

KNEBWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 March 2022 at 8.00 p.m. at Knebworth Village Hall

Present: Councillors Rosemary Conybeare, Charlotte Cosson, Jeremy Godfrey, Jenny Harrison, Steve Hemingway, Paul Jobling, Colin Stringer and Paul Ward

In attendance: the Clerk and via zoom Councillors Willcocks and Farr

1. **Apologies**

In the absence of the chairman Mr Stringer, vice chairman, took the chair. Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Charter, Farr, Nash and Willcocks

2. **Public Participation**

None

3. **Declarations of Interest**

None

4. **Minutes**

Proposed by Mrs Conybeare, seconded by Mr Hemingway and

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 February 2022 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. **To Note the Minutes of Committee Meetings**

The Council noted the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 9 February 2022.

6. **Matters Arising**

6.1 RCCG Car Park

There being no further information this was left in abeyance.

6.2 Footpath – Park Lane to Deanscroft

After a discussion where opinions varied, the consensus was to proceed with the transfer of land subject to clarification from the solicitor on TP1 clauses and potential liability of the Parish Council.

6.3 War Memorial

The memorial has been inspected by professionals who have recommended obtaining quotes from architectural stone masons. The clerk has contacted the two recommended companies.

7. Development

Two s106 projects have been submitted relating to the land south of Watton Road. These will be assessed against certain criteria by NHDC. HCC has also asked for £500,000 towards early years provision on this site.

A preconsultation meeting has been arranged with Countryside, which is promoting KB1 and KB2. Information will be made available to the public in the subsequent weeks.

8. Platinum Jubilee

Proposed by Mr Hemingway, seconded by Mrs Cosson and

Resolved: not to purchase a portable beacon because there was no associated event.

Proposed by Mr Godfrey, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: to use existing bunting to mark the jubilee.

9. Policies

Proposed by Mr Hemingway, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: to adopt the reviewed policies.

10. Clerk's Report

10.1 The new fence panels in the Recreation grounds have been vandalised.

10.2 A new Parish Council noticeboard has been installed in front of Lowe House.

10.3 The clerk has undertaken pension training

10.4 NALC is running a course on How to Review Neighbourhood Plans

10.5 A two year energy contract has been fixed with British Gas Lite.

10.6 NHDC has granted planning permission to build the first floor on the boundary with the access to the recreation grounds. It will be impossible to construct within the curtilage of the property

11. Finance

11.1 To Approve Accounts Paid from 1 February to 28 February 2022

Proposed by Mr Godfrey, seconded by Mr Ward and

Resolved: to approve the accounts paid from 1 February to 28 February 2022.

11.2 Quotes

There were no quotes to be considered.

11.3 Bank Reconciliation

Proposed by Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: to approve the bank reconciliation to 28 February 2022

11.4 Investment

Proposed by Mr Ward, seconded by Mr Hemingway and

Resolved; to transfer balance of the Hampshire Trust Bank 90 day account to a 120 day account.

12. Exclusion of Public and Press

Proposed by Mr Hemingway, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: that under Section 100A (2) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting in view of the nature of the business being transacted.

13. Station Pub

The Council reviewed and approved the report.

Proposed by Mr Ward, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: to increase rent by RPI from the start of the third year.

Proposed by Mr Ward, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: to revert to monthly payment of rent from April.

Proposed by Mr Godfrey, seconded by Mrs Cosson and

Resolved: that deferred rent should be paid by 30 September 2022

The Clerk is to obtain quotes for replacement windows and new ventilation in the bar and restaurant.

14. Staff

Proposed by Mr Godfrey, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: to approve the job descriptions

Proposed by Mrs Harrison, seconded by Mr Hemingway and

Resolved: to approve pay increases from 1 April 2022.

15. Exclusion of Public and Press

Proposed by Mrs Harrison, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: that members of the Public and Press be allowed to return to the meeting all confidential business having been transacted.

16. Any Other Business

16.1 A resident has complained about hedges overgrowing the highway on Deards End Lane, after another road accident with a vehicle hitting the bollards on the verge. The narrowing of the road is also making it more dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. The hedges are to be reported to Herts Highways.

16.2 Mr Stringer reported that the fly tipping on Old Lane has been removed.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.44 p.m.

Chairman _____

Date _____

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