



# HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Hertingfordbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 7.30 pm in Hertingfordbury Cowper JMI School, Birch Green

**PRESENT:** Cllrs C Edwards (Chairman), E Bradbury, T Brennan, H Blake, S Edgell, B Simkins B Jones, P Rochford, R Morris, G O'Leary

Two residents, D. Cllr L Haysey and the clerk, Tom Brindley

115. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None received

116. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

116.1. Mr. Peter Ingram addressed the council and asked when the parking restrictions would be in place. Cllr O'Leary advised that the road closure order had been published and that the highways contractor would commence when the weather permitted.

116.2. Mr Ingram also asked about parking at B & T Motors where lorries were queuing on the road. The chairman said she had recently met with B&T management who, had advised that they were allowed a maximum of 4 vehicles parking on the main road but that over the Christmas period on occasions five vehicles had parked. They agreed to replace the post indicating the limit of on road parking. Cllr Blake had noted B&T lorries coming through Birch Green village instead of the approved approach from the A414. The clerk was asked to check the planning conditions applicable to the site.

116.3. Mr Ingram suggested that the council could publish a summary of ongoing activities in the Parish Magazine.

117. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

117.1. The launch of FTTC broadband in Hertingfordbury and Birch Green will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> 9.00 in Hertingfordbury and 9.45 in Birch Green. The local MPs and the managing director of BT will attend. It was noted that these cabinets served Birch Green, East End Green and Staines Green. Letty Green and Cole Green were not on these circuits and would not receive fast broadband at this time.

117.2. Flooding had affected Birch Green and Cole Green. The fire brigade had pumped excess water from the overflowing pond onto dead ground. The clerk had purchased 150 sand bags of which 50 had been deployed to direct water away from houses in Birch Green. The clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to the fire brigade. It was agreed to sell on 70 bags to Kings Walden Parish Council.

117.3. Members were reminded that declarations of interest should be made immediately prior to an item being debated.

118. **MINUTES OF MEETING 8TH JANUARY 2014**

The minutes were agreed as a true record and were signed by the chairman.

119. **MATTERS ARISING**

119.1. The brief regarding licences and easement for crossings had been sent to the barrister.

119.2. Hatfield Estates had agreed to repair the fence along The Old Coach road.

119.3. The Play Area repairs had been completed. The clerk was asked to contact the vendor of the goal posts to establish the amount of play expected as this was felt to be excessive.



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## 120. WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2013-14

- 120.1. Peter Oakenfull had inspected the pond but a written report had not been received.
- 120.2. Progress on the 2013/14 work programme was noted.

## 121. FINANCE

- 121.1. The financial report to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014 was noted.
- 121.2. Three payments were approved. See attached list.

## 122. PLANNING

- 122.1. The planning report was noted.
  - a. (3/13/2080/LB). 30 Letty Green. Members raised no objections.
  - b. (3/14/0035/FP). 9a Woolmers Lane. Members raised no objections.

## 123. EAST HERTS DISTRICT PLAN

- 123.1. Cllr Haysey updated the council on The East Herts Draft District Plan. A 12 week consultation will take place March-May 2014.
- 123.2. It was noted that there was no village boundary shown for Letty Green or Cole Green which were included as group 2 villages. There was a tightly drawn boundary for Birch Green. The allocation of these villages as 'Group 2 Villages' would imply small scale development would be permitted.
- 123.3. Cllr Haysey explained that the area shown as East of WGC was abroad area of land intend for development later in the plan period (2027/28) as it would require considerable infrastructure by way of both primary and secondary schools. It was not in the five year land supply. The site will have its own supplementary DPD (Development Plan Document).
- 123.4. Cllr Haysey suggested the council might want to consider a Neighbourhood Plan to advise on the location and type of any housing development.
- 123.5. Members **RESOLVED** to set up a Working Party to make recommendations to council on a response to the District Plan consultation. Cllrs Edwards, O'Leary and Morris, together with the Clerk to serve.
- 123.6. The District Council had announced a round of briefings to parish councils. Hertingfordbury would be invited to a briefing with Tewin, Bramfield and Stapleford. Members **RESOLVED** to hold a public meeting after the district council briefing prior to submitting a response.

## 124. REPORTS

- 124.1. Crossing and Greens:
  - a. **East End Green** Cllr Rochford had arranged some emergency repairs to infill pot holes.
  - b. The owner of 38 Letty Green had reported that the culvert under the crossing was blocked. This is Parish Council land but may be highway.
- 124.2. Highways:
  - a. Cllr Brennan reported a fallen tree on Footpath 6 to Staines Green.
- 124.3. Play Area:
  - a. The remedial works were complete.



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124.4. **Water Hall:** Nothing to report.

124.5. **Walter Wallinger Charity:** Next meeting is 28<sup>th</sup> April.

124.6. **Panshanger Quarry and Country Park:** Cllr Blake reported that the Friends of Panshanger Park had met with county officers. Felicity Hart and Jan Hayes-Griffiths were working with Lafarge. It was hoped that additional paths from Thieves Lane to Riverside Cottage would be opened on 1st March.

124.7. **Car Parking at Birch Green:** Nothing new to report.

## 125. **CORRESPONDENCE**

125.1. **Drive Safe.** The police had an initiative whereby they would train the public to use a speed camera and matrix display to monitor traffic speed. Vehicles at or under the limit would be presented with a smiley face. Vehicles exceeding the limit would be shown a 30mph speed sign. Offenders would receive a letter but not a fixed penalty notice. It was noted that as The Old Coach Road was either 40 mph or 60 mph and Birch Green was heavily restricted by parked cars, the equipment would be of limited use. It was not known if Letty Green had a problem with speeding vehicles.

125.2. All other correspondence had been circulated to members.

## 126. **MATTERS TO NOTE OR FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

Flooding was reported near Orchard Cottage, East End Green due to blocked gulleys.

Cllr Brennan advised that the wreaths at the War Memorial had been removed for safe keeping while high winds were expected and would be replaced when the weather improved.

Cllr Brennan asked when the new electoral roll would be published. The clerk advised the new roll would be published on 17<sup>th</sup> February and that he would supply a copy to each member.

Cllr Blake reported an Oak Tree near the pond was causing residents concern. Cllr Rochford agreed to inspect.

Cllr O'Leary advised that he had met with the district planning enforcement officer and that a site meeting was being arranged with the owner of the land that had been occupied by travellers. The enforcement officer was not satisfied that sufficient re-instatement had occurred and that there was still hard standing under the top soil.

D Cllr Haysey advised that Oliver Heald MP was holding a surgery on 1<sup>st</sup> March in Bayford.

The meeting closed at 09.08 p.m.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



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## Payments Approved

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>CQ</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>
InfoWEB	Web Site	400062	100.00	20.00	120.00
Fenland Leisure	Play Area	400063	1758.10	351.62	2109.72
T Brindley	Clerk's X's	400064	257.20	43.31	300.51
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>215.59</b>	<b>37.11</b>	<b>251.25</b>