



HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 13TH APRIL 2016 AT 19.00 IN HERTINGFORDBURY COWPER SCHOOL

PRESENT: Cllrs Gary O’Leary (Chairman), Haidy Blake, Tommy Brennan, Shobha Edgell, Roger Morris, Barry Simkins, Paul Rochford

In attendance: Linda Haysey (EHDC), Amanda Glew (Clerk), Steve Ellis, Dawn Grover, Richard Grover, Matt Hay, Martin Jack, Peter Newson ,and Brenda Smith

56. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Lizzer Bradbury

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

58. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman announced that the public may be excluded if the meeting needed to discuss legal action.

Mr Matt Hay gave a short presentation to the meeting explaining his interest in becoming a Councillor. He was proposed as a Councillor by the Chairman and seconded by the Vice Chairman and welcomed to the meeting.

59. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Brenda Smith requested the Parish Council to consider erecting signs to prevent HGV’s coming through Birch Green village. She believes one is coming through approximately once a fortnight trying to find the way to Rochfords. There used to be a sign when coming into Birch Green showing the height of the bridge. A weight restriction sign would also be useful.

Mr and Mrs Grover attended the meeting to discuss the parking of their vehicles outside their property 30 Letty Green. They are not clear where the Parish Council expects them to park or exactly what land constitutes Village Green. Mr Grover confirmed he would be willing to discuss the matter with a Councillor other than the Chairman.

Messrs Jack and Newson attended the meeting to discuss Waterhall Quarry. The Chairman confirmed that the amended minutes of the meeting with HCC had been received and that HCC have admitted responsibility for the problem. HPC will request the follow up meeting as land raising at the site is still taking place on a daily basis. HPC were informed that there are 5 days remaining for the Ombudsman’s reply and it was resolved to support this complaint. It was noted that Jon Tiley and Jan Hayes-Griffin of HCC have had a site visit.



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Steve Ellis asked the Council to consider section 19 of the Acquisition of Land Act 1982 – common land with respect to Greens crossings.

60. MINUTES

There were no comments on the minutes for the previous meeting and these were agreed and signed.

61. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk was requested to contact BT to request when there will be local access to superfast broadband.

62. PLANNING

(a) Current Applications

(b) Recommendations on Outstanding Applications

Planning ref: 3/16/0809/HH for 29 Woolmers Lane, Letty Green, Hertford for the erection of garage with cycle store and office/storage over. It was recommended that the Arboricultural Officer needs to look at the plans and also in terms of bulking HPC would prefer that the rear line of the building be in line with the rear most line of the new house.

Planning ref: 3/16/0822/HH Stelfox House, 7 Chapel Lane, Letty Green for two storey side and rear extensions. No comments made.

Planning ref: 3/16/0839/HH 58 Chapel Lane Letty Green Hertford Hertfordshire SG14 2PA for two storey front and side extension. Part single / part two storey rear extension. No comments made.

(c) E Herts Local Plan and Neighbourhood Planning

Ahead of the meeting the Chairman had circulated an email from Claire Sime, Planning Policy Manager at East Herts Council, concerning the new EHDC draft policy. This confirmed that village hierarchy ratings will disappear and there will not be any categorization of the villages. Green Belt national policy will now apply. Linda Haysey informed the meeting that there is an HAPTC meeting scheduled for 5th May at 10 am and the District Panel decision is due by 24th May.

With respect to the development planned for east of WGC; parish councils and other relevant parties were promised direct involvement but this does not seem to be happening. The process appears to be developer led. Linda Haysey suggested inviting Tarmac to Neighbourhood Plan meetings and she undertook to involve HPC. The draft of Bishop Stortford's second plan is now on the website.

It was resolved that the HPC Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee will comprise Cllrs Brennan, Hay, Morris, O'Leary, Simkins and Brenda Smith and Peter Newson. A meeting will be arranged for either Monday 25th or Wednesday 27th April at Hertingfordbury Cowper School.



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(d) **Scoping Opinion, Prior Extraction of Minerals, Birchall Farm**

The Chairman confirmed a letter had been sent stating HPC's concerns.

(e) **BP Mitchell**

The Chairman advised the meeting that the costs of a judicial review would be too high for HPC to take forward.

Ken Crofton could be asked about the poor state of the road by the site.

As part of the site is in Welwyn Hatfield, they could be asked to enforce.

It was agreed to await the outcome of enforcement action at Waterhall.

63. **STANDING ITEMS**

(a) **Works Programme**

Village Signs. Cllr Rochford was thanked for the work on the village sign for Birch Green and the clerk should receive invoices for that and the work to East End track shortly.

Wells. It was resolved to initially just repair the well at Cole Green. The clerk will arrange for another quote in addition to the one already received from Cllr Simkins.

Tree survey. It was resolved to accept the quote from Open Spaces.

(b) **Greens**

30 Letty Green. The Village Green has been repaired and the widened crossing has been reinstated to its correct width. Netting has been erected to protect grass seed. It was noted that there is evidence that the resident has still been parking on the Green. Cllr Rochford believes that there is space to park cars at the top of Deadfield Lane by Orchard House. The Vice Chairman will meet with Mr Grover to discuss.

(c) **Highways**

The clerk was asked to arrange the school sign outside SG14 2LP to be realigned.

Bridge sign. Cllr Rochford explained that the problem would not happen if the HGV drivers had commercial sat navs but these are more expensive. Drivers are always given directions and he believes that no-one will look at road signs whilst they are following sat navs. The clerk was requested to ask highways if they have a recommendation.

Cllr Morris explained that the water in the road between Staines Green and East End Green is not due to wet weather. The Clerk will report.



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(d) **Quarries**

Already discussed.

(d) **Panshanger Park**

The Chairman had circulated notes from the Panshanger Park HCC Member Strategic Advisory Group of 23rd March ahead of the meeting. It was noted that Tarmac has not addressed the S52 Agreement or the heritage value of the park and falls short of satisfying requirements of the Management Plan. There is a requirement for car parks for the country park although it seems North Lodge cannot now be used. A very large car park is planned for Birch Green even though this is not close to the park. Tarmac will need to submit a formal plan for comment. HPC could use the neighbourhood plan to have influence and invite all parties to a debate. Proposed not to respond in detail to the Draft Plan and use the Steering Group to move forward. The clerk will send a letter once the Chairman has drafted.

Cllr Brennan informed the meeting that the Hertford Disabled Group is to be taken round the park soon and could raise some points.

64. **FINANCE**

(a) **Financial Statement**

The financial statement was received for the year 2015/16.

(b) **Payments Due**

Cheques for payments outstanding were issued to Burnham Landscaping (village green repair), HAPTC (annual sub), DCK Beavers (payroll provider), Clerk (salary and expenses), SLCC (annual sub) and Zurich Municipal (insurance premium).

(c) **New Financial Regulations**

These will be put to the council at a later date.

(d) **Annual Governance Statement**

The Chairman and clerk signed the annual governance statement.

(e) **Internal Audit Arrangements**

It was resolved to employ Helen McCash (Chartered Accountant) as Internal Auditor. Cllr Brennan agreed to undertake a quarterly bank reconciliation check with the clerk.



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(f) Pension

Cllr Rochford questioned whether the payments made by HPC to the LGPS for the clerk would be subject to annual review. Clerk will forward information on the scheme. It was resolved by HPC for the clerk to join the Local Government Pension Scheme.

65. AOB

Cllr Rochford reported that several dead elm trees had been taken down and hedgerows planted at Cole Green. The footpath at the end of Deadfield Lane had been cleared.

Walter Wallinger Charity – Cllr Morris reported that there had been two applications following an advertisement in the parish news. Both had received £300.

Gateway for school – Clerk to request progress.

Cllr Blake requested the clerk to check whether there has been a change of ownership to the field adjacent to 12 Birch Green.

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm.

Chairman _____ Dated _____

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th May 2016 preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting