

Minutes of the meeting of Hertingfordbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 8 October 2008 at 7.30pm in Hertingfordbury Cowper JMI School, Birch Green

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

In attendance: the clerk, Mr G Irwin, and for part of the meeting 1 elector.

58. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Edgell, Raymond and Rochford.

59. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

60. ELECTORS' COMMENTS

Agreed to bring forward agenda item 11. It was agreed that great progress had been made and that a working party be formed to work on the detailed content.

61. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

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

62. MATTERS ARISING

62.1 (Minute 46.1) Noted that Cllr Rochford was due to install the Meg Fewkes memorial seat next week.

62.2 (Minute 46.4) The clerk would contact Ann Maidment regarding the request to use of Gascoyne Cecil lands as access for car parking at Birch Green.

62.3 (Minute 48.1) Cllr Hunt has still to meet with the owner of 25 Birch Green.

62.4 (Minute 48.2) The clerk reported that the easement for 8 Letty Green has been signed and was due to be returned to solicitors for execution.

62.5 (Minute 48.3) Cllr Hunt has still to prepare a specification for pin kerbing.

62.6 (Minute 48.4) Cllr Rochford has still to obtain estimates for work to the play equipment.

62.7 (Minute 48.6) Noted that new lampposts and associated works on the village green in Birch Green had been completed but Highways had not replied regarding entering into a wayleave agreement with the parish council.

62.8 (Minute 53) The clerk reported that he was in the process of completing the forms for registration of title for the village greens.

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

63. FINANCE

63.1 The financial statement was received and noted.

63.2 There had been no payments made since the last meeting.

63.3 RESOLVED that two payments be authorised: £880.17 to G Irwin for second quarter's salary (including 2 additional hours) and expenses, and £486.45 to Coopers for grass cutting.

64. PLANNING

An update on planning applications was received and noted. There were no outstanding applications awaiting the council's comments.

65. REPORTS

65.1 Crossings and Greens:

65.1.1 It was reported that several holes in East End Green Way had recently become deeper and require attention. Cllrs Lester and Hunt will survey and update the risk assessment.

65.1.2 Cllr Rochford to be asked to check the bollards by Deadfield Lane following a motor incident.

65.1.3 The Birch Green risk assessment is due to be updated and some works need to be carried out.

65.2 Highways and Byways:

65.2.1 Noted that the footways at Cumberland Green and the blocked gulley at Letty Green have still not been cleared. The clerk would report again to Highways.

65.2.2 It was reported that The Old Coach Road was in need of sweeping. The clerk to report to EHDC.

65.2.3 Noted that the two 7.5t weight limit signs on the road off the B158 into Letty Green were indeed in situ contrary to earlier reports.

65.2.4 In view of three accidents in Letty Green and Cole Green within the past week the clerk was asked to escalate the requests for a reduction in the 40mph speed limit along Station Road and Cole Green, and for a beware pedestrians sign in the vicinity of the bridge in Station Road.

65.2.5 The clerk was asked to report to Highways a felled bollard at the entrance to Birch Green from The Old Coach Road and missing chevron signs in Birchall Lane on the bend between Cole Green and the A414.

65.3 Play Area: Nothing to report.

65.4 Waterhall: Nothing to report.

65.5 Walter Wallinger's Charity: Noted that one payment had been authorised at the last trustees' meeting.

65.6 Neighbourhood Watch: Nothing to report.

65.7 Greens Car Park: It was reported that some progress had been made but that proposals would be subject to planning permission being granted.

65.8 Panshanger Quarry: An oral report was received. Noted that the 5-year maintenance plan has been signed off, and that extraction in Chisel Shelf and in the area between the A414 and The Old Coach Road would be starting within the next couple of years. It was hoped to arrange another visit to Panshanger for the council in April.

66. RISK ASSESSMENTS

Deferred until the November meeting.

67. WEBSITE

Discussed earlier.

68. CORRESPONDENCE

A note requesting that the council liaise with Hertingfordbury Preservation Society regarding the restoration of a well at Pipers End was read out. Cllr Lester will take it to the HPS meeting on 16 October. It is not a parish council matter.

69. REMEMBRANCE DAY

Arrangements were largely complete. The clerk to confirm a couple of arrangements with Cllr Rochford and Graham Scarborough.

70. MATTERS TO NOTE OR FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

70.1 Cllr Lester tendered his apologies for the next meeting.

70.2 Cllr Lester reported that he had received a letter regarding a possible proposed residential development at Cole Green Works. He will forward a copy of the 30 Oct 2007 letter to Howan Homes which sets out the council's position.

70.3 The clerk was asked to write to EDF regarding several recent power cuts in the parish.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm

Signed

Dated