

**Wheathampstead Parish Council  
Parish Council Meeting  
26 March 2015, 19.30h**

|         |             |            |          |
|---------|-------------|------------|----------|
| Present | Councillors | D Johnston | Chairman |
|         |             | I Begg     |          |
|         |             | G Clark    |          |
|         |             | D Davies   |          |
|         |             | S Haynes   |          |
|         |             | T Reason   |          |
|         |             | P Wilby    |          |
|         |             | P Woodhams |          |
|         |             | J Warren   | Clerk    |
|         |             | Public     | 0        |
|         |             | Press      | 0        |

**4040-15 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors A Brewster, N Clements, L Halford and J Shardlow (personal reasons).

**4041-15 Specific Declarations of Interest & Dispensations**

None.

**4042-15 Minutes of Council**

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2015 be approved.

**Resolved**            **To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2015 to be a true and fair account and for these to be signed by the Chairman.**

**4043-15 Report from County Councillor Maxine Crawley**

Councillor Crawley had sent apologies that she was unable to attend.

**4044-15 Minutes of Committee Meetings**

The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed that the following draft committee minutes and working group notes were received and adopted:

|                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Maintenance Committee           | 2 March 2015  |
| Allotments Committee            | 9 March 2015  |
| Bury Green Triangle WG          | 12 March 2015 |
| Community Involvement Committee | 16 March 2015 |

|                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Village Plan Working Group | 17 March 2015 |
| Facilities Management WG   | 19 March 2015 |
| Planning Committee         | 23 March 2015 |

|                 |  |                      |
|-----------------|--|----------------------|
| <b>Resolved</b> | <b>To receipt and adopt the draft Minutes of Maintenance Committee</b> | <b>2 March 2015</b>  |
|                 | <b>Allotments Committee</b>  | <b>9 March 2015</b>  |
|                 | <b>Bury Green Triangle WG</b>  | <b>12 March 2015</b> |
|                 | <b>Community Involvement Committee</b>                                 | <b>16 March 2015</b> |
|                 | <b>Village Plan Working Group</b>                                      | <b>17 March 2015</b> |
|                 | <b>Facilities Management WG</b>  | <b>19 March 2015</b> |
|                 | <b>Planning Committee</b>  | <b>23 March 2015</b> |

#### **4045-15 Memorial Hall plans**

It was reported that the architect has supplied some recommendations for acoustic and sound surveys and lighting design. The Clerk had arranged to meet the lighting designer prior to recommending any commitment. Exemplar acoustic surveys would also be obtained.

Councillor Reason proposed, seconded by Councillor Begg, and it was agreed that approval for expenditure on acoustic survey be given up to £1,000.

**Resolved**                      **Approval for expenditure on acoustic survey be given up to £1,000.**

#### **4046-15 Grant request – Wheathampstead Dementia Friendly Community Group**

Further to Minute 3827-14 the newly formed Wheathampstead Dementia Friendly Community Group had requested a £500 grant towards meeting, training and publicity costs.

Councillor Woodhams proposed, seconded by Councillor Davies, and it was agreed, to award a £500 grant to the WDFCG

**Resolved**                      **To award a £500 grant to the WDFCG towards meeting, training and publicity costs.**

**4047-15 Land Agent response**

Further to Minute 3980-15 a formal response from the land agent was awaited. The Clerk gave an informal update following their telephone conversation.

**Resolved To note the report**

**4048-15 Colour printer**

Councillor Begg proposed, seconded by Councillor Haynes, and it was agreed to scrap the Epson desk top colour printer as quality was now extremely poor, and purchase a new HP colour printer for occasional office use. Budget up to £530 including toners.

**Resolved**

- 1 to scrap the Epson desk top colour printer as quality was now extremely poor, and purchase a new HP colour printer for occasional office use.**
- 2 To allocate a £530 budget.**

**4049-15 Land purchase request**

Councillors considered a request from a resident of Lower Luton Road to purchase Folly allotment land to extend their garden. It was noted that under the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 Part II where a demand exists Council has a duty to provide allotments. Furthermore the land had been conveyed to Wheathampstead Parish Council in 1932 upon trust for the perpetual use by the inhabitants of the Parish. Councillor Begg proposed, seconded by Councillor Wilby, and it was agreed to decline the request to purchase land but advise they may rent an allotment when one was free and perhaps become involved in the 'friends' group which looked after the communal areas such as the orchard.

**Resolved To decline the request to purchase land but advise they may rent an allotment when one was free and perhaps become involved in the 'friends' group which looked after the communal areas such as the orchard.**

**4050-15 Bench on Nomansland**

A recommendation had come to Council from the Nomansland Joint Committee that a semi-circular bench be placed to mark the repositioned boundary puddingstone. Councillor Begg proposed, seconded by Councillor Woodhams, and it was agreed, that up to

£400 be allocated as 50% provision for a bench, and its installation. This to be financed between Wheathampstead and Sandridge Parish Councils as recommended. The final decision upon bench type and style to be delegated to the NJC.

**Resolved** Up to £400 be allocated as 50% provision for a bench, and its installation, marking the location of the repositioned puddingstone. This to be financed between Wheathampstead and Sandridge Parish Councils as recommended. The final decision upon bench type and style to be delegated to the NJC.

#### **4051-15 Wheathampstead Cricket Club Lease**

It was noted that the 30 year lease expired in October 2015. The Chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that this item be deferred to the next meeting

**Resolved To defer to the April Council meeting**

#### **4052-15 Website**

It was noted that the new website was up and running well populated with information and generally functioning well. Councillor Reason proposed, seconded by Councillor Wilby, and it was agreed that the Pump WG have editorial control of the new website, but on a day to day basis this reside with the Clerk.

**Resolved That the Pump WG have editorial control of the new website, but on a day to day basis this reside with the Clerk.**

#### **4053-15 Butterfield Road**

It was reported that the Play installation company had commissioned a RoSPA report of the play area. A number of items remained outstanding prior to sign off of the play area, s106, lease and site completion despite chasing. The Chairman proposed that Wheathampstead Parish Council await agreement from Hertfordshire County Council and St Albans District Council.

**Resolved To await agreement from Hertfordshire County Council and St Albans District Council.**

**4054-15 Accounts for Payment and Finance Report**

The above reports were reviewed and noted. Overall the Council had remained within budget for the financial year.

**Resolved To note the reports.**

**4055-15 Consultations, training and meetings**

The Chairman reported that after emailing all councillors it was agreed that those interested would meet Jarvis to learn a little more of their immediate local plans.

He reported that work to expand East Lane Car park would begin on 7 April. Up to nine parking bays would be suspended for the fortnight's work. This would include site clearance, building the bunds and laying the crushed granite surface including for a hard topped path to Meads Lane

He, with Councillors Haynes, Reason and the Clerk had met with the WDS to discuss their use of the building particularly in play week, and the charges for its use. A compromise between new community rates and their previous beneficial rate had been agreed to be confirmed once the WDS had reviewed the proposals. It was also reported that the May production had been cancelled because of casting difficulties.

The Clerk had attended the SLCC Practitioners conference and reported back particularly on Neighbourhood Planning, events and elections.

Councillor Clark reported on the WEB meeting. Membership was being tightened up and associate membership included. Sponsorship of the Annual Parish Meeting had been discussed and the decision taken not to sponsor it (minute 3985-15).

Concerns were raised that the land to the end of Manor Road had hard access. Councillor Begg proposed, seconded by Councillor Reason, and it was agreed, that Hertfordshire County Council be asked investigate the Rights of Way Access here and perhaps to install a fence to prevent vehicular access.

**Resolved To note the reports.**

**The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.35h.**

**Dated this day of 2015**

**Chairman**