

PARISH COUNCIL OF WARESLEY-CUM-TETWORTH
HUNTINGDONSHIRE

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held on 10 November 2014, 8 pm, in Waresley Parish Church.

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

Also present: County Councillor Julie Wisson, District Councillor Richard West, David Morgan (Parish Council Tree Officer), Ian Keeves, Gerry and Ann Sugars, Charmian and Neville Chapman

Minutes taken by S Sullivan

1 Apologies: ~~None~~ *Barbara Boddington EJ*

2 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 25 September: were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

3 Matters Arising:

Lorry using Vicarage Rd: Helen Richardson confirmed that she had spoken with the driver and repairs had been done and the situation had improved.

Telephone Box: John Archer said that BT had confirmed it was on the list, but the timescale for a new door was uncertain. ACTION: JA to follow up.

Overhanging branches 2 Gamlingay Road: Eleanor Jack confirmed that she had assessed the situation, which she considered not to be a problem, but it would be monitored.

Planning 140139FUL Home Farm: The Parish Council had received confirmation that Listed Building consent was required.

1401546FUL Little Lodge: Eleanor Jack reported that the District Council had approved the car port.

4 Open Session:

County Councillor Julie Wisson reported that she was really pleased to have been accepted on to the Fostering Panel. She had attended a Highways meeting on 28 October to consider some proposals for next winter. The Council was reviewing services such as libraries, street lights and waste recycling centres, and winter gritting of roads was due to be reduced to 30% of the network.

District Councillor Richard West said that it was a very difficult time; the Council had made a number of cuts to staff and services, and was to share services such as building control with South Cambridgeshire. IT and waste management policies and practices were also to be shared and reviewed, for example, perhaps using volunteers to sweep leaves. The boundary commission would be reviewing Huntingdon District Council Wards, which would be changed in 2018. Councillor West was concerned about the reduction in gritting – we needed to put pressure on national government for a ring-fenced budget.

The Chair thanked Councillors Wisson and West for attending the meeting – the Parish Council appreciated their work.

EJ

10/12/2014

The Open Session was closed.

5 Councillors interests: no conflicts of interest were declared.

6 Planning:

1401054FUL and 1401055LBC: 1 Manor Farm Cottages, single storey rear extension. Councillors noted that the proposed extension would not be seen from elsewhere, and that the property had been altered in the past. They unanimously APPROVED the application: Proposed by C Thorne, seconded by J Archer.

1401791TREE Five Farthings, Manor Farm Road, Tree Surgery. Councillors had no objections to this work. They did not intend to call a special meeting every time such an application was received. The Parish Council's Tree Officer David Morgan was invited to give his views: he said that he was uncomfortable at the thought of using advice from a volunteer – the District Council had a professional Tree Officer. ACTION: JA to give comments to District Council; District Councillor West to raise the subject at next meeting.

7 Highways: Speed reduction measures: John Archer and Eleanor Jack had gone to Huntingdon to put forward a case for traffic calming measures. John Archer said that the panel had looked at their proposals and they had been able to illustrate a compelling case, supported by data that suggested 60% of vehicles were exceeding the speed limit. The panel had asked some questions, including about funding, and had congratulated the Parish Council on their presentation. The Parish Council does not know how big the budget is, but the decision is expected in January.

Drain: outside No 2 Vicarage Road had been reported to the County Council and been recorded on the website.

Gransden Road: Traffic calming – there had been no progress, Jo Mear had yet to meet the Police Inspector who was responsible.

Gritting: Eleanor Jack had received a letter from District Councillor Barbara Boddington, which she had circulated to Councillors. Councillors felt that although the main road through Waresley might not be affected, the subsidiary roads connecting adjacent villages would be and residents would encounter more risk. ACTION: EJ to write to Council Leader expressing Parish Council's concern.

(Councillor West left at 9.00 pm)

8 Appointment of Parish Clerk: Sylvia Sullivan was appointed on a temporary basis. The annual salary of £900 would be payable in quarterly instalments.

9 Parish Planting: Tree Officer David Morgan was invited to speak. He explained that each year the District Council made available a number of trees to parishes. This scheme might not continue. Most available areas in Waresley had been planted up over the years that the scheme had been in operation. He invited suggestions for any other areas that could carry trees or hedgerows (sites should be visible from the public highway). In particular, the Parish should consider planting ^{ash} ~~ash~~ ^{other} ~~other~~ trees in anticipation of disease affecting ^{older} ~~older~~ ^{of this species} ~~of this species~~ in the years to come.

E Jack declared an interest. She said that the area outside the Garden Centre and the stud seemed to be the obvious place for more planting if the landowner was content.

The Chair thanked David Morgan.

Signature



10/12/2014

Date

10 Website: Chris Thorne said that there had been little progress. ACTION: Bring forward to next meeting.

11 Finance: Eleanor Jack confirmed that the annual return had been displayed as required on the noticeboard. Helen had looked after the forms in case anyone had wished to see them. The auditors had sent information regarding next year's audit. There was no charge for the external audit this year. Councillors approved expenses: Huntingdonshire District Council (Electoral Services) ££659.97 – Proposed C Thorne; seconded J Archer; E-ON £45.49 Proposed V Coleman, seconded C Thorne.

12 Electoral Review Councillors noted the County Council's intention to reduce the number of councillors from 69 to 63 – responses had to be made by 19 January. Eleanor Jack said the Parish Council should consider and respond to this as it would have a radical effect: the proposed new ward that included Waresley would remove some villages but include Love's Farm, which would mean a very different workload for the elected councillor. ACTION: to bring forward to next meeting.

13 AOB There was no other business

14 Date of the Next Meeting: Wednesday 10 December 8 pm Waresley Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm


Signature

10/12/14
Date