

PARISH COUNCIL OF WARESLEY-CUM-TETWORTH

HUNTINGDONSHIRE

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held on 10 December 2014, 8 pm, in Waresley Village Hall.

**Parish Councillors present:** Eleanor Jack (Chair), Chris Thorne, John Archer, Helen Richardson, Valerie Coleman.

**Also present:** District Councillor Barbara Boddington, John Boddington, Charmian and Neville Chapman, Shelley Frost, Vicky Hallam, Martin Lindus, Philipp Polony

Minutes taken by S Sullivan

**1 Apologies for absence** were accepted from County Councillor Julie Wisson, District Councillor Richard West, and David Morgan

**2 Minutes of the meeting of 10 November, 2014** were amended, then accepted as a true record and were signed.

**3 Matters Arising**

**Telephone Box:** John Archer said that BT had replaced the door. Councillors noted that the remainder of the box looked rather shabby. ACTION: JA to thank BT and to enquire whether they could renovate the box.

**4 Open Session** - The Chair invited members of the public to bring any matters or concerns to the attention of the Parish Council.

**District Councillor Barbara Boddington** said that she had expressed strong concerns about proposals to reduce the winter road gritting programme and that the programme was safe for this year and the next. The A428 programme was planned for the next five years. The Council was continuing to examine all departments for potential financial cuts, such as reducing staffing levels through retirement and natural wastage.

The Open Session was closed.

**5 Councillors' Interests** – To receive from Councillors' declarations as to personal and/or prejudicial interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any agenda items. None

**6 Planning:** Councillors noted that application 1401054FUL and 1401055LBC Manor Farm cottages had been approved by the District Council.

**1401906FUL Wisteria Cottage, Vicarage Road** Councillors recommended APPROVAL, with the comment that they felt the application represented a significant improvement. Proposed by John Archer, seconded by Chris Thorne.

**1401395FUL Home Farm Office conversion and 1401990LBC listed building consent** The Chair invited Martin Lindus architect and Vicky Hallam to speak to this item. Following discussion and a vote, Councillors recommended APPROVAL (majority 3:2).

Signature



5/2/2015 Date

## 7 Highways

**Traffic Calming Measures** – Minor Roads Improvements bid. John Archer said that he understood that decisions had been made, but the Parish Council had not yet heard whether their bid had been successful.

**Drain in Vicarage Road** had been assessed and was not overflowing.

**Potholes in Manor Farm Road** had been marked for repair.

Councillors noted the excellent service provided by the local highways officer, Ian Winfield.

**Gransden Road Traffic Calming** John Archer reported that the group had been unsuccessful in attempts to get a grant for a static road traffic sign, which would cost about £1,000. Councillors expressed disappointment and discussed possible alternatives, but felt that the Vicarage Road Group should be consulted. ACTION: JA and EJ to meet with Jo Mear and invite members of the Vicarage Road Group to the next Parish Council meeting. To be put on agenda for next meeting. Eleanor Jack thanked John Archer for his reports.

**9 Parish Planting** Eleanor Jack read out a report from David Morgan, Parish Council Tree Officer, that an application had been made for hedging along the Gamlingay Road and trees for the sheep paddocks. Hedging along the paddock was being progressed under a different scheme.

With regard to the field beside the Garden Centre suggested by Eleanor Jack at the last meeting, this had not been included as enquiries had revealed that other areas in the same ownership had been included in the proposed hedging planting.

**10 Parish website** Chris Thorne reported that the domain name had been moved to a different, less expensive host. The developer had been taking photographs of the village. Eleanor Jack said that Councillors would provide content. ACTION: to be brought forward to next meeting.

**11 Finance:** A carry forward in the region of £1,800 was expected. Councillors considered expenditure for the year 2015/16 and DECIDED that the Precept should be £4,000.

**Payments:** No payments had been made.

**12 Electoral review** Councillors considered the implications of proposed changes in the electoral ward boundaries, reducing the number of County Councillors from 69 to 63. The consensus was that proposals to include Waresley-cum-Tetworth in a ward with the new large development at Love's Farm as well as other villages could produce a conflict of interest for a councillor trying to represent rural communities and a conurbation. Although a ward including more villages over a wider area would present different challenges for the county councillor, this was felt to be preferable. Responses had to be received by 19 January, after which there would be another round of consultation. ACTION: Eleanor Jack to draft reply on behalf of the Parish Council. Parish Councillors to look at the website.

**13 AOB** None.

**14 Date of the Next Meeting** Thursday, 5 February 2015, 8.00 pm, Waresley Village Hall

Meeting closed 9.05 pm

Signature



5/2/2015 Date