHB). The Clerk advised that it was not advisable or desirable to use the NHB to fund day to day revenue costs but should be used to fund special projects or infrastructure improvements.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) The Council approve the financial report
- b) The Council approve the payments due
- c) The Council approve the inclusion of the new Clerk and the removal of the previous Clerk's details from the bank mandate

### **8. PLANNING**

3/15/0115/FP 3 Holly Bushes – No Objection although Members previously emailed observations should be included in the response to East Herts Council.

## **9. EAST HERTS DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN**

There was no update on the progress of the plan but it was noted that Welwyn Hatfield abuts East Herts and it would be useful to inspect that Council's plan to see how it might impact on East Herts. Cllr G Leary agreed to investigate.

## **10. AROUND THE PARISH REPORTS**

### **a) Crossings and Greens**

There has been no reply from the resident of Letty Green who it was alleged had caused considerable damage to the Green, essentially using it as a driveway to his property. If no reply was received within two weeks, the Clerk was requested to send a follow up letter.

It was noted that there had been a possible encroachment on to Letty Green by the resident of 22 Letty Green. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident and ask that this be corrected.

### **b) Highways**

There were various outstanding Highways issues around the parish, all of which had been reported via the online fault reporting system. The Chairman encouraged Members to continue to report problems and it was suggested that County Councillor Ken Crofton be invited to the next meeting.

### **c) Play Area**

Nothing to report

### **d) Walter Hall Quarry**

Nothing to report

### **e) Walter Wallinger**

It was noted that the next meeting is due to take place in April.

### **f) Panshanger Quarry and Panshanger Park**

Draft plan has slipped until March. It was suggested that a regular update on Panshanger issues be included in the Parish Magazine.

### **g) Car Parking at Birch Green**

The Chairman read out a letter from the School Headmistress providing further information on the additional works to be undertaken on access to the school. It was hoped that this might be progressed within the next few months.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to note

## **12. ITEMS TO NOTE OR FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

Hertfordshire County Council are currently consulting on the provision of bus services locally and Cllr Brennan agreed that he would attend a consultation meeting on behalf of the Parish Council. It was noted that the proposals include a reduction in service and the Parish Council may need to respond to the consultation to voice its views about this change.

It was noted that there is a heavy branch hanging on a telephone wire in Mr Godbold's garden. Clerk will write to him to ask him to attend to the matter.

There was further discussion about the tree works at East End Green raised during the public participation item. It was not clear who had undertaken this work. However, it was noted that the work was a considerable improvement and the Council might give consideration to undertaking further work.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20.50

Chairman\_\_\_\_\_

Dated\_\_\_\_\_