



Watford Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held on **Wednesday 6th March 2024 @ 7.10pm Parish Hall**

NB Earlier start time than published due to the Annual Parish Meeting finishing early due to no participation.

Attendance: Councillor Angela Arnold
 Councillor Valerie Coltman
 Councillor Hrithik Dattani
 Councillor Mashkooor Khan
 Councillor Joan King (Chair)
 Councillor Stephen King
 Councillor Clare Leahy
 Councillor Alison Scarth
 Councillor Sakhana Uthayakumar
 Councillor William Waite (V-Chair)
 Councillor Joanna Walker

Apologies: Councillor Ronan MacManus
 Councillor Sean McCluskey

Non-Attendance:

Officer: Gareth Williams (Clerk)

A minutes silence was taken in respect for the sad passing of Cllr Palmer

- 2324/120 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies were noted and accepted.
- 2324/121 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**
None
- 2324/122 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
None
- 2324/123 POLICE MATTERS**
No officers were able to attend. The Clerk as asked to write to the Chief Inspector of Three Rivers, asking for officers to do their best to attend ongoing to update Council.



2324/124 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES COUNCIL MEETINGS ON
Full Council January 10th, 2024 - Noted and Agreed with one amendment [Title change from January to February]

2324/125 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON AGREED ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING AND DISCUSS MATTERS ARISING

Agenda Item 141b (2022/23) HERTS COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS

Still no answer, or acknowledgement from County Cllr Alley or the senior officer Alan contacted about the below issues:

Christopher Alley

- When the extra two barriers will be reinstalled at the Dick Whittington roundabout, please?
- When the pathway edging work outside our building will be undertaken?

Alan Story (HCC development officer)

- You mentioned having written to TRDC parking enforcement about the parking issues along Oxhey Drive near Lidl. Did they propose any solution?
- You were trying to get your Development Management Implementation team to meet up with Countryside before Christmas to review the issues around Lidl, including reviewing the TRO's. Did you manage to meet up with them? Any solutions put forward by them?
- You were waiting on the DM team to give you a date for the planned safety Audit of stage 3 of the redevelopment. Do you have a date in the diary yet?

Agenda Item 2023/78a – FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION – NEW ACCOUNTS

Three higher yield savings accounts have been opened. The CCLA account has still not been confirmed yet for some reason though they have the documents.

Agenda Item 2324/114 - COMMUNITY MATTERS/CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSIDER a)

Consultation for a Primary Support Base run by Warrendell School

The Clerk wrote in supporting Warrendell School in this endeavour as requested by Council.

Agenda Item 2324/114 - COMMUNITY MATTERS/CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSIDER b)

Request from TBS Hygiene (Dog Waste Removal) to use our logo on their website

Clerk gave permission as requested. Already pride and place on their website

Agenda Item 2324/114 - COMMUNITY MATTERS/CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSIDER c)

Potential Funding available from Herts County Council for Over 55's activities

The Clerk has reached out to HCC regarding pursuing funding. No response yet.

Agenda Item 2324/114 - COMMUNITY MATTERS/CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSIDER d)

Funding Health screening equipment – Manor View Practice, Oxhey Drive

The Clerk wrote to TRDC asking for the information required to make the decision for funding. At the time of the meeting, it was confirmed that TRDC would not help fund this equipment, contrary to previous indications. The Council acknowledged the needs of the community and the fact that this screening equipment would benefit all patients in the area.

Proposal: To fully fund the equipment (£8k), with a caveat that it is marked or signed to



acknowledge that Watford Rural Parish Council funded this. Unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED

NB The clerk to investigate if WRPC can purchase and reclaim VAT.

Agenda Item 2324/115 - PLANNING

a) 24/0055/PDNT | Permitted Development Notice Telecommunications: The installation of a 20m monopole Land Opposite 1-16 Catherine House And Adjacent To 132A Gosforth Lane Watford London WD19 7BX

The Clerk to write in objecting to this application on the grounds that it will adversely affect the street scene

b) 24/0102/FUL – 55 Penrose Avenue

The Clerk liaised with Cllr Coltman and sent in an objection letter for this application.

Other items of note:

- Landscaping has been completed. All positive feedback thus far. Some shrubs and planters will be purchased soon.
- Fire risk assessment required. One quote in for £500 with our preferred supplier. Council asked the Clerk to go ahead with our preferred supplier.
- Tree work on our land has been completed to the inspection reports recommendations.
- Audio Loop Permanent solution quote was initially £2500 (without ceiling microphones) but the Clerk has asked them to come in to do a survey to sure up the quote, to allow public to listen to meetings/forums etc. This survey cost would come off any subsequent invoice, should Council choose to go ahead.
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2324/126

COMMUNITY MATTERS/CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSIDER

To receive any questions from local community organisations. To consider any written correspondence. NB in relation to our powers.

a) Grant Application. Watford & Three Rivers Home Start, based at Otley Way Centre. Proposal: to fully fund the £2500 requested to provide local family group sessions to attend to provide a safe and inclusive place to play. Unanimously Agreed.

RESOLVED

b) Herts County Council Sensitive Street Review. Councillors noted the review but there was nothing to add or make comment on.

2324/127

PLANNING

a) 24/0250/FUL – Concerns raised about this application regarding parking and loss of amenity space. The Clerk to investigate it and liaise with Cllr S. King to agree an objection letter if suitable.

Discussions led to a quick conversation about police power s re. parking.

2324/128

MARKET

The Clerk and Cllr S. King met with Saunders markets. Bray Markets visited the site without meeting us, but they have both said they would be happy to go tender stage. MSD markets cancelled the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances. They have not been in touch subsequently. The Clerk to chase. The Clerk stated that he



had spoken to an experienced NBAMA consultant, and he stated Sunday would be the best day and to go forward with just one day at the start to ensure success. Council to go through tender document prepared by the Clerk at the earliest opportunity.

TRDC have stated they want WPRC to pick a Market Day for Market Trader parking permits. The Clerk has insisted any Traffic Regulation Order has the possibility of having two market days within it. The Clerk will also chase Herts County Council about finalizing the red tape involved with the adoption of the Square to allow legal permission to hold a market.

2324/129 FUNDAY/EVENTS

a) Events Committee 14/02/24. Minutes were noted and agreed. Cllr asked that the location for the Christmas Funday be discussed and ratified at the April Events Committee before the next meeting. This was confirmed by the Chair.

b) Climbing Wall quotes. Proposal to accept the quote from the Fun Firm for £830 (+VAT). Should they have been booked subsequently, then to proceed with the Outdoor Education Company (£950(+VAT). Unanimously Agreed. **RESOLVED**. NB The firm from Wales quote was deemed to be too impactful to the environment to get the equipment over that distance, should both be unavailable.

c) Ice cream Van proposal to attend Summer Funday Watford Whip. Proposal: To allow them a commercial pitch (£20.00) and accept their offer of a £50.00 donation to the charity fund. Unanimously Agreed. **RESOLVED**

d) Bunting Installation for D-Day. The clerk explained that we must have a licence to install from Herts County Council and that it must be installed by certificated installers for Health & Safety Reasons. Proposal. To utilise our festive lights installation company to undertake the bunting installation (circa £2200). Unanimously Agreed. **RESOLVED**

2324/130 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

a) January 2024 Payments and Receipts were noted and approved.

b) Zurich Insurance Policy 2024- Councillors were happy to continue with our preferred insurer. Proposal to take out a 3 year policy with Zurich at the associated cost. Unanimously Agreed. **RESOLVED**

c) Asset Register 2023-2024. Proposal: To agree with one amendment. To number the Chairman’s Chain of Office as two as we have an old spare pendant. Value to remain. Unanimously Agreed. **RESOLVED** NB the Clerk to investigate archives to find cost.

d) LCRS Risk Assessment 2023-2024. Proposal to accept the RA. Unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**

e) Hall Hire fees for 2024-2025. Proposal: Commercial fees increased across all criteria by £5.00 (five pounds) per hour. All other fees remain the same as the previous financial year. Unanimously Agreed. **RESOLVED**

f) Lunch Club Fees 2024-2025. Proposal: To remain the same as 2023-2024. Unanimously Agreed. **RESOLVED**

2324/131 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None



The meeting finished at 8.30pm. Next Full Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd April 2024 @7.30pm NB The Chair agreed to move this back to April 10th 2024

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