

Minutes of the meeting of Hertingfordbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 10 September 2008 at 7.30pm in Hertingfordbury Cowper JMI School, Birch Green

PRESENT: Cllrs R Lester (Chairman), E Bradbury, S Edgell, C Edwards, N Hunt, R Morris, J Raymond and P Rochford

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

44. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bonner and Jones.

45. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

46. ELECTORS' COMMENTS

46.1 The Hertingfordbury Preservation Society having decided on a suitable seat Cllr Rochford agreed to purchase one for the Meg Fewkes memorial seat for the Society and install it in the agreed place by the war memorial in time for the Remembrance Day service.

46.2 It was reported that a party including Cllr Ralph Gilbert, a member of the Highways Joint Member Panel, had trouble negotiating parked cars in Birch Green recently. The clerk will write and ask if Cllr Gilbert can exert any influence to help find a solution to the parking problem.

46.3 Agreed to bring forward agenda item 12. Richard Herbert has been working with Cllr Bradbury on a possible design and is prepared to host the site for a contribution towards his usual rate of £200 plus VAT per annum. It was agreed to adopt this approach and for members to review a draft of the proposed site online before the next meeting.

46.4 Ms Ann Maidment from Gascoyne Cecil Estates asked if there was any feedback regarding Munns Farm. The principal complaint was the speed of traffic. The issue of shooting on Gascoyne Cecil lands was also raised.

47. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2008 be confirmed and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

48. MATTERS ARISING

48.1 (Minute 35.2) Cllr Hunt has still to meet with the owner of 25 Birch Green.

48.2 (Minute 35.3) The clerk reported that the easement at 8 Letty Green was progressing slowly.

48.3 (Minute 38.1.2) Cllr Hunt has still to prepare a specification for pin kerbing.

48.4 (Minute 40) Cllr Rochford has still to obtain estimates for work to the play equipment.

48.5 (Minute 42.1) No response had been received from Cllr Haysey regarding Woolmers Park; the clerk would ask again.

48.6 (Minute 43.5) The clerk reported that following his meeting with a Highways lighting manager and after consultation with members he had written confirming that the council was content to have lampposts and associated works on the village green in Birch Green provided Highways entered into a wayleave agreement with the parish council. Having received no reply he would chase Highways.

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

49. FINANCE

49.1 The financial statement was received and noted.

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

49.3 RESOLVED that two payments: £158.63 to BDO Stoy Hayward for the external audit, and £562.82 to Coopers for grass cutting be authorised.

50. ANNUAL RETURN

Noted that the external auditor had found no issues with the annual return and it was RESOLVED that the 2008 annual return be approved.

51. PLANNING

An update on planning applications was received and noted.

52. REPORTS

52.1 Crossings and Greens:

Thanks were expressed to Cllr Rochford for refurbishing three parish noticeboards. There was nothing further to report.

52.2 Highways and Byways:

52.2.1 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.

52.2.2 The clerk reported that he had received notice of closure of Woolmers Lane; the notice would be scanned and emailed to members.

52.3 Play Area: Nothing to report.

52.4 Waterhall: Noted that there is to be a site meeting at 9.35am on 12 September.

52.5 Walter Wallinger's Charity: Noted that there is to be a trustees' meeting on 15 September.

52.6 Neighbourhood Watch: Nothing to report.

52.7 Greens Car Park: Nothing to report.

53. VILLAGE GREENS

The clerk reported that the cost of registering the council's title in the village greens under the voluntary registration scheme was £30. RESOLVED that the clerk be authorised to go ahead with the registration.

54. RISK ASSESSMENTS

54.1 A number of potential risks were discussed regarding Birch Green which will be assessed or addressed by the next meeting and the draft risk assessment updated for review and approval.

54.2 Cllrs Lester and Hunt will review the risk assessment for East End Green over the next month.

55. PANSHANGER QUARRY

RESOLVED that Cllrs Lester and Morris be appointed as parish council representatives on the

proposed Panshanger Quarry Liaison Group.

56. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had been dealt with.

57. MATTERS TO NOTE OR FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- 57.1 The clerk was asked to report again to EHDC that brown wheelie bins were not being returned to their rightful place in Letty Green.
- 57.2 The clerk was asked to report a tennis court obstructing footpath 8 at Labby Green.
- 57.3 The clerk was asked to report a burnt-out car in the car park by the Cowper Arms at Cole Green.
- 57.4 The clerk was asked to write to the owners of 10 Cole Green asking them to instruct their contractors to park with more consideration to other road users and to make good any necessary repairs to the village green.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm

Signed

Dated