

KNEBWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 13 January 2016 in Knebworth Village Hall at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors Mr Kevin Burr, Dr Graham Fothergill, Mr Philip Farr, Ms Carly Gribble, Mr Stephen Hemingway, Mr Duncan Jefford, Mr Rob Procter, Mrs Laura Stacey, Mr Roger Willcocks,

In attendance: The Clerk

1. Apologies

In the absence of the chairman

Proposed by Ms Gribble, seconded by Mr Farr and

Resolved: that Mr Procter take the chair.

There were apologies for absence from Mr Sleator, Mrs Conybeare and Mr Ward.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest

3. Public Participation

There was no public participation

4. Planning Matters

4.1 15/02950/1HH 45 Deanscroft, Knebworth

Two storey side extension

The proposed first floor is built up to the boundary, which is contrary to NHDC policy to prevent a terracing effect. The Council therefore objects.

4.2 15/03167/1HH 5 Swangleys Lane, Knebworth

Retention of front porch extension

No objections

4.3 15/02550/1LB 1 Mulberry Cottages, Park Lane, Old Knebworth

Replace No.3 windows on the rear elevation.

Supports.

4.4 16/00009/1HH 20 Orchard Way, Knebworth

Single storey side and rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory.

No objections

4.5 15/02956/1 109 Orchard Way, Knebworth

Vent windows to be opened at 45 degrees on the west elevation (as minor material amendment for two storey side extension, planning permission reference

13/00696/1HH granted 30/05/2013)

No objections.

5. Minutes

Proposed by Mrs Stacey, seconded by Mr Willcocks and

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 December 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. Matters Arising from previous meetings

6.1 Library

Redbourn library has been converted to a tier 3 library. It currently has 20 volunteers although it is aiming for forty. The majority of the volunteers have come from U3A. A meeting is to be arranged with Taryn Pearson, HCC, to discuss the future of Knebworth Library. Dr Fothergill reported that the surgery hopes that a planning application for the redevelopment of the site will be submitted by the end of the month.

6.2 Three Houses Lane, Solar Farm

The Council agreed that some funds should be set aside for the planning inquiry. However as it is not the only Rule 6 party, conditions would have to be met prior to allocation.

Proposed by Mr Farr seconded by Mr Burr and

Resolved: that £5,000 be set aside for the planning appeal for Three Houses Lane, Solar Farm.

7. Accounts

The committee approved the accounts paid from 1- 31 December.

The council also approved spending on hall heating repairs and the cost to recover the triple mower from Lytton Fields.

8 Clerk's Report

8.1 There was an attempted break in at the boiler house at the village hall. The police have been notified.

8.2 The toilet seat in St Martins Road public toilet was broken over the holiday period. This has been replaced.

8.3 HCC has adopted Herts Waste Local Plan.

8.4 NHDC is promoting recycling with posters and articles for newsletters.

8.5 Nomination of chairmen to attend Royal Garden Party to be held on 10 May must be submitted by 28 January.

8.6 The Stevenage Local Plan is out for consultation until 17 February 2016.

8.7 NHDC is undertaking scrutiny of its reports and has asked for comment.

9. Stepping Stone Preschool

Proposed by Ms Gribble seconded by Mr Farr and

Resolved that Stepping Stone Preschool be granted an operating licence for the school year 2016/17.

Proposed by Mr Jefford, seconded by Mr Farr and

Resolved that there should be a 3% increase in the licence fee.

10 Any Other Business

10.1 Dr Fothergill asked when the Council might expect to consider the terms of reference for the Neighbourhood Plan. He also felt that any reports on the Plan should be via the Parish Council rather than other sources.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 09.05pm.

Chairman _____

Date _____