

**Minutes of the meeting of Hertingfordbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 8 July 2009 at 7.30pm in Hertingfordbury Cowper JMI School, Birch Green**

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Before the meeting began Trevor Watkins and an assistant from East Herts Council gave a presentation and answered questions on the Alternate Recycling Scheme commencing November 2009.

PRESENT: Cllrs R Lester (Chairman), E Bradbury, N Hunt, B Jones and P Rochford

In attendance: 3 electors (one for part of the meeting) and the clerk, Mr G Irwin.

36. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bonner, Edgell, Edwards, Morris and Raymond.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

38. ELECTORS' COMMENTS

38.1 Two residents expressed their concerns about parking in Birch Green.

38.2 Concerns were expressed regarding the proposed redevelopment of 70/72 Birch Green.

38.3 Concerns were expressed regarding vehicles parked too close to the B&T Motors site; the clerk will raise this with the planning officer at HCC.

39. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2009 be confirmed and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

40. MATTERS ARISING

40.1 (Minute 25.1) Cllr Hunt has almost completed reviewing the papers relating to the registration of title in the village greens.

40.2 (Minute 25.2) Cllr Rochford is still in discussions with J Dass regarding the state of the war memorial.

40.3 (Minute 25.3) Cllr Lester is to obtain information on stopping up highways.

40.4 (Minute 35.3) The clerk reported that a petition of at least 250 people would be needed to have EHDC look into changing the parish boundary. District Cllr Haysey suggested that such a project would require a champion and councillors thought this should be someone from Hertingfordbury village.

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

41. FINANCE

41.1 The financial statement was received and noted.

41.2 RESOLVED that three payments, to Playsafety for £89.70 for the play area inspection, to GR Irwin for £882.73 for first quarter's salary and expenses and to Coopers for £1415.65 for grass cutting be authorised.

42. PLANNING

An update on planning applications was received and noted. The clerk reported that Riversmead Housing had offered to meet members to discuss the planned redevelopment of 70/72 Birch Green;

the clerk was asked to obtain dates and come back to members.

43. REPORTS

43.1 Crossings and Greens:

43.1.1 It was reported that the loose manhole cover on Cumberland Green had been fastened.

43.1.2 A letter from Doreen Vigus regarding the erection of a plaque by the Millennium oak was read out; Cllr Hunt will contact her.

43.2 Highways and Byways: The clerk reported that the proposed enforcement action on footpath 8 had been suspended following change of ownership and in the light of new evidence from the 1951 parish council survey of footpaths.

43.3 Play Area: It was reported that the play area was in good order.

43.4 Waterhall: It was reported that Southfield Wood had been overtipped and discussions were ongoing.

43.5 Walter Wallinger's Charity: Nothing to report.

43.6 Greens Car Park:

43.6.1 It was reported that despite earlier assurances this was not going ahead due to the current economic climate.

43.6.2 In the light of the above it was agreed to write to Herts Highways asking for parking restrictions in Birch Green.

43.6.3 Members were given a copy of letters from the head teacher of the school to all school users and another to residents of Birch Green; the clerk to write the the head thanking her for this initiative.

43.6.4 With the school's sports day on Friday the clerk was asked to contact PC Andy Woodward to ask if he can attend as parking is likely to be at its worst.

43.7 Panshanger Quarry: An oral update was received. Noted that the next meeting will be in January.

44. RISK ASSESSMENTS

Cllrs Lester, Hunt and Jones will undertake a review of the risk assessments for the greens and report back to the next meeting.

45. PIN KERBING

Three quotes had now been received. RESOLVED to accept the lowest quote, £6,298 from Kelmar Construction, subject to first contacting those residents concerned. Cllr Hunt will draft a letter for the clerk to send.

46. DRIVEWAY 16-22 BIRCH GREEN

RESOLVED that Cllr Rochford will effect a temporary repair filling holes with planings.

47. PLAY AREA REPORT

RESOLVED that Cllr Rochford will instruct contractors to effect all appropriate medium-risk issues.

48. CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing of note.

49. MATTERS TO NOTE OR FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

49.1 Landscaping around the war memorial.

49.2 The bench opposite the war memorial has been vandalised. It is understood the Women's Institute is obtaining 2 quotations before considering what to do.

49.3 The clerk reported that District Councillor Haysey is having an open evening for parish councillors in her ward on 22 September.

49.4 The clerk informed members that Birch Green had won Small village of the year in the Hertfordshire heat of the competition; the clerk was asked to send thanks to Tommy Brennan for his hard work.

The chairman closed the meeting at 10.00pm

Signed

Dated