

Wheathampstead Parish Council

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Clerk to the Council: Julia Warren

20 June 2016

To: All Councillors

Clrs: D Johnston (Chairman), A Brewster, G Clark, A Dante, D Davies, E Habib, L Halford, S Haynes, T Reason, J Shardlow, P Wilby, P Woodhams

Notice of Meeting

You are hereby summoned to a **Meeting of the Parish Council** to be held in the **Hewitt Room** on **Thursday 30 June 2016 at 7.30pm.**



Julia Warren
Clerk to the Council

Agenda

- 1 Apologies for absence**
- 2 Specific Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**
- 3 Public Speaking**
- 4 Minutes of Council**
To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 26 May (attached).
- 5 Minutes of Committee Meetings**
To receive the minutes of Committees and approve notes of the following Steering Group meetings.

Maintenance Committee	13 June 2016
Planning Committee	20 June 2016
Neighbourhood Plan SG	6 June 2016
Allotments Committee	27 June 2016
- 6 Symondshyde proposed development**
On 13 June Welwyn Hatfield DC approved the proposal to build a standalone settlement at Symondshyde Wood to the next stage . There will however be an

Eight Week consultation to include development of this site in August. The proposed settlement would be in the centre of the highest grade agricultural land and excellent quality Green Belt. 1130 houses, a primary school and retirement village. Arguably this development would drive a wedge into a particularly precious piece of Green Belt between Wheathampstead and Welwyn Garden City. Concerns have been raised in terms of the significant harm it will do a highly valuable piece of Green Belt in the short and long term, as well as the very questionable sustainability of creating a settlement of 1000+ houses. There is the undoubted issue of volumes of traffic on roads. Also some suggestion that HCC have plans for significant amounts of quarrying on HAT2 and in due course 'restoration' (i.e. bringing in large volumes of inert waste).

HAT15 'dropped in' the sites options for the WelHat Local Plan at a very late stage last year. If at the end of the consultation there is not an overwhelming demand from interested individuals and groups for it to be reconsidered, it will be allocated as a site.

Recommendation that WPC raise awareness of this potential loss of Green Belt land the environmental and infrastructure consequences through the Pump and contacting walking, cycling and environmental organisations to ensure that they are aware of it; and that the WPC submit a response to the August consultation.

7 Second Meads Footbridge

The planning application to SADC for a second Meads footbridge was withdrawn following concerns regarding the design. Stipulations made by EA project mean this would need significant change and the design submitted did not comply. Recommend that the project be put in abeyance.

8 Crinkle Crankle Garden

To approve appointment of designer as recommended by working group

9 Memorial Hall fees

A request to cancel a 'GoBowlingNow' booking Friday 1 July due to lack of take up of a 'ladies' night' event has been received. After approximately £1k advertising only 25 tickets have been sold. Current policy is for 50% fees if more than 15 days notice received (80% if less). Hirer has been invoiced £336 and £35 deposit received to date. Recommend that a discounted cancellation fee be approved

10 Memorial Hall refurbishment

It is anticipated that the current phase of works to the main hall will have been completed as specified. Recommendation that the east wall is also painted and the 'display' window boarded over and painted. It is anticipated that this could be undertaken in August thus not inconveniencing hirers. Quotation and further ideas attached.

11 Diversion of FP29

To note that HCC has decided that the application to divert footpath 29 under s119 of the Highways Act 1980 met the legal tests and should be approved. The Diversion Order 2016 was sealed on 10 June and Notice served. A laminated notice was placed on the noticeboard outside the Memorial Hall on 21 June and the Order available for inspection in the Parish Council office

12 Public events on the Meads

Following referral from Maintenance Committee recommendation not at this point of time to develop a formal policy for public events on the Meads.

13 Annual Governance Statement

To approve the Annual Governance Statement for the year ending 31 March 2016. (Previously circulated)

14 Approval of Accounts 2015-16

To approve the draft accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016 for submission

to the external auditor. (Previously circulated)

15 Accounts and Finance Reports

Attached for consideration and approval.

16 Consultations

Notification of consultations for consideration:

Response to District Local Plan- draft attached.

17 Reports on training and meetings

Reports from councillors.

Including Cllr Clark's meeting with the SADC Planning Officer – recommendation that WPC supports the continuation of business use of premises rather than conversion to residential use