



Watford Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held on **Wednesday 10th April 2024 @ 7.35pm Parish Hall**

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

Apologies: Councillor Mashkoor Khan
Councillor Clare Leahy
Councillor Ronan MacManus

Non-Attendance: NOTE: One Vacancy Currently. Co-option to follow

Officer: Gareth Williams (Clerk)

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- 2324/132 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies were noted and accepted.

 - 2324/133 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**
None

 - 2324/134 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
None

 - 2324/135 POLICE MATTERS**
No officers were able to attend.

 - 2324/136 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES COUNCIL MEETINGS ON**
Full Council March 6th 2024 - Noted and Agreed.



2324/137 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON AGREED ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING AND DISCUSS MATTERS ARISING

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

Cllr Alley gave answers on the following issues (*in italics*)

- The missing two barriers to be reinstalled at the Dick Whittington roundabout.
He acknowledges they should be put back but they are in the pipeline. Cant give a date when
- The pathway edging work outside our building.
He has been told by officers that they couldn't install edging because of the tree. The clerk argued that this wasn't a problem along all the other paths along Oxhey Drive, but he insisted there was nothing he could do.

Still awaiting HCC officer, Alan Storey, to reply to these outstanding points

- 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

CCLA account has now been set up and funds transferred.

Agenda Item 2324/114 - COMMUNITY MATTERS/CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSIDER c) Potential Funding available from Herts County Council for Over 55's activities

The Clerk had a meeting with HCC about this funding. The Clerk needs to prepare some costings for potential activities.

Agenda Item 2324/114 - COMMUNITY MATTERS/CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSIDER d) Funding Health screening equipment – Manor View Practice, Oxhey Drive

The Clerk spoke to the practice owner and they stated that they had not received any funding from other avenues but that the practice managers would match fund. Based on this new information, the clerk stated that we would match fund. Awaiting confirmation. They are happy to place a plaque or some form of official acknowledgement that we funded the equipment as well as have a photo done with the Chair.

Agenda Item 2324/123 – POLICE MATTERS – Letter to Chief Inspector of Three Rivers

The Clerk wrote a letter asking for Police to do their utmost to have an officer's present to report and discuss issues at Full Council Meetings as requested by Council:

Agenda Item 2324/127 - PLANNING – 24/0250/FUL

The Clerk liaised with Cllr King and wrote an objection in for this application as requested by Council.

Other items of note:

- Councillor vacancy notice for election not filled, therefore Co-option policy being followed. May's meeting scheduled for any applicants.
- Audio Loop site survey is taking place in April.
- Upon inspection, the previous Bunting was no longer fit for purpose, so we had to purchase new. Purchased hard wearing PVC bunting for reuse. £607.50
- Two stage banking approval system set up and running.
- Having major issues with Sum Up card swiper. May have to purchase a new one. Replacement also not working properly but they will not refund.
- EOY audit set for 15th May 2024
- The naming ceremony for (Private) Tom Lake Way set for 27th June. Drinks and sandwiches planned for our hall from Chairs budget for family, friends, and army representatives. Open from 11am for meeting, then again, following the ceremony.



2324/138

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 – Community Learning Partnership – Art & Crafts Workshops £2300
Proposal: To fund the full amount, post the Clerk asking what charge they would set for attendees of the class. Delegated authority was given to the Chair & the Clerk to fund should they be happy with the response. Unanimously Agreed. **RESOLVED**
- b) Grant Application – Carpenters Park Residents Assoc. - Community Hall Kitchen Refit £2500
1st Proposal: To fully fund the amount asked for. Voted taken. 4 (four) councillors for, 4 (four) councillors against, 2 (two) abstained).
2nd Proposal: To give half the requested amount (£1250). Unanimously Agreed.
RESOLVED
- c) Grant application – Impactful Governance – LGBTQ Mentoring Service for local residents £2500
Council fully supported the aims of this Community Interest Company. However, a number of points were raised that needed clarification. The Clerk to write to their CEO and bring the answers and the application back in Mays meeting for decision.
- d) Thank you letter from Herts & Essex Air Ambulance for our donation.
Council noted the letter and were grateful for their feedback.

2324/139

PLANNING

- a) 24/018/FUL – Objection letter sent re. applications parking limitations i.e. not enough

Discussion regarding the letter from Cornerstone who are planning on locating a mobile phone mast near to South Oxhey Jets Pitch. The Clerk to liaise with the owner of the Jets and ascertain more detail as they are not happy with the location due to its proximity to the pitch

2324/140

MARKET

- a) The clerk explained that Countryside will not insure the weekly market and that we would have to wait until HCC fully adopt the highway. The clerk asked them to see if they will organise a meeting with ourselves and HCC to see what options are available to get market started asap.
- b) Due to time concerns, the Chair asked cllrs to take away the tender document and come back with any suggestions at the next meeting in May

2324/141

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- a) February 2024 Payments and Receipts were noted and approved.
- b) March 2024 Payments and Receipts were noted and approved.
- c) Stair lift Quotes. Proposal: To accept EMS lifts quote, post fire risk assessment (to determine if a stair lift will be safe in the event of a fire). Unanimously Agreed.
RESOLVED

2324/142

JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Request for any items the Council want brought up. One item - What other PC's do with regards to anti-social parking



2324/143

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A resident of Greenfield Avenue which backs onto the parkland we lease, has claimed that 2 of our oak trees roots are damaging his extension. The Clerk has forward on to our insurers to deal with.

The meeting finished at 9.15pm. Next Full Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th May 2024 @7.30pm

DRAFT