



HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 12TH SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 19.00 IN HERTINGFORDBURY COWPER SCHOOL

PRESENT: Cllrs Gary O’Leary, Magda Atkins, Haidy Blake, Lizzer Bradbury, Jim Coppard, Roger Morris, Paul Rochford and Barry Simkins

In attendance: Amanda Glew (Clerk), Brenda Smith, Peter Oakenfull and Quincy Washington (Cratus)

35. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Shobha Edgell

36. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Simkins declared an interest in the East End Green track, the Cole Green track removal and byway 20 (Letty Green).

37. **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman informed the meeting that Shobha has resigned from the Parish Council. The Clerk will write a letter of thanks for all her work over the years as a Councillor.

38. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Brenda Smith asked whether the Council had an update on 69 Birch Green. She believes the tenants are running a car business from the property and may also be breeding dogs. More cars are parked outside the property at the weekend than during the week. Brenda is providing Network Homes with further information and it was agreed to invite Network Homes to the next meeting to discuss this and other aspects of their housing stock in the Parish. The Clerk reported that she has been in contact with the Network Homes Neighbourhood Officer who said she was aware of the matter of complaint regarding 69 Birch Green and it is being investigated. They are working with the tenant and will continue to do so, however, they are unable to provide details due to data protection.

Peter Oakenfull updated the meeting on the East of England traditional orchards survey. Over 85% of UK orchards have now disappeared. Hertingfordbury Parish has 10 orchards and out of these 6 survives in part. There are maps available.

Mr Washington from a Tarmac PR agency had no input to the meeting.



HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

39. MINUTES

The Minutes were agreed and signed. Proposed by Cllr Simkins and seconded by Cllr Blake.

40. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

41. PLANNING

(a) Current Applications

PL\0933\18 Panshanger Quarry, Panshanger Lane Proposed application for the creation of a car park for visitors to Panshanger Country Park together with provision of toilet facilities, information point and association landscaping and ancillary works. The Parish Council submitted comments as agreed at the last meeting. Historic England, the WGC Society and the Friends of Panshanger Park also objected to the application along with a number of individuals. Herts County Council and Tarmac are meeting to discuss all the objections and to decide on next steps. It was noted that the application will not be going before the Developmental Control Committee before the end of September and that it may be withdrawn, which would be the preference of the Parish Council.

(b) Decisions on Outstanding Applications

3/18/0495/HH and 18/00055/REFUSE 36 Chapel Lane Letty Green Planning Appeal - Infill to create glazed front porch. Appeal allowed 17/8/18

3/18/1498/VAR 58 Chapel Lane Letty Green Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) of application reference number: 3/17/2398/FUL - amendments to windows at front and rear elevations. Condition Number(s): 4 Conditions(s) Removal: New windows. New window design. Granted 7/9/18

(c) East Herts Local Plan

A letter was received this evening by the Clerk from Linda Haysey which the Chairman read to the meeting. The Clerk will arrange to copy the letter to all Councillors. Stephen McPartland MP believes that EHDC and Welwyn Hatfield have not consulted sufficiently with their communities and that the Green belt reviews were not properly done or considered across council boundaries. HPC agrees with this and the position has always been to object to the Birchall Garden Suburb development although HPC supports the village categorisations. The Chairman agreed to draft a letter to Mr James Brokenshire MP and also one to Sir Oliver Heald MP. Mr Washington was asked whether Tarmac is trying to sell the Birchall Garden Suburb site and he replied that he will find out. The Welwyn Hatfield Local Plan is still under consideration by the Planning Inspector.



HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

d) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee

This Committee will be reformed and meet again shortly. Cllrs Morris and Coppard are happy to be involved and Peter Newson and Brenda Smith will be invited again. A date will be arranged before the next Council meeting if possible. Cllr Coppard will inform the Clerk of the dates he can make.

42. STANDING ITEMS

(a) Works Programme

The Chairman read out to Councillors relevant parts of the Financial Regulations and the Procurement Policy for information.

Cllr Simkins left the meeting.

Cllr Rochford offered to remove the fallen oak tree by the Cole Green track whilst removing the other oak tree at Cole Green. He will arrange to provide a specification to the Clerk. It was resolved to accept the quote from South Lodge Projects as this was the cheapest, subject to the tree being removed beforehand. Proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded by Cllr O'Leary.

Hertingfordbury restricted Byway 20. The Clerk reported that the P3 grant applied for had now been received and read out a message from Nicholas Maddex which explained that a "Kent Carriage Gap" might be appropriate at the Letty Green end of the route. It was agreed for Councillors to have a look at the area and discuss at the October meeting.

Resident Victoria Hellum has requested various trees to be cut in Birch Green for safety reasons. It was proposed to go ahead with this work. Proposed by Cllr O'Leary, seconded by Cllr Coppard. Cllr Atkins suggested the cherry tree opposite the war memorial could also be included.

(b) Greens

The Clerk read out an email received from Mr Steven Phillips about the East End Green track as he was unable to attend the meeting.

It was noted that the East End Green track is not the only track in the parish and HPC policy is to keep such tracks to a recreational standard. The Council will not agree a policy to preferentially treat certain residents' tracks. It was agreed that the PC needs to specify what a recreational standard should be. There may be a form of words available from EHDC or HCC or Rights of Way may be able to help. Cllr Simkins will then provide a specification on the materials and levels required to fix the track to this standard. The Clerk will reply to Mr Phillips explaining that HPC are investigating standards for the track. Cllr Simkins returned to the meeting.

The fencing at Cole Green should be repaired in October. Cllr O'Leary is meeting Hatfield Estates soon and will mention this.



HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Mr Steve Davies seems to have been working on the Birch Green pond. He needs to have a licence from Natural England to work in a pond where there are Great Crested Newts. The pond has work planned in accordance with a management plan. The Clerk will write to him to explain the situation.

Cllr O'Leary reported that although there has been a lot of work undertaken on Greens policies by the Greens & Crossings Committee, unfortunately parking on them remains a problem. Legal advice is clear that parking cannot take place on Village Green and the Parish Council should be seen to apply the rules consistently. Agreed to write a letter to all parishioners informing them that parking on Village Greens is not permitted and providing a link to the website. Cllr O'Leary will draft a letter for consideration at the next meeting.

Coopers will be asked to clear the leaves in the play area and explain how they will do this.

Blank risk assessment forms for this year were handed out to Councillors. Cllr Atkins requested the Clerk to provide a copy of the 2017 assessment for East End Green.

Cllr Morris asked for encroachment of Village Greens to be put onto the Agenda for the next meeting.

(c) Highways

Cllr Simkins has been in contact with Martin Neville of HCC Highways. He has agreed to the suggested signs in the presentation although they do not have suitable HGV signs. There will be a survey on bridges in December so that heights will be correct. New signs will go up this year.

Cllr Blake reported that the footway between Birch Green and Cole Green is not passable. The Clerk will ask Tarmac to cut their hedge at ground level. The footway between Staines Green and Hertingfordbury also needs work. The Clerk will ask Ringway to deal with this. The hedge by the gypsy field remains overgrown and Ringway have already been requested to deal with this. The Clerk will chase.

Cllr Coppard reported some blocked drains. The Clerk can report this if a precise location is provided.

(d) Quarries and Waste Facilities

Nothing further to report.

(e) Panshanger Quarry and Panshanger Park

Nothing further to report.



HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

(f) **B&T Motors**

Cllr Simkins will ask for them to remove some of their signs in Cole Green and will also chase on litter picking.

43. **FINANCE**

(a) **Financial Statement**

The financial statement was received.

(b) **Payment of Accounts Due**

Hertingfordbury Parish Council Monthly Accounts Summary:

Cheques Issued			Chq No
12-09-18	Play Area Inspection	52.32	324
12-09-18	Grass cut – June	658.80	325
12-09-18	Clerk salary – Aug & Sep	611.38	326
12-09-18	Clerk Expenses	25.60	327
12-09-18	Payroll – July/Aug/Sep	90.00	328
12-09-18	Training material	20.00	329
Other Payments			
LGPS	Pension – August	89.19	BACS
Receipts			
20-07-18	New Homes Bonus	1695.00	
31-07-18	P3 Grant	860.00	

(c) **Update Signatories to Co-operative Bank Accounts**

Updated signatories were received from the Councillors present.

(d) **To Consider opening of new deposit Account at Nationwide**

Relevant paperwork was signed.



HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

(e) General Data Protection Regulation

Councillors were informed by the Clerk of advice from the ICO that states that councillors who use their own personal email addresses to speak to parishioners regarding council issues may be in data breach. Best practice would be to have Cllr specific email addresses.

33. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

There were no items.

34. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed for the employment committee to carry out the Clerk's appraisal on 26th September in Cllr Rochford's office. Cllr Atkins attended a workshop on East Herts Council Grants Advice on 10th September and will update Councillors on this at the next meeting. Cllr Morris asked what had been decided regarding a celebration for Tommy Brennan but unfortunately Tommy does not want anything arranged. Cllr Blake agreed to take over from Shobha as the Parish Council nominee for the Walter Wallinger Trust. The Clerk will inform Longmores.

Cllr Bradbury carried out the quarterly financial inspection at the Clerk's house on 5th September.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Chairman _____ Dated _____

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th October 2018