

MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting of Woodham Walter Parish Council.
Held in Women's Club Room, Top Road, Woodham Walter.
Tuesday 14th April 2009

Present:

Colin Warner (Chairman)
Mark Durham (Vice Chairman)
James Bunn
Angus Neale
David Potter
Claire Robinson
Peter Warren

Others: Jacky Bannerman (Clerk)
Public: 0

1. **Welcome** Cllr. Warner welcomed those present to the meeting.
2. **Apologies For Absence**
3. **Register of Declared Interests** No interests were declared, the record book was duly signed.
4. **Public Forum** There were no members of the public present.
5. **Minutes Of The Parish Council Meeting Held On 9th March 2009.** The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed.
6. **Matters Arising**
 - 6.1 **Street Lighting (196.7/204.2)** Clerk has spoken to A&J Lighting and Angela Balcome at ECC who informed that ECC have a scheme for replacing lighting if the Parish Council can pay 20% of the cost ECC may be prepared to make up the rest. Clerk has had figures from A&J Lighting. 3 replacement sensors £155.25 inc vat, 6 replacement lamps £1718.10 inc. vat, installation £230 inc vat. Total expected cost: £2103.35. Therefore 20% payable by WWPC £350.56. Grant required from ECC £1752.79. Clerk informs that there is a £200 contingency in the budget for street light repairs and that there is sufficient additional funds in the general contingency to cover the cost. Councillors conclude that bearing in mind many of the lights are getting to the age where they will need replacing anyway, we should pursue this while the grant funding is available. Clerk to continue pursuing.
7. **Minutes of the Planning Meeting Held on 30th March 2009.** The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed.
8. **Matters Arising**
 - 8.1 (211) Bell Car Park. Clerk informs that she had written to the owner via his agent on two previous occasions and not received any response. Councillors request Clerk writes to MDC Planning informing we have been liaising with highways regarding problems with parking adjacent to the Bell and that we are taking steps to prevent parking on a recently laid footpath and inappropriate areas of the memorial garden which will result in further pressure on parking. Therefore the reinstatement of the car park at the earliest possible time is very necessary. Copy letter to Mr Doughty via agent and District Councillor Sheila Young.
 - 8.2 (212.2) FUL/MAL/09/00163 Meadows Barn. Clerk has written two letters regarding this site. One specifically objecting to the planning application and one regarding MDC's monitoring of the site. Clerk read letter received from Peter Le Grys stating that the site had in fact been monitored over a period of several years. Councillors commented that this letter answers our queries and that we had done all we could at the present. It was noted that precedent is no longer a valid planning objection. Clerk noted the date of next North West Area Planning committee meeting on 11th May, and at this time we do not know if the Meadows Barn application is included in this agenda. The next meeting after that is on 8th June.
9. **Planning – APPLICATIONS**
 - 9.1 FUL/MAL/09/00209 Parkside, Herbage Park Road
Extension and roof conversion (amendments to planning permission FUL/MAL/07/00325).
There were no objections. Clerk to write accordingly.
10. **Planning - DECISIONS**
 - 10.1 FUL/MAL/09/00080 Parkside, Herbage Park Road **APPROVE**
Proposed alterations and extension to private horse stables.
Inc. Conditions 3. The private horse stables...solely for the private stabling of horses and no business or commercial use... Condition 4: ...No burning of animal or stables wastes. Condition 5: No flood lighting or other external form of illumination...
 - 10.2 FUL/MAL/09/00005 Yeomans, Bassetts Lane **APPROVE**
Extension. *Includes Condition 3:...the dwelling shall be occupied for purposes ancillary and incidental to and in conjunction with the use of the existing property as a single dwelling house and not as a separate or independent unit of residential accommodation...*
 - 10.3 FUL/MAL/09/00162 Barnfield, Spring Elms Lane **APPROVE**
Revision to planning application FUL/MAL/05/01205 – Extend width to breakfast room and bedroom over.

Inc. Condition 2: An internal pedestrian access shall be retained... occupied only for purposes ancillary and incidental... not as a separate or independent unit of residential accommodation.

11. Other Planning Matters

11.1 Falconers Lodge. Letter received from Peter Le Grys informing that the matter had now been passed to the Council's Solicitor to initiate summons through the Magistrates Court.

11.2 Woodham Walter Hall Ruins – Cllr Warren investigating the ownership of piece of land as requested by Jackie Longman. It is thought very likely that the land is part of Whitehouse Farm.

11.3 For information: Appeals lodged: FUL/MAL/08/00912 , 1&2 Redgates, Herbage Park Road.

Appeal against: Condition 3 (Upon commencement of extension at either property, the work upon the extension to the other property shall be undertaken concurrently or within 6 months of works first commencing on site).

12. To Authorise Any Payments Due

12.1 e-on – Monthly DD

12.2 A&J Lighting Solutions – Monthly DD

12.3 Clerks Salary + allowance

12.4 EALC Affiliation Fee £142.57

12.5 Blackwater Landscapes £405 (inc. grass cutting & Bell Meadow tree/hedge)

13. Other Financial Matters

13.1 Notice of the Annual Audit for the year ending 31/03/09. Date for completion is 13 July 2009. Clerk to complete accounts for councillors to view at next months meeting. Clerk has confirmed with Derek Turner that he is happy to continue to act as Internal Auditor. Clerk confirms that she will purchase wine as a thank you.

14. Report Of The District Councillor No report available.

15. Highways

15.1 (194.1) Parking outside of The Bell Public House. Clerk to contact Steve Broad at Highways regarding posts being installed. Cllrs decide to request one post on Brooklands side only.

15.2 (194.16) New road enforcement signage outside the Primary School on The Street. No further correspondence received from Jackie Roerig.

Resident Paul Clark suggests in an email that we could ask ECC to make an application under section 2(8) of the act "the signs are incompatible with the rural street scene".

Headteacher, Mrs Matthews has received update from Highways that the signs could be fixed to the fence and she asks how councillors feel about this as a solution?

Councillors conclude that it will be preferable to have the signs on the fence but still feel they are too big and incompatible with the rural street scene and the signs need to be less conspicuous. Clerk to write.

15.3 (194.11) Pot Hole – just off carriageway, along Old London Road. Cllr Robinson has investigated and photographed. The water runs down the road and does not appear to run off the land. Clerk to write to Steve Broad.

15.4 Temporary Road Closure – Renewal of water main – Essex & Suffolk Water. Crossways Hill, Woodham Walter. (Bassetts Lane). 24 hour closure – 8th May 2009 – 10th June 2009. Diversion via Little Baddow Road, Stivvy's Road, West Bowers Road.

15.5 Noted surface water near to Chamberlain Cottage (3 Acres & A Cow). Cllr. Warner to speak with the owners regarding ditch clearance.

15.6 Clerk to inform MDC regarding pot holes along Old London Road, between end of Curling Tye Lane towards Maldon and specifically adjacent to Great Beeleigh Farm entrance.

15.7 Clerk to chase Jackie Roerig regarding gating.

16. Local Issues

16.1 **Playground/Bell Meadow Rota.** Note that the new tree and hedging have been planted and councillors are asked to include watering when inspecting Bell Meadow. It was noted that a couple of the hedge whips looked to be dead. Cllr. Warner to speak to Paul Williams and ask him to have a look. Cllr. Bunn to speak to Dave Weedon regarding gate catch as per minute ref: 177.1

16.2 **Footpath Officer Report** Cllr Warren had a meeting with Nicky Coleman, Chris Brown's replacement. She's very enthusiastic and appears interested in our paths. So much so that a fallen tree on FP 22 was cleared on the same day that it was reported to her!

16.3 **PCSO Crime Report** . No report.

16.4 **Neighbourhood Action Panel** Date of next meeting: 7pm on 12th May at Wickham Bishops VH.

16.5 **School Report** No report.

16.6 **Allotments Report** Cllr Neale reports that the fence has been erected. The insurance completed at a cost of £5.75 per plot. Cllr. Robinson thanked Cllr. Neale for the time he had dedicated to this project. Cllr. Bunn commented that he likes seeing people at the allotments and there is a nice social atmosphere. Cllr. Warren commented that car parking along Rectory Road is his biggest concern. Cllr. Neale to reaffirm that plot holders should use school car park whenever possible (outside of school hours).

16.7 **Community Speed Watch** Equipment has been re-calibrated and sessions should have begun again.

16.8 **Annual Parish Meeting** Monday 20th April, 7.30 for 8.00pm start. Clerk distributed agenda (although this had to be corrected the following day) and minutes of 2008 meeting. Cllr. Warner & Potter attended Little Baddow Annual Meeting and proposed for future years that we produce a separate Annual Report & Newsletter which will be distributed to all in the village. This would give all villagers the opportunity of seeing the reports in full. There would still be an Annual Parish Meeting in order to offer residents the opportunity to ask questions, make comments etc but it was felt this method gives more people news of the village and the meeting will not take so

long. Clerk informs that there would be cost implications (clerks time, printing) in producing the magazine. Clerk to investigate costs, speak with printer and report back. Councillors hope that it will be OK for the publication to be delivered by the Parish magazine distributors. Cllr Warner to incorporate idea into his Annual report and ask the assembled crowd if they feel it is a good idea.

16.9 **Parish Magazine** – Cllr Durham commented that he felt the parish magazine had too many advertisements. Clerk comments that she is the voluntary editor of the magazine (i.e. this is not connected with role as Parish Clerk) and it is produced on behalf of the churches. The advertisements cover the printing costs. Councillors discuss and conclude that the magazine is successful and enjoyable.

16.10 **Litter** – the recent fly tipped litter along Curling Tye Lane was again noted. Also that some tiles had still not been collected, located opposite Ashmans, near to a bend. They are blocking the ditch. Clerk to report again. Councillors comment on problem of litter being thrown out of vehicles, particularly noticeable after a weekend.

16.11 **Party Tents** Clerk has received enquiry for hiring the tents and Bell Meadow. Councillors discuss that there are too many implications (licence, litter, toilets, power, noise, insurance etc) and that they do not want to start hiring Bell Meadow out as a venue to private individuals. They suggest contacting Richard Warner. Clerk to inform. Councillors also discuss charge for renting the tents for duration of 24th July – 7th August next year. Councillors conclude that it is acceptable to hire for this period of time and that the charge would be £75 for the two tents per weekend of hire, ie. The same cost as if they were hired out independently each weekend. Cllr Durham requests that the new boxes are required for the tents very soon. Cllr Bunn had provided measurements to volunteer but so far the boxes had not been received. It was suggested that canvas bags would be ideal for the tent material but boxes would be required for the poles. They need to be wooden boxes with rope handles. Decided to seek alternative box maker, Cllr. Durham will contact Rob Hamilton to request price. Cllr. Robinson to investigate canvas bags.

17. Correspondence

17.1 Danbury PC – invitation to attend Annual meeting on Wednesday 22nd April. Cllr. Robinson to attend.

17.2 ECC Transport Liaison Officer: Invitation to attend Passenger Transport Representatives Meeting on Thursday 23rd April at 2pm, United Reform Church, Market Hill, Maldon. Do councillors think that representative should attend this meeting regarding MALBUS4. Cllr. Warren to attend.

17.3 Junior Rangers Club – MDC. Next events on 18th April and 16th May. See poster for details.

17.4 Lee Valley Cycle Club – informed race meeting taking place through Woodham Walter on 10th May.

18. Points Of Information

18.1 Cllr. Robinson informs parishioner had complained to her that the beech hedge at the end of Top Road is rather overgrown. Clerk to contact owner, Sheila Young.

19. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting including AGM: Monday 11th May 2009

Discussion regarding appointment of Chairman/Vice Chairman over coming years. Cllr. Warner draws attention to councillors that this will need to be considered.

Signed

Dated

Meeting ended at 9.50pm