Wheathampstead Parish Council Community Involvement Committee 22 September 2014, 19.30h

Present Councillors L Halford Chairman

G Clark
N Clements
D Davies
S Haynes
D Johnston
T Reason
P Woodhams

A Crooks J Bell S Robinson

Julia Warren Clerk

Press 0 Public 0

3778-14 Apologies & Substitutions

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors A Brewster, G Clark and S Haynes (personal reasons).

3779-14 Presentation by the Archery Club regarding club facilities

A written proposal for club and community development had been submitted and circulated to councillors. The Club, based at Folly Fields since 1956 had grown and sought support for improved facilities, currently a 8'x6' metal shed without light and near the end of its life. No toilet facilities were available. Permission was sought to seek funding through, for example, Sport England's Inspired Facilities Grant, for a clubhouse on the site of the obsolete dry rot ridden former football pavilion. Their hope was to build a community facility for wider use and specifically toilet provision. The governing body, the Grand National Archery Society did not have stringent clubhouse specifications, their rules covered aspects such as shooting lines and safety. Applications to Sport England required a minimum 7 year lease.

3780-14 Consideration of Archery Club Proposal

Councillor Reason proposed, seconded by Councillor Woodhams, and it was agreed that in principal Wheathampstead Parish Council would lease the land where the current football changing facility was to the Archery Club for at least 7 years and delegate the details to the Clerk with Council Chairman and Chairman of Community Involvement Committee. The proposal to be brought

back to the next Full Council meeting.

Resolved

In principal Wheathampstead Parish Council would lease the land where the current football changing facility was to the Archery Club for at least 7 years and delegate the details to the Clerk with Council Chairman and Chairman of Community Involvement Committee. The proposal to be brought back to the next Full Council meeting.

3781-14 Presentation by Wheathampstead for Enterprising Businesses regarding proposals for solar panelling the Memorial Hall roof.

Julie Bell and Simon Robinson for the WEB advised that a small group named WeGen had taken forward this project. They asked WPC to agree to the installation of solar panelling on the Memorial Hall roof by 31 December 2014. Specific anchoring was required to the sarnafil membrane roof (installed in 2008-9). The benefit to WPC would be reduced daytime electricity.

3782-14 Consideration of the Solar Panels proposal

Concerns were raised regarding the warranty of the solar panels, their life expectancy and residual status and that WeGen perhaps could be seen as a profit making organisation. The benefits to Wheathampstead ratepayers was queried and the ongoing costs to WPC in terms of insurance and treework (to prevent shading on the south side) needed quantifying. It was confirmed that planning permission was necessary for the installation; clarification as to whether WPC could submit this was required. The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed

- 1. If permissible, WPC to submit a planning application to SADC for the solar panel installation.
- 2. WeGen to work with the office to fit an electricity smart meter to monitor the Memorial Hall's electricity.
- 3. WEB to submit a full business proposal to WPC for consideration of the project

Resolved

- 1 If permissible, WPC to submit a planning application to SADC for the solar panel installation.
- 2 WeGen to work with the office to fit an electricity smart meter to monitor the Memorial Hall's electricity.
- 3 WEB to submit a full business proposal to WPC for consideration of the project

3783-14 Public Speaking

None.

3784-14 **Specific Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

Councillor Reason declared a personal and perceived pecuniary interest in Minute 3790-14 grazing and took no part in the discussions. Councillor Halford declared a personal and perceived pecuniary interest in Minute 3789-14 Village Weekend as her son took part in Music on the Meads 2013 and 2014 and took no part in the discussions on the change of name.

3785-14 Minutes of meeting of 7 July 2014

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2014 be approved.

Resolved To confirm the Minutes of the meeting

held on 7 July 2014 to be a true and fair account and for these to be

signed by the Chairman.

3786-14 Youth

It was reported that the Youth Club had begun weekly 'Smash Up' sessions with the new equipment.

The Chairman reported that the Scouts were pleased with their 'mile of pennies' activity at Village Weekend and hoped to continue the theme in 2015. Their AGM was on 29 September and the Council Chairman had been invited to the Gang Show in January 2015.

Resolved: To note the reports.

3787-14 **Artificial Turf Pitch**

Completion and hand over of the ATP Work was imminent. The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that delegation of decision making powers be made to the Facilities Management Working Group in respect of bookings, maintenance, hirers' agreement and opening event.

Resolved **Delegation of decision making powers**

be made to the Facilities Management

Working Group in respect of bookings, maintenance, hirers' agreement and opening event.

3788-14 **Play Area Upgrade**

It was reported that a relatively low key but successful opening event had taken place on 18 September, attended by a number of councillors, the press and representative from Proludic. The fences were decorated with balloons and bunting and children

enjoyed bubbles. Much favourable feedback had been received and the facilities in constant use. It was assessed that there remained space for one more 'wobbler' near the cradle swings. A discounted price had been quoted at Saltex and this, including installation costs would be considered at the next meeting as there was no designated budget provision.

Resolved

- 1 To note the reports.
- 2 To consider discounted costs including installation of additional play equipment.

Village Weekend 2015 3789-14

Councillor Woodhams proposed, seconded by Councillor Johnston, and it was agreed that the date for 2015 be 11-12 July 2015. The chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that the bar be put out to tender for 2015.

Councillor Woodhams proposed, seconded by Councillor Johnston, and it was agreed that the Saturday evening event be rebranded 'Picnic on the Meads' to emphasise the family nature of this community event with musical entertainment.

The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that the working group become more streamlined with delineated work groups. A variety of themed ideas had been suggested including 'Best of British'. Rev'd Banham had suggested incorporating a scarecrow festival to the weekend culminating in scarecrows joining the procession. Also suggested was a potential sensory trail giving people the opportunity to learn a little more about guide dogs. Agreed these matters to be discussed further by the Village Weekend Working Group on 14 October.

Resolved

- 1 Date for 2015 be 11-12 July 2015.
- 2 The bar be put out to tender for 2015.
- The Saturday evening event be rebranded 'Picnic on the Meads'.
- The working group become more streamlined with delineated work aroups.
- Theme and potential activities to be discussed by the Working Group on 14 October.

3790-14 **Grazing Policy**

Further to April's discussions regarding grazing licences and the Parish Council's grazing policy, the Chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that the grazing policy as circulated and discussed be approved and adopted. Grazing licences would be subject to the extant policy.

The tenant of Glebe South Field had recently died, it was agreed that subject to payment of outstanding rental his widow be permitted to retain use of the field for the remainder of the 2014-5 licence as she had requested. An advertisement regarding the

availability of Glebe South Grazing Field to be put on notice boards and at Titmuss', and sent to those known to be interested as soon as possible.

Resolved

- 1 To approve and adopt the grazing policy.
- 2 Grazing licences to be subject to extant policy.
- 3 Subject to payment of outstanding rental the widow be permitted to retain use of Glebe South Grazing Field for the remainder of the 2014-5 licence as she had requested.
- 4 An advertisement regarding the availability of Glebe South Grazing Field to be put on notice boards and at Titmuss', and sent to those known to be interested as soon as possible.

3791-14 Commemoration of World War I

Further to Minute 3675-14 Councillor Woodhams proposed, seconded by Councillor Davies, and it was agreed, that Wheathampstead Parish Council order and underwrite a commemorative plaque for those omitted from the war memorial. Donations were welcomed including those already offered from the Museum and brownies and also the commemorative event to be hosted at the Memorial Hall involving various village groups on 31 October.

Resolved

Wheathampstead Parish Council order and underwrite a commemorative plaque for those omitted from the war memorial.

3792-14 Budget Report

The financial report showing committee income and expenditure to date had been circulated and was noted

Resolved To note the report.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 22.25h.

Dated this day of 2014

Chairman