

MINUTES

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

Monday 11th February 2019

Present:

Cllr. John Tompkins (Chairman)
Cllr. James Bunn
Cllr. Jenny Hughes
Cllr. Joanna Symons
Cllr. Peter Warren

Others: Jacky Bannerman (Parish Clerk)
Cllr. Henry Bass (District Council)

Public: 4

2488. Welcome Cllr. John Tompkins welcomed those present to the meeting.

2489. Apologies For Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. John Brown, Cllr. James Rushton and District Councillor Mark Durham.

2490. Disclosure of Interests/Consideration of Dispensations To disclose the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, other Pecuniary Interests or Non-Pecuniary Interests relating to items of business on the agenda having regard to paragraphs 6-10 inclusive of the Code of Conduct for Members. (Members are reminded they are also required to disclose any such interests as soon as they become aware should the need arise throughout the meeting).

Cllr. Jenny Hughes declared a non-pecuniary interest in discussion regarding planning application at Thornberry as she is a neighbour.

There were no other interests declared and the register was duly signed.

2491. Public Forum

There were 4 members of the public present.

The following points were made regarding the Appeal which has been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate regarding Meadows Barn, Bassetts Lane (Construction of 10 new holiday lodges).

- General outline of history of case.
- Opinion expressed that the MDC Officer report detailing the reasons for refusal omitted the distance from proposed lodges to the properties Beightons, Barrow Cottage and Elwy Cottages and that these parts of the application site which are also adjacent to Bassetts Lane are much closer to these properties than the report states.
- Opinion expressed that the footpaths in the application document do not connect to the village or to any services.
- Concerns that evidence regarding field entrances has not been taken into account.
- The effect on wildlife has been dismissed which commenter disagrees with
- A previous (historic) decision at the site declared that there was a Highways hazard but the officer in this case dismisses the historic evidence because Highways did not object to this application.
- Tourism analysis is not good enough

There were no further comments raised and Councillor Tompkins thanked those present and closed the public forum.

2492. To approve Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th January 2019 The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed.

2493. Matters Arising from the minutes.

There were no matters arising.

2494. Planning – APPLICATIONS

2494.1 18/01481/HOUSE Thornberry, Rectory Road

Single storey side extension. Single storey front porch. Revised design to allow a garage door to the front elevation for access benefits. Alteration to boundary treatment.

Councillors raised no objections to the application but made the following comment: The design of the extension is considered to be poor, the pitch will look odd. It does not therefore accord with S3 of the

Woodham Walter Village Design Statement. They do not however object to the principle of an extension.

2494.2 19/00018/LDE The Old Stables at Wood Hall, Little Baddow Road
Claim for a lawful development certificate for the existing use of building as an independent dwellinghouse.

Councillors had no comments.

2495. Planning – DECISIONS

2495.1 18/01427HRN The Bungalow, The Warren Golf Club NO OBJECTIONS
Hedge Removal to make way for approved building work.

2495.2 18/01030/FUL Highmead, Spring Elms Lane APPROVE2503
Timber framed building containing 2No. stables and 1No. tack room.

2496. Other Planning Matters

2496.1 FUL/MAL/18/00300 (Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/w/18/3211540 APPEAL RECEIVED
Meadows Barn, Bassetts Lane
Construction of 10 new holiday lodges

An appeal has been made against the Council’s decision to refuse to grant planning permission. Councillors had reviewed information in documents and agreed to respond to the Planning Inspectorate to reinforce previous response with strong objections to the application; to note that we agree with Maldon District Council’s reasons for refusal and to include other observations in light of the Officer’s report and residents information.

2496.2 Enforcement - updates.

- Bassetts Lane – investigation into field entrance – Cllr. Bass reported that the investigation is on-going. The Enforcement Officers have to weigh up priorities and this historic case may not be a high priority case. Cllr. Tompkins pointed out that in terms of our residents and given the current appeal at the site which is on-going this increases the priority. The information has been continually referred to in responses to MDC by residents at each application since 1996.
- Warren Lodges – investigation into conditions. Update (Officer has visited the site and collected information to assist the Council to conclude its investigations.)

2497. Reports Of the District/County Councillor

Cllr. Bass reported that continual movements of staff are occurring during the restructuring period. It was noted that Cllr. Durham had made representations regarding the road markings application adjacent to Tadpoles Nursery. (Min ref; 2503.6)

It was noted that Cllr. Channer had been making representations to Highways regarding the missing fence at Brookside (Min Ref: 2503.9) Cllr. Channer had also sent a report which has been circulated to councillors including information on ECC Budget, Essex Energy Switch, Park & Ride Consultation, Essex Records Office & Rogue Trader Alert.

2498. Payments

The following payments were authorised and cheques duly signed.

	Payee	Gross	VAT	Net
2498.1	E-on	27.85	1.33	26.52
2498.2	A&J Lighting Solutions	25.20	4.20	21.00
2498.3	Mrs J Bannerman	405.08	0.00	405.08
2498.4	A&J Lighting Solutions (Call out re: Top Road/Mead Pastures)	196.86	32.81	164.05
2498.5	Woodham Walter Women's Club (Hire of Hall 2018)	144.00	0.00	144.00
2498.6	MDC (Grass Cutting – ref: Final Quarter of 2018)	30.41	5.07	25.34

2499. Other Financial Matters

2499.1 Summary of Accounts to date.

DATE	ACCOUNT / TRANSACTION DETAIL	AMOUNT IN	AMOUNT OUT	BALANCE
Business Reserve A/C				
14-Jan-19	Balance			13247.41
11-Feb-19	Transfer to Community A/C 60978876		700.00	12547.41
Community Account				
14-Jan-19	Balance			665.67
11-Feb-19	Transferred from Bus Res A/C 40622818	700.00		1365.67
11-Feb-19	February Debits		829.40	536.27

2499.2 National Society of Allotment & Leisure Gardeners minute ref: 2478.4 Response from Internal Auditor - On the query you raise, if the Council feel that it is appropriate for them to subscribe to the National Association of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners that is fine and there is nothing to prevent them accepting a donation from the local Allotments Association. My preference, however, would be for the Allotments Association to subscribe directly themselves in their own name since I presume it is they rather than the Council who benefit most from the membership. Clerk spoke to Chairman of Allotments who indicated that they do still require the membership and use it as part of their insurance. They will be happy to discuss making a donation to the Parish Council and will do this at their AGM. To review again prior to next year's renewal.

2500. Other Council Matters

2500.1 Woodham Walter Common. Essex Wildlife Trust. Agreement sent and discussion on-going. Request for a copy of Stewardship agreement which will then be included in the agreement.

Date for Village Tour of WWC – Saturday 6th April. Cllr. Warren confirmed that this was convenient and that he would be able to attend. Clerk to advertise in the Annual Parish Report.

2500.2 Bell Meadow Village Association. The date is due to be set for the AGM, so far 2 people have come forward and it is hoped that more volunteers will step up.

2500.3 Allotments Association – No further information to report.

2500.4 Community Protection Team – the following report for January was noted.

Tru Cam M038 (Rectory Rd) x 4 captures

Patrol of Bell Meadow, Tru Cam (Church Hill)14:15 - 15:15 x 5 captures. School car parking patrol

Car parking patrol at School. All ok

Dog fouling patrol & Tru Cam patrol (Little Baddow Rd) x 2 captures

2500.5 Bell Meadow Playground – Planning application is due to be submitted.

2500.6 Clerks Progress Report – The updates were noted.

2500.7 Risk Assessments – Councillors accepted the risk assessments and thanked clerk for the work which had gone into updating them. The process of risk assessment is a continual one and they will be updated on a regular basis as required (at least annually).

2500.8 Annual Parish Meeting – Clerk is progressing with Annual Report. Due to Maldon District Council publishing the Notice of Elections earlier than anticipated the date of the Annual Parish Meeting has had to be changed in order to avoid the purdah period. The meeting will now take place on Thursday 14th March at 8pm in Woodham Walter Village Hall. It was agreed that the March Ordinary Parish Council meeting will be moved to Monday 18th March.

2500.9 Website. Clerk informed that the website has been updated and now includes a Noticeboard page displaying various posters and information received. There is also a Village Email Page with the latest village emails which have been sent. There are currently 68 subscribers and this will be marketed in the Annual Parish Report.

2501. Consultations/Questionnaires

2501.1 **Draft Maldon District Green Infrastructure Strategy (Supplementary Planning Document)**

Email received thanking the Parish Council for responding.

2501.2 Chelmsford Park & Ride Consultation – runs until 22 March 2019

2501.3 Hatfield Peverel Neighbourhood Plan Consultation – Cllr. Tompkins to review.

2502. Highways

2502.1 Devolution and Public Realm/Highway Services. Responses sent that until ECC can tell us precisely what is expected, we cannot commit to provide any services.

2502.2 It was noted that Bassetts Lane is due to be closed on 7th May for works by UK Power Networks.

2503. Local Issues

2503.1 Bell Meadow 1) Fence at Bell Meadow – work has been completed and waymark disks nailed to new fencing in SW corner. 2) Goalposts – These have now been moved into position. Cllr. Bunn to complete works on anchor and cable tie the nets. 3) There were no issues to report and the list has been duly updated.

2503.2 Footpaths Report. There were no issues to report.

2503.3 School Report. Cllr. Symons reported that the school are awaiting an Ofsted inspection and she is part of the team who will meet with them. She is the Outward Facing governor and as such is working on ways of marketing the school. Councillors were perturbed to hear that the school are planning to replace their playground which is unfortunate timing given that the Parish Council are also working towards a new playground at Bell Meadow. The Parish Council Working Party and the PTA will liaise to see if there are ways that we can work together e.g. ensure that we don't chase the same funding opportunities.

2503.4 Litter – Date for the Village Litter Pick – Saturday 23rd February at 10am. Meeting outside school. Colin Warner has agreed to collect sacks and store them. Reserve date Saturday 2nd March. Clerk to arrange borrowing equipment from MDC.

2503.5 Broadband Update. Several villagers have now placed orders which have started to be fulfilled. For example Cllr. Bunn reported his speeds had increased from 1.2 to 64mbps! A note of thanks was received from resident for Parish Council's work towards the upgrade.

2503.6 Zig Zag/Double Yellow Lines – Clerk has been chasing up the application alongside District Cllr. Durham. The issue appears to be over funding. Councillors confirmed that the Parish Council view has not changed and they do not have funding for the project, particularly as this is considered to be a safety issue which is not our responsibility. They continue to support the reports suggestion of double yellow lines which can be enforced by the Community Protection Team.

2503.7 Telephone Box – works by volunteers to maintain the telephone box and install the defibrillator are due to commence on receipt of necessary equipment.

2503.8 Defibrillator update - It is hoped that the defibrillator will be installed and in use by Spring.

2503.9 Missing Fence outside Brookside. Min Ref. 2464.1, December. Clerk has written to owner and received response that the fence was rotten and removed. They have no plans to replace it. MDC Enforcement have responded that this is not an issue for them to deal with. They also had a response from Environment Agency who consider it to be the responsibility of the landowner. Highways seems to be the only other option to go back to. Cllr. Channer is investigating and will report back in due course. Cllr. Tompkins to draft a notice letter to resident.

2504. Matters Raised by Local Residents

2504.1 Concerns have been raised that it is suspected that a dog has recently interfered with some sheep resulting in the loss of some unborn lambs. Owners are reminded that dogs should be kept under control at all times and on a lead around livestock.

2505. Correspondence

2505.1 Various items of correspondence have been emailed to Councillors or put in drop box.

2505.2 Essex Energy Switch 2019 information – deadline 12 February.

2506. Points of Information and Items for the next Agenda

2506.1 Fly tip at West Bowers Road to be reported.

2507. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:

Date of Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 14th March 2019 at 8pm in Woodham Walter Village Hall.

Date of next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Monday 18th March 2019 at 8pm in Women's Club.

Signed

Meeting ended at 9.10pm

Dated