



# HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016 AT 19.00 IN HERTINGFORDBURY COWPER SCHOOL**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Gary O’Leary (Chairman), Haidy Blake, Lizzer Bradbury, Tommy Brennan, Roger Morris, Barry Simkins (left at 9 pm), Paul Rochford (arrived at 8 pm)

In attendance: Ken Crofton (HCC), Amanda Glew (Clerk), Martin Jack, Peter Newson , Howard Flowers and four other parishioners

#### **46. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Shobha Edgell

#### **47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chairman stated that Standing Order 69 may need to be invoked later.

#### **48. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENT**

There were no announcements.

#### **49. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Four new residents to the parish attended the meeting.

Broadband - Howard Flowers was interested in the opinion of HPC on the recent broadband report. The Chairman reported that he thought the report showed little progress for the Parish. The Vice Chairman has spoken to Catherine Edwards regarding Cole Green and she understands that the installation of high speed broadband will happen sometime this in 2016. Mr Flowers wondered whether East Herts might agree to give a grant to the parish to facilitate co-funding of a project if broadband is not forthcoming. The Clerk will write to Catherine with a view to understanding progress she has made on obtaining superfast broadband for Cole Green/Letty Green parish.

Water Hall Quarry – A written update on the situation was received from Brian Owen earlier today and circulated to Councillors. It was noted that additional lorries and material are still coming into the site. Bayford residents have now put in a formal complaint. February 29<sup>th</sup> is the date for HCC to reply to the formal complaints made by Messrs Jack and Newson. Cllr Crofton explained that he has been trying to get a stop notice issued by HCC but the legal department is under resourced and they feel that a stop notice cannot be separated from the enforcement process. Cllr Crofton has suggested the legal department take outside advice. It was resolved to arrange a meeting between HPC, Cllr Crofton, Jon Tiley and John Wood, possibly with Bayford Parish Council and Oliver Heald MP also invited. The Chairman informed the meeting that the Neighbourhood Plan would likely specify Grotto Wood as a heritage site affected by the over fill at Water Hall quarry.



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## 50. **MINUTES**

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

## 51. **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

## 52. **PLANNING**

### (a) **Current Applications**

Planning ref: 3/15/0371/CPO BP Mitchell, Birchall Lane for HGV Parking Area. The Clerk was requested to find out more information on this application.

### (b) **Recommendations on Outstanding Applications**

Planning ref: 3/16/0097/FUL Birchall Farmhouse, Birchall Lane, Cole Green for ménage for exercise and training of horses. No objections were raised.

The Clerk was requested to find out the outcome of the appeal made by the Prince of Wales Pub in Hertingfordbury to build private housing on the land.

### (c) **E Herts Local Plan and Neighbourhood Planning**

Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The Chairman reported that East Herts have agreed for the full parish area as requested to be designated. The next stage is to involve the whole community and a letter will be sent out to all residents of the parish inviting them to a meeting with a view to establishing interest in forming a steering committee. The letter will have the newly adopted Village Greens Policy on the reverse. The Chairman has begun the process of enquiry into NP grants available under the "Locality" scheme. The resident meeting should be arranged before the end of March.

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

It was agreed that the request seemed pre-emptive as no sites for housing in the area have been finalised. Also an archaeological study was recently undertaken with no results published. It was resolved that the Chairman will draft a letter stating HPC's concerns.

### (d) **BP Mitchell**

The HCC Waste Allocations Sites Document was adopted in July 2014 but it is not clear HPC were consulted through the pre-adoption process and inspector inquiry. The Chairman agreed to investigate this further. It was queried whether Tarmac are challenging the recent BP Mitchell planning application approval for a permanent waste facility. It was agreed HPC will pursue a judicial review, in which case there are 6 weeks from 4<sup>th</sup> February to make the application. Other parties will be encouraged to participate where possible. It was noted that there is only one chance of appeal.



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It was noted by many Cllrs that vehicle and road cleaning on Birchall Lane is failing and the road is in very poor condition. Cllr Crofton suggested that this should be brought up at the meeting with John Wood and also take the opportunity to make clear that HPC are currently dealing with the sites at Water Hall, BP Mitchell and Tarmac. Cllr Crofton is of the opinion that a levy should be charged on contractors to pay for the proper management of these sites against agreed conditions.

## 53. STANDING ITEMS

### (a) Works Programme

Village Signs. Cllr Rochford has started work on the Village sign for Birch Green. He suggested that the board for East End Green is not situated in the most convenient place and that it should be moved and face south to mitigate against poor weather.

Play Equipment. Painting will be needed next year. Clerk will liaise with Cllr Rochford.

Wells. The well at Pipers Green to be included in the Wells assessment.

Tree survey. Due this year and Cllr Rochford will be arranging.

P3 grant to be applied for.

### (b) Greens

30 Letty Green. Photographs from Google Earth show how the verges along Deadfield Lane have been damaged. It is a single track road and is frequently blocked by a vehicle owned by the resident of 30 Letty Green. It was resolved that HPC will arrange for the necessary repair work to be undertaken to the Green which will include the removal of bollards and erection of temporary fencing to allow the grass to recover. The Clerk will arrange quotes from contractors and write to Mr Grover explaining the repair work to be undertaken. HPC will aim to recover costs wherever possible and through legal action if required. HPC will act in line with its adopted Village Green policies to protect the condition of the Greens.

A vote was taken on 2 proposals and the Council resolved to repair the condition of the Village Green at Letty Green, seek to recover costs, put in temporary protection to allow the Green to recover and the grass grow back, seek court injunctions if no commitments to further damage can be secured as required.

### (c) Highways

Drains. CCTV has been carried out on the drains in Old Coach Road, Birch Green and the Clerk was requested to find out whether there is now a report and action plan.

Highways. Cllr Brennan reported two Give Way signs that need to be renewed. The Clerk will investigate.



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Gullies. Cllr Morris reported water in the road between Staines Green and East End Green and that the gulley needs cleaning. The Clerk will report.

Ditch. The ditch has disappeared at Pipers End leading to water in the road. The Clerk will report.

(d) **Panshanger Park**

The Chairman reported that there was no update.

54. **FINANCE**

(a) **Financial Statement**

The financial statement was received.

(b) **Payments Due**

Cheques for payments outstanding were issued to Info Web (website hosting), Frank Cooper & Son (grass cutting), DCK Beavers (payroll provider) and the Clerk (2 months salary, expenses and purchase of a laptop, printer and stationery). The laptop and printer costs were covered by the Transparency Grant.

55. **AOB**

Projector – the Clerk will investigate costs on purchasing a projector for use at public meetings.

Clerk's Pension Costs – the Clerk should consult Tom Brindley (a previous clerk) who may have advice.

National Gardens Open Day request by Mrs J O'Leary. It was agreed to allow temporary event signage on the Village Greens and notice boards for the Open Garden at Beechleigh on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May. This is a charity event raising money for national and local charities.

The Clerk was asked to contact East Herts regarding the number of dwellings with planning permission at The Elms, Pipers End.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016