

KNEBORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 10 October 2018 in the Knebworth Village Hall at 8.40 p.m.

Present: Councillors Roger Willcocks (Chairman), Adrienne Charter, Rosemary Conybeare, Jenny Harrison, Paul Jobling, Colin Stringer and Paul Ward

In attendance: the Clerk

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Farr and Mr Hemingway.
Absent Mr Trowbridge.

2. Chairman's announcements

Members are reminded that any declarations of interest in respect of any business set out in the agenda, should be declared as either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Declarable Interest and are required to notify the Chairman of the nature of any interest declared at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda. Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest must withdraw from the meeting for the duration of the item. Members declaring a Declarable Interest which requires they leave the room under the Code of Conduct, can speak on the item, but must leave the room before the debate and vote.

Ms Nash declared that she is chair of the SOS Pub group.

3. Minutes

Proposed by Mr Stringer, seconded by Mrs Harrison and

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 September 2018 approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

5. Matters arising from previous meetings

5.1 Station Pub Appeal Update

The Chairman reported that the Statement of Case has been submitted. A barrister has been appointed and given legal advice on its content. The Planning Inspector has not given a decision on whether the inquiry will be downgraded to a hearing.

5.2 Insurance review

Proposed by Mrs Harrison, seconded by Mr Willcocks and

Resolved: to enter into a three year long term arrangement with Inspire.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Winter Self Help Scheme

The Council agreed to distribute the free salt provided by Herts County Council under the Winter Self Help Scheme

Proposed by Mrs Charter, seconded by Mrs Nash and

Resolved: to purchase ten snow shovels at a cost of £80 to be issued with the salt.

6.2 Traffic

Herts Highways is considering installing advance warning signs for the north bound lane of Stevenage road to highlight New Close and Peters Way. It was considered

that signs would not result in reduced speeds and 30mph speed limit signs might be more effective.

The Council supported Herts Highways proposal to undertake a speed and volume survey on Swangleys Lane to assess traffic and the need for traffic calming. Herts Highways has confirmed that prior to the Local Transport Plan 4, little consideration was given to highway improvements for the less abled and as a result no s278 improvements were requested for the McCarthy and Stone development. It will look at including improvements to the footpaths at the Stevenage Road/ Watton Road junction.

6.3 Planters

The Council approved the WI proposal for timber planters at the gateways. No advertising will be permitted.

6.4 HCC Statement of Community Involvement for the Herts Mineral and Waste Plan

The Council noted the document and had no comment.

7. Neighbourhood Plan

Aecom has produced a draft report which had been previously circulated. It is hoped that the group will have policies and objectives ready to go out to consultation in November.

8. Amenity Land

This item was deferred to the Amenities Committee.

9. Clerk's Report

9.1 The Council confirmed the switch on of the Christmas lights will be 30 November 2018. It agreed that it would be brought forward to mid-November next year.

9.2 A resident has requested that a verge barrier in Orchard Way is repaired. The clerk has contacted district councillors to confirm NHDC's responsibility.

9.3 The clerk attended a training session on allotments. The Allotment Association currently recommends 20 allotments per 1000 dwellings. The clerk is to write to the owner of the private allotments to see if he would object to registering them as an Asset of Community Value

9.4 CPRE has highlighted that a DVD called "A County at War, Life on the Home Front in Hertfordshire" is available free to community groups who may wish to screen it. The clerk is to obtain a copy for local groups to screen.

9.5 There is a community table tennis offer to help various groups become more active. This is to be discussed at the amenities committee meeting.

9.6 The Police Safety Fund has launched its third round of funding. It was considered that an application to improve pedestrian safety on Deards End Lane could be made.

10. Audit 2017/18

Proposed Mr Ward by Mrs Conybeare

Resolved: To approve the Annual Governance and Accounts Return for 2018, including the external auditor's report.

11. Financial Review

Proposed by Mrs Nash, seconded by Mr Ward and

Resolved: to approve the management accounts to 30 September 2018.

12. Budget 2019/20

Proposed by Mr Willcocks and

Resolved: to approve a draft administration budget for the year ended 31 March 2020.

13. Bank

Proposed by Mr Godfrey, seconded by Mr Stringer and

Resolved: to open a current and savings bank account with Unity Trust Bank PLC.

14. Accounts

14.1 To Approve the List of Payments from 1 September 2018 to 30 September 2018

Proposed by Mr Stringer, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: that the list of accounts paid during Accounts Period 6 2018/19 be approved

15. Any Other Business

15.1 Mr Stringer reported that work on the new B197 roundabout, for the development at Odyssey, will commence at the end of the year.

15.2 Mrs Conybeare reported that the bench working party has completed repairs on the public benches.

15.3 Wadnall Way is to be closed for surfacing work on 17 October.

15.4 The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for 7 November 2018.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.

Chairman _____

Date _____

Doc PC.181907 20.10.18