

MINUTES

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Woodham Walter Parish Council.
Held at 8.00pm in Woodham Walter Women's Club, Top Road, Woodham Walter.

Monday 14th March 2016

Present:

Cllr. Peter Warren
Cllr. James Bunn
Cllr. Mark Durham (in attendance until 9.30pm)
Cllr. James Rushton
Cllr. Joanna Symons

Others: Jacky Bannerman (Parish Clerk)
Cllr. Henry Bass (District Councillor) (in attendance until 9.25pm)
Mrs Jenny Hughes (in attendance until 9.25pm)

Public: None

1744. Welcome Cllr. Warren welcomed those present to the meeting. Cllr. Warren took a moment to acknowledge how saddened the council is to learn of the death of Andrew Newland. He had served on the Parish Council until last year and amongst other things had provided a thorough defence for the village of the Minerals Development Document. He will be sadly missed in the village. Clerk to arrange for flowers and the Council's condolences to be sent to his wife, Claire.

1745. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. John Tompkins.

1746. 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. Mark Durham declared an interest in agenda item 10.1 (Minute ref: 1753.1) Planning Appeal FUL/MAL/15/00047 Land adjacent to Whitegates, Herbage Park Road as his is employed by the applicant. No other interests were declared and the register was duly signed.

1747. To co-opt a Parish Councillor

The position has been advertised in the Parish Magazine, on the notice board and website. 1 candidate had come forward and was present at the meeting. Mrs Jenny Hughes confirmed that she would like to be considered for the position, she explained that she had been a resident in the village all her life and now lives and works in the village. She is passionate about the village and countryside issues. She then stepped out of the meeting room while a vote was taken. There was an absolute majority decision of the council that Mrs Hughes should be co-opted into the vacant position. Mrs Hughes was invited back into the meeting room and the decision was announced. Clerk to arrange various items of paperwork. Mrs Hughes will sign her Declaration of Office at the next Parish Council meeting and complete her Register of Members Interests Form.

1748. Public Forum Other than Mrs Hughes there were no members of the public present and no comments were made during the public forum.

1749. To approve the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting On Monday 8th February 2016 and the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on Monday 22nd February 2016. The minutes to both meetings were approved as a true record and were duly signed.

1750. Matters Arising from Minutes of Monday 8th February 2016

1750.1 Air Cmdr. Sismore memorial bench on Bell Meadow. Await further contact from the family.

1751. Matters Arising from Minutes of 22nd February 2016

1751.1 None

1752. Planning – APPLICATIONS

1752.1 FUL/MAL/16/00051 2-3 Hop Gardens, Hop Garden Lane

Variation of condition 2 of approved application HOUSE/MAL/12/00673 (Double garage and storage in the roof). Variation: Change of roof materials.

Councillors support the application.

1752.2 FUL/MAL/16/00191 7 Church Corner, Herbage Park Road

Renewal of consent Ref: FUL/MAL/13/00101 for demolition of workshop, construction of single storey dwelling and widening of existing vehicular access.

Councillors support the application.

1752.3 LDP/MAL/16/00163 Penrith, Little Baddow Road
Claim for Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed development: Single storey rear extension and reconfiguration of ground floor.
Councillors support the application.

1753. Planning – APPEALS

1753.1 FUL/MAL/15/00047 Land adjacent to Whitegates, Herbage Park Road
Residential development comprising 11 dwellings. Appeal ref: APP/X1545/W/15/3130915
Cllr. Warren reported on the appeal hearing which took place on 23rd February but was adjourned until 21st June in order to consider financial reports submitted by the appellant. Inspector McCoy heard arguments about the Five Year Land Supply and financial enablement both of which form a major part of the appellant's argument and common ground could not be found on these matters between MDC and the appellant. The hearing continued on other points such as the effect on the Listed buildings of the Church, Bell Public house and cottages, the Section 106 agreement, Route of footpath and impact on Bell Meadow. Cllr. Warren had been able to put the views of the Parish Council across to the inspector. The meeting then reconvened at The Warren where the inspector viewed the clubhouse buildings, the access route, the proposed site and a detailed walk around the area including the Church, Church Hill to the Bell Pub area and across Bell Meadow. The hearing was then adjourned until 21st June as MDC refused to accept the financial documents due to their complexity in order to allow sufficient time to analyse the reports which are now available to view on the MDC website. It was noted that since the initial hearing, the Secretary of State has now written to MDC regarding the Local Development Plan (See Minute Ref: 1755.4). This now makes MDC's case for the 5 Year Land Supply much stronger. This information has been passed to Inspector McCoy as further evidence.

1754. Planning – DECISIONS

1754.1 HOUSE/MAL/15/01323 North Hall Cottages, Cut A Thwart Lane **REFUSE (DEL)**
Extension to existing garage forming a garden room.

The proposed development, by reason of its scale, bulk and height, would result in a disproportionate and dominant form of development that would cause significant harm on the character and appearance of the rural area, and would be an unwelcome visual intrusion into the open countryside. The proposal is therefore considered to conflict with policies S2, BE1, BE6, CC6 and CC7 of the adopted Maldon District Replacement Local Plan, policies S8 and D1 of the submitted Local Development Plan and the requirement for good design as contained within the National Planning Policy Framework.
Councillors questioned why this application had been decided under delegated powers as the decision is contrary to the recommendation of the Parish Council but the Parish Trigger had not been evoked.
Cllr. Durham will make enquires.

1754.2 HOUSE/MAL/15/01297 19 Rectory Road **APPROVE (NW)**
Two storey and single storey rear extension, addition of window to flank elevation at first floor level.

1754.3 FUL/MAL/15/01346 White Gates Cottage, Herbage Park Road **APPROVE (NW)**
Removal of Condition 2 of approved application FUL/MAL/13/00083 (Demolition of existing house and garage, erection of replacement dwelling and detached garage accessed from existing entrance).
Date of decision: 07/06/2013. Reduce size of the dwelling with some minor internal and elevation changes.

1754.4 WTPO/MAL/16/00032 2 Redgates, Old London Road **REFUSE (DEL)**
TPO 4/15. T1 Horse Chestnut - Selective pruning of the remaining crown by up to 1.5m where necessary. Raise crown by removing minor limbs only and remove remaining dead/dying crossing branches throughout the crown.

The proposed works are considered to be excessive and inappropriate. If carried out the works would result in a negative impact upon the health of the affected trees and the associated amenity value of the trees may be lost in the future to the detriment of the area

1755. Other Planning Matters

1755.1 Woodham Walter Conservation Area. Cllr. Durham reported that he had spoken to John Somers, the officer at MDC. There will be a 6 week public consultation with all property owners to explain what it will mean including information about the implications of an Article 4 Direction. There is still some discussion about the final area to be included – there is debate about including Whitegates and debate about including the land at the back of Rectory Road. The Article 4 Direction may not include the whole area but just some individual properties judged on merit and probably just the front elevation. There will be a report at MDC's April Planning & Licensing committee.

1755.2 Woodham Walter Village Design Statement – Councillors discussed the latest VDS document and revisions. They confirm that collectively they are very happy with the document to date and that it can now go ahead for a final round of consultation with the village which is necessary. It is such an important document which will have material planning considerations when determining responses to planning applications, that residents should have an opportunity to view and comment on the final

draft document before it is committed to being finally endorsed by the Parish Council or submitted to MDC for final adopting. The Parish Council are supportive and grateful for all the work that the VDS committee have undertaken. Councillors listened to the advice of Cllr. Durham with regards to the thoughts of the MDC officer who also suggested that further consultation was required in order to meet the needs of MDC procedures. Councillors were therefore happy to accept the VDS request that the Annual Report is used to advertise that the document will be available to view at the Annual Parish Meeting and on the website. This will ensure that we are able to demonstrate that the final version has been fully and openly available to the village in a full consultation exercise and give the document every opportunity of getting the necessary approval by MDC.

1755.3 MDC Planning – await response to our letter written to Nick Fenwick, clerk has written again.

1755.4 MDC – LDP Update The Secretary of State has written to MDC with his response that after careful consideration he has confirmed that he disagreed with the former Inspector's findings, stating that the Maldon District Local Development Plan was unsound and concluded that it was disproportionate as the former Inspector 'had not' examined the whole Plan. He noted that in respect of the five year housing land supply, the former Inspector had raised nothing in his report to suggest that Maldon District Council had not undertaken a comprehensive and full objective assessment of housing needs. The Secretary of State intends to appoint a new Inspector to continue to examine the Plan going forward and for that person to reach their own view on what further evidence may be needed to complete the process.

1755.5 Falconers Lodge – Cllr. Durham reported that the site had been visited by MDC officers and English Heritage who were all largely happy that the works were proceeding in accordance with the plans. The excess spoil which has been built up is now in the process of being removed. English Heritage are happy with the protection of the monument. Some trees are now being protected and some additional planting around the pond has been agreed. It has also been agreed that the hedgerow alongside the driveway fence will be re-planted. There is one enforcement case which has been opened, that of illegal occupancy of the office building.

1755.6 Cllr. Warren & Cllr. Symons reported that they had attended a Meeting with Leaders of MDC. They commented that the meeting had been a good idea other than a few village councillors were joined by a larger number of town councillors from Maldon and Burnham and it would have been more beneficial if the meetings had been tailored to one or the other. Cllr's Durham & Bass noted that they will try to separate the Parish & Town councillors when the meetings are repeated.

1756. Payments The following payments were authorised and cheques duly signed.

1756.1 e-on –Monthly DD £16.65 (inc. 0.79 VAT)

1756.2 A&J Lighting Solutions – Monthly DD £23.94 (inc. £3.99 VAT)

1756.3 Mrs J Bannerman - Clerks Salary & Allowance & Transparency Code Hours -

1756.4 ECC (Woodham Walter Primary School) £400.00 Community Playground Maintenance

1756.5 Woodham Walter Women's Club £97.50 Hire of Hall 2015.

1756.6 HMRC ¼ly payment £206.60

1756.7 Mrs J Bannerman – Expenses – Toner, Paper, Envelopes & Diary £116.47 (inc. £19.42 VAT).

1757. Other Financial Matters

1757.1 Summary of Accounts to date.

DATE	ACCOUNT / TRANSACTION DETAIL	AMOUNT IN	AMOUNT OUT	BALANCE
Business Reserve A/C				
08-Feb-16	Transferred to Community A/C 60978876		400.00	6789.44
16-Feb-16	Party Tent Income (Taylor)	50.00		6839.44
07-Mar-16	Interest Received	0.94		6840.38
14-Mar-16	Transferred to Community A/C 60978876		300.00	6540.38
Community Account				
08-Feb-16	February Debits		497.24	555.88
03-Mar-16	EALC Transparency Code Grant	1097.31		1653.19
14-Mar-16	March Debits		1441.77	211.42
14-Mar-16	Transferred from Business Reserve A/C 40622818	300.00		511.42
14-Mar-16	UK Power Networks (Wayleave Payment)	5.75		517.17

1757.2 Transparency Code Funding. EALC are pleased to advise that our application to the Transparency Fund has been successful and we have been awarded a grant of £1097.31 to cover the costs of becoming compliant with the Transparency Code this includes the purchase of a laptop, software and scanner along with staff costs associated with completing and uploading the information

to the website. Expenditure (with the exception of staff costs) will be carried over to the next financial year as more research into the exact equipment is necessary.

1757.3 It was noted that 31 March is the end of the financial year, clerk to begin preparing accounts and necessary paperwork.

1758. Reports Of The District Councillor

It had been previously noted that the Secretary of State had written to MDC with his decision. (See minute ref: 1755.4

Cllr. Bass informed that he had been visiting year 6 primary school pupils in the District with a PowerPoint presentation which gives an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the District Council. Cllr. Symons to enquire with Woodham Walter Primary School who have not so far responded to invitation.

Cllr. Bass, Cllr. Durham and Mrs Hughes then left the meeting room.

1759. Other Council Matters

1759.1 Woodham Walter Common. No information to report.

1759.2 Bell Meadow Village Association. Plans continue to be made for the August event.

1759.3 Allotments Association. AGM due to be held on 31st March.

1759.4 Tree Policy – on-going – policy has now been drafted.

1759.5 Emergency Plan – on-going.

1759.6 Annual Parish Meeting – the Village Hall has been booked for Monday 18th April. Clerk has begun work on Annual Parish Report which will be distributed to properties in the village by councillors at the beginning of April.

1759.7 Queen's 90th Birthday – Cllr. Symons/Clerk reported that they had held a successful meeting with several willing volunteers and will now proceed with plans for a street party along Top Road on Sunday 12th June. A consultation letter has been sent to residents in Top Road and Brook Close and an application to close the road has been submitted to Maldon District Council.

1760. Consultations/Questionnaires

1760.1 Essex County Council and Southend of Sea Borough Council Joint Replacement Waste Local Plan – Pre Submission Draft March 2016 – Public engagement 3 March – 14 April 2016 Cllr. Rushton to access.

1761. Highways

1761.1 There are a number of on-going highways issues which clerk is pursuing.

1761.2 Zig Zag Lines – on-going.

1762. Local Issues

1762.1 Bell Meadow/Playground. There were no items to report. The book was duly signed.

1762.2 Footpaths Report. Cllr. Warren reported that the trees within the copse on FP12 in the Warren have still not been removed; The broken gate post on FP19 at Rectory Road has been again been reported to ECC, Cllr. Warren will ask for this to be escalated as it is considered to be a safety issue. Also on FP19 as you enter the woods, Cllr. Warren will investigate with George Thompson if anything can be done to the drainage to alleviate the very muddy path.

1762.3 School Report. Cllr. Symons reported that she is due to visit the Plume School on behalf of the governors as part of the Blackwater Consortium of schools.

1762.4 Crime/Police Report: Some machinery was stolen from the garden of Redgates. No other reports.

1762.5 Litter. The village litter pick was successful. About 30 sacks of rubbish were collected by several volunteers over a few days.

1762.6 Broadband. No information to report.

1762.7 Vehicle Activated Sign – No information to report.

1762.8 Post Office – No information to report.

1762.9 Grasscutting – Councillors agreed that the grass areas in the village now need to be cut, clerk to arrange.

1763. Correspondence

1763.1 Little Baddow Parish Council – Annual Assembly – invitation to attend on Wednesday 20th April at 7.30pm, Memorial Hall, North Hill. It is hoped that a member of the PC will be able to attend.

1763.2 Danbury Parish Council – Annual Parish Meeting – invitation to attend on Monday 18th April. Clerk has sent apologies as this clashes with Woodham Walter.

1763.2 Dengie D Café – Dengie Rocks against Dementia – Saturday 19th March

1763.3 Various circulation emails. It was noted that there was information in the Making the Links report on Flood Programme Grant – clerk to forward to Cllr. Bunn as it may be of interest to The Bell and residents of The Street who have been affected by flooding.

1764. Points of Information

1765. Date of Next Parish Council Meetings:

Date of next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Monday 11th April 2016 at 8pm in Women's Club.

Date of Annual Parish Meeting Monday 18th April 2016 at 8pm in Woodham Walter Village Hall.

Signed

Meeting ended at 10.05pm

Dated