

MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting of Woodham Walter Parish Council
Held at 8pm in Women's Club, Top Road, Woodham Walter.

Monday 13th September 2010

Present:

Mark Durham (Chairman)
Angus Neale
Colin Warner
Peter Warren

Others: Jacky Bannerman (Clerk) ; District Councillor, Sheila Young

Public: 0

304. Welcome Cllr. Mark Durham welcomed those present to the meeting.

305. Apologies For Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. David Potter, Cllr. Claire Robinson and Cllr. James Bunn.

306. Register of Declared Interests There were no interests declared and the register was duly signed.

307. Public Forum There were no public present.

A letter received from parishioner, Andrew Vesey was read out by clerk re: Meadows Barns & Herbage Park comments/ comparison, including his feeling that the Warren development would have set a precedent for the Meadows Barns holiday let application. He also raised his concerns regarding the new terrace area at Herbage Park seeking reassurance that no music licence will be granted and that lighting regulations are duly monitored to protect the natural habitat.

Parish Councillors and District Councillor Sheila Young commented that the Meadows Barn application would not have taken the Warren Development at Herbage Park into account when deciding, each application is determined individually on its own merits. Furthermore the inspector made no reference to Herbage Park during the appeal.

It is the role of Maldon District Council to monitor developments including lights.

Clerk to write back to Mr Vesey.

308. Minutes Of The Parish Council Meeting Held On 9th August 2010. The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

309. Matters Arising

309.1 (257.3) School Playground – Risk Assessments & Dual Use Agreement. Clerk is awaiting an updated list of equipment from the school. Clerk to write to Ken Rennie and thank him for his help with the risk assessments.

309.2 (255.4) War Memorial Shelter. Cllr's instruct clerk to request itemised quotes from at least 3 local builders to carry out necessary repairs to the war memorial shelter. (Including Rob Hamilton and those who advertise in parish magazine - MJ Yarham/Galleywood Construction/Essex Heritage Properties).

310. Planning – APPLICATIONS

310.1 FUL/MAL/10/00689 & LBC/MAL/10/00690 The Shrubbery, Curling Tye Lane
Erection of conservatory and link to conversion of existing outbuilding into laundry and cloakroom to the main house, replacement of existing conservatory; minor internal alterations to cottage and replacement and relocation of oil tank.

Due to deadline this application was circulated to councillors. There were no objections and councillors felt that it was well designed. Clerk has written accordingly.

311. Planning - DECISIONS

311.1 FUL/MAL/10/00513 Falconers Lodge, Oak Farm Road **REFUSED (Delegated)**
Extend time limit for implementation: Demolish existing building and erect replacement dwelling with indoor swimming pool, garaging and stores. (FUL/MAL/07/00576)

1 The local authority considers it inappropriate to extend the time limit of planning application FUL/MAL/07/00576, for a further period of three years, due to the significant change in material circumstances on the site which has occurred since the planning permission was originally granted in July 2007. In June 2010 the site was officially scheduled as an Ancient Monument as being part of the site of Ruins of Woodham Walter Hall.

2 The dwelling as proposed by application FUL/MAL/07/00576 would, be reason of its scale, bulk, mass and design have a negative impact upon, and fail to preserve or enhance the historic setting, character and historic value of this Scheduled

Monument. In addition, and in order that the archaeological importance of the site can be properly addressed with the appropriate archaeological mitigation, no such scheme of mitigation has been submitted with the application. The proposal would therefore be contrary to Policies BE1 and BE17 of the adopted Maldon District Replacement Local Plan and PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment.

Councillors commented on the very satisfactory result and note that the enforcement notice stands. At next months Parish Council meeting Councillors will take the opportunity to raise the outstanding enforcement notice with Jennifer Candler, Head of Planning at MDC who will be attending the meeting and ask what MDC's plans are to ensure the work to reduce the ground levels back to former levels is carried out.

311.2 HOUSE/MAL/10/00508 1 Redbrick Cottages, The Street **APPROVE (Delegated)**
Proposed drop kerb, modified entrance to off road parking. Erection of three pergola beams above parking area.

311.3 HOUSE/MAL/10/00599 19 Rectory Road **REFUSED (Delegated)**
Two storey and single storey rear extension and addition of window to flank elevation at first floor level. *"the proposed two storey and single storey extension, by reason of its scale, depth and proximity to the boundary, would represent an inappropriate development which would have an adverse impact upon the amenities of the occupiers of the neighbour property at no.18 Rectory Road as a result of it's overbearing appearance"*.
Councillors pleased to note that the officer had agreed with their objections.

312. Other Planning Matters

312.1 Falconers Lodge. (See minute ref. 311.1)

312.2 MDC – Maldon District Conservation & Design Awards 2010. Cllr. Robinson/Clerk have submitted application for Hoe Mill Barns development. Councillors invited to view barns on Monday 20th September at 2pm.

312.3 (272/276.1) Meadows Barn. Appeal Reference APP/X1545/A/10/2121012
Responses letters received from Mark Woodger at MDC and Response received from Planning Inspectorate. These letters were read out and councillors accepted comments.

312.4 Noted application by Forestry Commission for licence to fell Willow trees at canal side including at Manor Farm (41 trees) and Ulting Lake (22 trees). This is part of a harvest for use in making cricket bats which is a tradition in this part of Essex, willow is a crop and the felling is considered to have a neutral impact on the landscape as they will be planting like for like. Councillors noted that the work had begun and trunks were currently stored at junction of West Bowers Road/Rectory Road.

313. To Authorise Any Payments Due The following payments were authorised and the cheques duly signed.

313.1 e-on – Monthly DD

313.2 A&J Lighting Solutions – Monthly DD

313.3 Clerks Salary + Allowance/Expenses

313.4 P.H.Williams (Blackwater Landscapes) Cuts on 12/24 Aug + BM/Church hedge/strim

313.5 K&K Dunstan (Mike Woodcraft Book)

314. Other Financial Matters

314.1 Confirmation from bank regarding new signatories. (Cllr. Durham, Cllr. Bunn & Cllr. Warner)

314.2 Receipt of monies for hire of party tents. Clerk had reviewed total income from the hiring of the tents, it was pleasing to note that we have received £675 income this year and a total income since purchasing in July 2007 of £1125.00. Even with the acquisition of the storage bags they have more than paid for themselves. It was noted that some pegs need replacing and a solution to windy conditions is required, these to be looked into and purchased next year.

314.3 Audit Commission – Letter requesting more detailed response to 15% variance. Clerk confirms she has written accordingly.

314.4 Work to access track for Bell Meadow Day parking. Cllr Durham agrees that he will ask the Bell Meadow Village Association to pay for the work. Cllr Warner will put some hogging down to further improve.

315. Report Of The District Councillor

Mrs Young reported on a rural conference organised by the Rural Commission which she had recently attended in Chester. She found it very interesting with rural housing for rural people one of the important issues discussed.

Mrs Young also reported that savings need to be made and Maldon District Council are researching which services are most appreciated by the public to help with decisions.

Cllr. Durham commented on the spectacular hanging baskets down Maldon High Street and the hope that this visual treatment would not be part of the cuts. He also asked Mrs Young why the 30 minute free parking spaces have been reduced/taken away?

Mrs Young expects that it is due to financial pressures but she will check.

Mrs Young left the meeting room following her report at 9.03pm

316. Highways

316.1 (194.16) Road enforcement signage outside School on The Street. Nothing further.

316.2 Noted surface dressing of Herbage Park Road. Cllr's ask clerk to enquire when the re-lining will take place. Cllr. Neale enquired about hedging that is beginning to obscure 30mph gateway signs on approach, he agreed to carry out the work to reduce.

316.3 Cllr Warner had received an enquiry from a parishioner regarding Old London Road. Clerk to report subsided road and a number of pot holes at the edge between Wood Corner and Lodge Farm. Cllr Warner had also been asked to look at the trees overhanging the railings on the bend on Lodge Farm side of the road. However, he did not feel that there was a problem with any of them. It was noted that work to repair the railings had incorporated some hedge/tree work in this location a few weeks back and that this area was now acceptable and no further work was required.

317. Local Issues

317.1 **Bell Meadow/Playground** The book was duly signed, there were no reported incidence.

317.2 **Footpath Officer Report** 1. ECC/Balfour Beattie had carried out cutting of 13 paths in the village. 2. Enquiries regarding Headland management by land owners had revealed they could expect to be paid £12/100m annually to maintain paths across land. Councillors didn't expect that this would be enough financial incentive.

317.3 **Woodham Walter Common Report** – Volunteer Warden Chris Wheadon reported that there had been a BMX cycle track made through the common including across an active badger set. He has visited area with Essex Wildlife Trust's Leanne Sargeant and placed holly cuttings and tape to deter. Parish Council had received a letter from Essex Wildlife Trust thanking us for the annual grant and asking if we would like a management walk around site. Cllr. Warren and Cllr. Neale to arrange.

317.4 **Crime Report for Woodham Walter.** No information to report.

Next visit of mobile police unit – Wednesday 8th September 2.15-3.15pm at WW Village Hall.

317.5 **Neighbourhood Action Panel** Date of next meeting: Thu 9th Sept, 7-9pm Wickham Bishops

317.6 **School Report** No information to report.

317.7 **Allotments Report** Many allotment holders had entered some impressive produce in the Bell Meadow competitions.

317.8 **Community Speed Watch** Clerk has requested equipment back from Ivor Brearley with a view to re-launching the scheme. Cllr. Durham to write an article for Parish Magazine.

317.9 **Litter** Clerk had been impressed at the quick response by MDC after reporting litter which needed collection at Bell Meadow.

317.10 **Village Agent.** Since her visits to WW (Art Show/Flower Festival) she has had two WW residents contact her and followed up these enquiries. Mrs Macdonald also had a stand at Bell Meadow event.

317.11 **Bell Meadow Village Association** – Cllr Durham reported that despite the poor weather the event had just about broken even. It was pleasing to see the crowds in the evening keeping warm on the hill. Thanks for Grant & Financial Report received from Treasurer, Ken Rennie.

317.12 **Mike Woodcraft Report** The booklets are now on sale at a price of £3 each, with profits being donated to Alzheimer's Society (approx. £2.50 per copy). Some copies were sold at Bell Meadow event and Chapel Stores have kindly agreed to keep a stock. Clerk also has copies at home. So far we have sold 34 copies.

317.13 **Bus Services** - new bus timetable now in operation. Copy on noticeboard. Clerk had received one telephone complaint from village resident about the service, she had informed that the bus was unreliable, fares were inconsistent, drivers go too fast and the vehicles are dirty. Cllr's asked to speak to other passengers and report back to clerk if any concerns were raised. Clerk will raise with ECC.

317.14 **Memorial Garden** – Cllr Durham proposed and Cllr Warner seconded the proposal to order 1000 Bestseller DN001 daffodils from J.Parker catalogue at a cost of £90 + VAT/P&P. Clerk to investigate purchase. Cllr. Warner will brief Chris Wheadon who has volunteered to plant the bulbs and ensure that they are planted along the bottom of the hedge/round the trees and not on the mown areas.

317.15 **Parish Magazine** – thanks received for grant. It was noted that a new editor has volunteered - Claire Robinson (also a Parish Councillor) who will be assisted by Sue Cumming, both from Woodham Walter. Councillors took the opportunity to thank Jacky Bannerman for her commitment to this voluntary role over the previous 5 years.

318. Correspondence

318.1 MDC Press Release re: Public Speaking at Area Planning committees – trial extended.

Councillors welcomed this decision that they had requested on numerous occasions and commented that we should be mindful of any desire to speak at meetings when writing letters of representation.

318.2 WW Women's Club – Thanks for grant

318.3 St Michael's – thanks for grant

318.4 WW Village Hall & BMVA – thanks for grant

318.5 Silver Threads – thanks for grant. Reduction in numbers and no longer any members able to play carpet bowls. Cllr. Warren to mention to Village Hall committee.

319. Points Of Information

319.1 Jennifer Candler, Head of Planning at MDC will be attending the October Meeting.

319.2 Noted the new shop owners Simon and Marilyn have been making vast improvements at Chapel Stores including an improved range of food, welcome packs for Herbage Park visitors etc.

320. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting: Monday 11th October 2010.

Signed

Dated

Meeting ended at 9.55pm