

## **MINUTES**

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

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

### **Present:**

Cllr. James Bunn  
Cllr. Andrew Newland  
Cllr. Peter Warren  
Cllr. Mark Durham (in attendance from 9.20pm to close)

Others: Jacky Bannerman (Parish Clerk)  
Christine McDonald (Village Agent) (in attendance until 8.30pm)

Public: None

**525. Welcome** Cllr. Warren nominated and Cllr. Newland seconded Cllr. James Bunn to Chair the meeting. Cllr Bunn welcomed those present to the meeting.

**526. Apologies For Absence** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Mark Durham, Cllr. David Potter, Cllr. Angus Neale; Gill Orford and Cllr. Henry Bass.

**527. Register of Declared Interests** There were no interests declared, the register was duly signed.

### **528. Public Forum**

Councillor Bunn invited Mrs McDonald to update the council on her work as a Village Agent. Mrs McDonald has visited some clients in Woodham Walter and continues to be available if residents feel she can help them. She also thanked the Parish Council for their help in promoting the help available during the Digital Switchover.

**529. Minutes Of The Parish Council Meeting Held On 8<sup>th</sup> August 2011.** The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed.

### **530. Matters Arising**

530.1 (443.1) Village Footpath Map. This item to be carried over to the next meeting.

530.2 Dengie Dart – clerk is awaiting an update on the progress of this scheme.

530.3 Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This item to be carried over to the next meeting.

530.4 Presentation to Colin Warner – noted reports appeared in several publications.

530.5 (507) Ragwort – having looked into this clerk concerned to be asking members of the public to remove this toxic weed. Councillors agreed it would be better for people to only deal with the problem if they feel confident and understand the dangers. Otherwise they should report precise locations to clerk who will inform local authority and request they deal with it.

**531. Planning – APPLICATIONS** There were no planning applications.

### **532. Planning - DECISIONS**

532.1 HOUSE/MAL/11/00554 9 Rectory Road **APPROVE (DEL)**

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

Clerk has queried reason this was a delegated decision as we had sent a letter with comments. Our letter does not appear to have made it onto the system, David Wallis is investigating. Councillors ask clerk to send read receipt with future emails to the planning department and to remind the department that we always respond to all planning applications.

532.2 HOUSE/MAL/11/00586 Jasmine House, Blue Mill Lane **REFUSED (DEL)**

Erection of walls to front of property to fix electric gates to – gates to be wrought iron.

*The brick wall and entrance gates, by reason of their siting, height and design would represent a discordant and incongruous feature in the rural street scene. The development is visually intrusive in its setting and if approved would seriously detract from the character and appearance of the rural locality. The proposal would therefore be contrary to policies BE1 (a) (iv) (v) (vi) BE1 (c), CC6 and CC7 of the adopted Maldon District Replacement Local Plan*

532.3 HOUSE/MAL/11/00650 1&2 Redgates, Old London Road **APPROVE (DEL)**

Extend time limit for implementation of side and rear extensions to 1&2 Redgates (Ful/Mal/08/00912)

### **533. Other Planning Matters**

533.1 Falconers Lodge. MDC have reported that a draft Written Scheme of Works (WSW) is expected from Grover Lewis Associates who are acting in accordance with the Enforcement Notice as instructed by Barclays Bank. It is understood that MDC have allowed an extension of 2 weeks. Councillors disappointed an extension was allowed as they would have liked to see MDC keeping the pressure on by not extending the period.

533.2 Minerals Development Document – Site Allocations – Issues and Options Paper, August 2011. ECC have notified of a public consultation affecting Woodham Walter Parish – Suggested site for future sand and gravel extraction at Whitehouse Farm.

ECC have arranged a public drop-in session on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September at Woodham Walter Village Hall from 11am-7pm. The focused public consultation is between 25<sup>th</sup> August and 20<sup>th</sup> October. Woodham Walter Parish Council Chairman, Councillor Mark Durham has called an Extraordinary Meeting on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at

8pm in Woodham Walter Village Hall. The extraordinary meeting provides an opportunity for the public to make comments during the Public Forum after which the Parish Council will consider its response to the consultation. Councillors are currently preparing information for the meeting and for our subsequent response.

533.3 Whitehouse Farm building works – Jackie Longman at MDC reported *Having reviewed the planning files, the planning officer has accepted that the development was implemented shortly after the 2002 permissions were approved with works to the outbuildings on the site and that the works to the listed barn form part of that permission. There is one condition outstanding i.e. Landscaping. The agent was written to in 2002 pointing this out but no response was received. Therefore the owner will be written to informing them that the outstanding condition is required to be discharged formally.*

**534. Payments** The following payments were authorised and cheques duly signed.

534.1 e-on – Monthly DD – noted the account is currently in credit

534.2 A&J Lighting Solutions – Monthly DD

534.3 Clerks Salary + Allowance/Expenses and HMRC quarterly payment

534.4 Blackwater Landscapes

534.5 Party Tents (on behalf of Bell Meadow Village Assoc.) £825.00

534.6 D.H.G.P.C. (Affiliation Fee) £15.00

**535. Other Financial Matters**

535.1 Completion of Annual Audit – External auditor has returned certificate with no comments. Clerk to arrange compliance with regulations. Display on noticeboard/website.

**536. Report Of The District Councillor** Cllr. Durham reports that the month of August has been generally quiet with most committees taking a break for the summer. He has been voted onto the Gypsy and Traveller Working Group to look at provision in the district. Cllr. Durham is currently in the process of reviewing all of the relevant paperwork surrounding the Minerals Development Document in order to respond to the consultation in a carefully considered and prepared way, taking due consideration of the key scoring points that they prescribe. This is certainly likely to be one of the biggest challenges that we will face this year.

**537. Highways**

537.1 Ref: 3047205 Salt bin. Audit planned for Aug/Sept when bin will be refilled.

537.2 Winter Salt Bag Scheme – Councillors resolved that we should participate in the scheme which provides salt for use by the community on the local highway. The salt will come as a one tonne delivery of 20kg sealed bags for storage and distribution by volunteers in the community. Volunteers need to be confident that they are physically able to manually remove snow and then spread a thin layer of salt and also be able to store a couple of bags. Clerk to respond to invitation.

537.3 Ref: 3055302 Dangerous branch opp. Tudor Rose, Rectory Road. This has now been cut back.

537.4 Hedges – Little Baddow Road (1846082) reported to highways who have written to land owners.

537.5 Ref: 1634088 Footpath, Rectory Road. Awaiting inspectors report.

537.6 Ref: 1846312 Oak Farm Road – pot hole near to Herbage Park Road junction reported. Awaiting inspector report.

537.7 Ref: 3058547 West Bowers - Drain Cover Missing. Reported 28/7/11

**538. Local Issues**

538.1 **Bell Meadow/Playground.** The book was duly signed, no reported incidents or maintenance. Cherry Tree – Memorial Garden, Colin Warner has removed dead tree. Cllr. Bunn to ask Mr Warner for suggestions of a replacement, to be agreed at the October meeting.

Bell Meadow Hedge – Cllr Bunn commented that the hedge has gradually been getting taller and would benefit from a more severe cut next year in order to improve the view of the Meadow. To be discussed at future meeting.

538.2 **Footpath Officer Report** 1) The second cut by ECC of 12 of our paths is currently in progress. 2) Two waymark posts erected by Chris Wheadon and myself on BR31 in WW Common have mysteriously disappeared. 3) Points raised by public at August meeting: Brambles have been trimmed on FP21 and question re barbed wire on FP24 directed to Nicky Coleman. 4) Waymark discs are being replaced on the Maldon Millennium Way (FP14)

538.3 **One Place On Wheels - Woodham Walter.** Next visit including mobile police vehicle – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October from 1300-1400 at WW Village Hall.

538.4 **School Report** No report.

538.5 **Allotments Report** No report.

538.6 **Community Speed Watch** No report.

538.7 **Litter** No reports.

538.8 **Collapse of bank** Also chased up by D-Cllr. Durham, to date no information has been received from Environment Agency. Clerk to enquire if anything has been received.

538.9 **Electricity Supplies** –UK Power Networks have responded that they will now keep us informed of relevant problems. Letter received regarding future works to improve low voltage problems at Gun Hill.

538.10 **Broadband** – Cllr. Newland continues to investigate services available.

538.11 **Bell Meadow Day** It was noted that the day had once again been a great success, visitor numbers and revenue have increased thanks to all who helped.

538.12 **Telephone Box** noted that following parish council requests for refurbishment the telephone box adjacent to Chapel Stores has been repainted by BT and looks very smart.

**539. Correspondence**

539.1 DHGPC – noted the next meeting will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> September

539.2 MDC Emergency Planning Unit – Clerk to attend presentation to collect emergency box.

539.3 Essex Wildlife Trust – Thanks for grant and Annual Review (Circulating)

539.4 St Michael's – Thanks for grant.

539.5 Bell Meadow Village Association and Woodham Walter Village Hall – thanks for grant.

**540. Points Of Information**

540.1 It was noted that Woodham Walter Village Hall are considering organising an evening event to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

**541. Date of Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting to discuss Minerals Development Document – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 8pm in Woodham Walter Village Hall.**

**Date of Next Parish Council Meeting: Monday 10th October 2011 at 8pm in Womens Club Room.**

Signed

Dated

**Meeting ended at 9.30pm**