

MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting of Woodham Walter Parish Council
Held at 8pm in Women's Club, Top Road, Woodham Walter.

Monday 11th April 2011

Present:

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

Others: Jacky Bannerman (Clerk)

Public: 2

429. Welcome Cllr. Durham welcomed those present to the meeting.

430. Apologies For Absence received and accepted from Councillor. Claire Robinson and District Councillor Sheila Young.

431. Register of Declared Interests No interests were declared and the book was duly signed.

432. Public Forum There were 2 members of the public in attendance to observe the meeting, neither had any comments.

433. Minutes Of The Parish Council Meeting Held On 14th March 2011. The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed.

434. Matters Arising

434.1 War Memorial – It was noted that Rob Hamilton has completed the repairs to the War Memorial Shelter. Councillor's agreed that the shelter is now looking good.

434.2 It was noted that a payment to K & K Dunstan for the printing of the Annual Parish Report had been omitted from the minutes of 14th March 2011. Councillor's confirmed that this payment had been duly authorised.

435. Planning – APPLICATIONS

435.1 FUL/MAL/11/00170 Meadows Barn, Bassetts Lane

Erect store building (amended proposal).

Due to the deadline being before this meeting, the application documents had been circulated to councillors and letter of objection written. Councillor's had commented that the grounds for refusal of the original application FUL/MAL/10/00901 are still valid; that the site is in a rural area designated a Special Landscape Area where new development should be resisted to protect the countryside and the proposed development would have a detrimental impact on the rural character of the area.

Furthermore, even with the new proposed location of the building in the site, it's proximity to the highway and its scale, bulk and height, it would appear visually intrusive in the street scene and have a detrimental impact on neighbouring properties.

It was noted that when applications are considered at the NW Planning Meetings, that a representative of the Parish Council should attend and exercise our right to speak. Cllr. Bunn volunteered to attend for this application. Councillor's agreed that before attendance at these meetings it would be desirable to prepare a brief for every future case where we choose to speak.

435.2 HOUSE/MAL/11/00262 Oaklands, Rectory Road

Removal of existing rear conservatory. Erection of single storey extension to side and rear of property.

Councillor's discussed the plans and had no objections, of the neighbours consulted there were no objections. Councillor's also agreed that the plans and graphics were very good and easy to read.

Clerk to write accordingly.

435.3 HOUSE/MAL/11/00263 9 Rectory Road

Part single, part double storey rear extension, internal alterations and front conservatory.

These plans had only just been received. Councillor's viewed and discussed the plans and had no objections. Neighbours to be consulted and if there were no objections clerk to write accordingly. If objections are raised by neighbours clerk/councillor's to liaise and discuss further.

435.4 HOUSE/MAL/11/00272 11 Mead Pastures

Pitched roof over garage and single storey rear extension.

These plans had only just been received. Councillor's viewed and discussed the plans and had no objections. Neighbours to be consulted and if there were no objections clerk to write accordingly. If objections are raised by neighbours clerk/councillor's to liaise and discuss further.

436. Planning - DECISIONS

436.1 Noted Cllr Potter attended the NW Committee meeting to represent WWPC on Hoe Farm application. Cllr Potter commented on his dismay that the agenda at the meeting had again had errors and that he was concerned about the mistakes and hopes that the Planning Department will improve in the future.

436.2 FUL/MAL/10/00906 Hoe Farm, Hoe Mill Road APPROVE (NW COMMITTEE)

Change of use of land from paddock to residential. Retention of gated entrance and new vehicle crossover.

Reasons: "The change of use of land identified within the application, additional landscape feature and retention of the vehicular access onto the highway are considered to be appropriate in ensuring the protection of the character and appearance of the countryside in accordance with policies...and does not cause detrimental harm to highway safety..."

437. Other Planning Matters

437.1 Falconers Lodge. Clerk to again request a progress report.

438. Payments The following payments were authorised and cheques duly signed.

438.1 e-on – Monthly DD – noted the account is currently in credit (Minute Ref: 331.1)

438.2 A&J Lighting Solutions – Monthly DD

438.3 Clerks Salary + Allowance/Expenses and HMRC Payment.

438.4 Blackwater Landscapes

438.5 Montrose T.C. Ltd £48.30 (Engraved decanter for Del Butcher's Retirement)

438.6 EALC £60.00 (Tax & Audit Workshop)

438.7 EALC (Affiliation Fee 2011/12 – also includes NALC Affiliation Fee 2011/12) £151.02

438.8 Woodham Walter Village Hall (Charge for Hire of Hall)

439. Other Financial Matters

439.1 HMRC - Parish Council Clerks PAYE implementation. Following attendance on the course at EALC clerk has begun the process of registering the Parish Council as employers. Clerk's tax has been worked out on the Basic Rate until an updated tax code is received. There are payroll agencies who could carry out the task but it was agreed that for the time being clerk will administer until a judgement on how onerous the task is can be made. Councillors to discuss payment rates including allowance for working at home when a clearer picture is received.

439.2 Allotments Society – re-payment of loan cheque received.

439.3 Noted that the 2010/11 Audit paperwork has been received.

439.4 Internal Audit – Clerk to ask Mr Derek Turner to again act as the internal auditor.

439.5 Cllr. Durham to carry out finance payments and expenditure check.

440. Report Of The District Councillor Mrs Young had reported to clerk her opinion that when the Localism Bill is in place it won't alter planning decisions to a great extent as the District Council will still have the final say having taken into account the Parish Council's opinion (as it does now).

441. Highways

441.1 Ref: 3047205 Salt for salt bin. Chased 8/3/11 as still empty. Update received and discussed.

Clerk to respond, that we purchased the bin on the understanding it would be refilled and that in light of this latest information councillor's felt that it had been miss-sold; that it should not be taken away; that the salt was not abused in this location; argument for more in the village to improve safety during snow/icy conditions. Clerk to ask when the new season is due to start?

441.2 Little London Lane potholes. A job has been raised for this work.

441.3 Ref: 49310 (405.5) Drainage problem at the bottom of Bassetts Lane - blocked pipe opposite the entrance to Yeoman's. (West towards Little Baddow). Awaiting update.

441.4 Curling Tye Lane – junction of Old London Road. Both new road name signs have disappeared. Clerk has reported to MDC.

441.5 Ref: 49311 Hoe Mill Road/Rectory Road – opposite Blue Mill Lane junction. Broken manhole cover near finger post sign on verge. Awaiting update. Clerk to inform of the dangerous nature of this problem.

441.6 Little Baddow Road – Councillor's commented on the water which runs down the road outside Chamberlains which is thought likely to be due to the ditch requiring clearance which is the land owners responsibility. Cllr. Warner to visit.

442. Local Issues

442.1 **Bell Meadow/Playground** The book was duly signed. Cllr. Durham reported that a spring had sprung on bell meadow which will be monitored as it may need to be drained. Clerk to order the new football nets, Cllr. Durham and Bunn to erect and tighten nuts, touch up paintwork as necessary.

442.2 **Footpath Officer Report** 1) The boggy stretch of FP19 in The Wilderness is greatly improved thanks to the allotmenters who have dumped bucketfuls of stones there. 2) ECC have erected a new waymark post on FP18 by the old ruins.

442.3 **Crime Report for Woodham Walter.** No information received. The One Place on Wheels Next visit including mobile police vehicle – Friday 15th April from 1300-1400 at WW Village Hall.

442.4 **Neighbourhood Action Panel** No information received.

442.5 **School Report** Councillor's have been invited to attend the opening of the new school building on afternoon of 17th July.

- 442.6 **Allotments Report** Noted receipt of loan repayment. Cllr. Neale reported that 2 new tenants had recently taken over their plots, there is now 1 on the waiting list.
- 442.7 **Community Speed Watch** The training session took place on Saturday 9th April. This had been well attended and there are now 10 volunteers in Woodham Walter. Clerk to arrange the rota.
- 442.8 **Litter** Clerk has reported hippo skip bags at Rectory Road to Moat as it was felt that they had been full and awaiting collection for a long time.
Cllr's commented that it was sad to see the amount of rubbish along the stretch between the Warren and The Anchor increasing again. Clerk to report to CBC/Danbury PC and request clearance.
Noted that Cllr. Robinson had spoken to the new manager at Wood Corner about litter in the vicinity, he is to be invited to attend the next village litter pick.
- 442.9 **Village Agent** There was nothing to report.
- 442.10 **Collapse of bank** Clerk has not so far received a response to enquiry with Environment Agency for feedback (17/3). Clerk to chase.
- 442.11 **Woodham Walter Common** i) re: signs - Warden Chris Wheadon has been speaking with Leanne Sargeant who had misunderstood the requirement. Proposed new signage has been submitted which councillors agreed was more appropriate. Clerk to enquire where the signs are proposed to be erected.
ii) Living Landscapes consultation – this document had been circulating and councillors felt it is an interesting project. Clerk to write and ask if Chris Wheadon would attend the committee meetings and report back to councillors.

443. Miscellaneous

- 443.1 Annual Parish Meeting & Report. Thank you to all councillor's for delivering the reports around the village. . Councillor's agreed that the meeting earlier in the evening had been well attended and successful. Councillors' agreed with the comments received from Mr & Mrs Herrmann and the Village Agent that the reports should be sent to the Essex Records Office, clerk to write Councillor's agreed to look again into the possibility of producing a village footpath map as this had received such a positive response from those present; possibly in the form of place mats. Cllr. Bunn/clerk to enquire rules with OS.
- 443.2 Elections – Thursday 5th May 2011. Including Local Elections and Referendum on the voting system used to elect MPs to the House of Commons.
Noted: Statement of Persons Nominated for Election of Parish Councillors in Woodham Walter.
7 candidates have been nominated for 7 parish councillor positions, therefore this will be an uncontested result and an election will not be necessary. Clerk to display information on notice board.
Noted: Statement of Persons Nominated for Election of District Councillors – Wickham Bishops and Woodham. There are 4 candidates and an election will take place. Clerk to display on notice board.
- 443.3 Circulations – Councillor's/clerk discussed speed at which envelopes circulate. Delays can cause us to miss deadlines for consultations etc.

444. Correspondence

- 444.1 Alzheimer's Society – Letter of thanks for donation.
- 444.2 ECC Local Bus Team – Changes to bus services affecting Woodham Walter from 1 May.
Service 31A Saturdays 0801 WW to Chelmsford withdrawn. 1045 Chelmsford to Maldon retimed to 1105. 1200 Maldon to Chelmsford retimed to 1210. Clerk to update timetable on noticeboard.

445. Points Of Information

- 445.1 Cllr. Neale offered his apologies for the May meeting.

446. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting: Monday 9th May 2011.

This meeting will begin with the Annual General Meeting including Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman and Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Annual Register of Member Interests.

Signed

Dated

Meeting ended at 10.20pm