

WIDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Widford Parish Council Extra-Ordinary Meeting Monday 22 February 2016 at 6.15pm in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Jill Buck, Chairman (JB); Cllr Babs Edwards (BE); Cllr Paul Riddle (PR)

Two members of the public

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 6.15pm

- 16.021 Apologies for absence** **ACTION**
1. Councillors: Cllr Glen Parcell (work), Cllr Neil Rogers (away on business)
2. Others: None
- 16.022 Declarations of Interest**
1. Cllr J Buck declared a Pecuniary Interest in the planning notification for 12 Lambs Gardens, as the next door neighbour.
2. There were no requests for dispensations
- 16.023 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, 12 January 2016**
The Clerk noted there was an error in the original draft agenda item 16.007.5, List of Payments: cheque number 964 should have read 965. This had been amended. It was unanimously **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12 January were a true and accurate record.**
The Chairman signed the Minutes. **JB/PR
Clerk**
- 16.024 Budget and Precept for 2016/17**
There was a discussion on the elements of the budget. It was agreed to keep under review the amount granted towards maintaining the Playing Field by taking account of the income from football clubs, whether the footballers mowed the pitch themselves, and the costs incurred in mowing of the pitch and the rest of the field at other times. **All**
Furthermore, essential safety work in the closed churchyard had incurred unforeseen expense in the current year, and further safety work on a large lime tree was anticipated, subject to East Herts Arboricultural Officer's approval. In recognition of this it was agreed to not make a grant toward the upkeep of the New Churchyard in the coming year. The Chairman will write to the PCC. **JB/Clerk
JB**
The budget included an additional £750 for the purchase of a defibrillator cabinet and the cost of ancillary items and installation, which would be added to the Precept. It was therefore unanimously **RESOLVED to agree the budget and to set the Precept for 2016/17 at £9,250.** The Chairman, two councillors and the Clerk signed the Precept form. **Clerk**
- 16.025 Planning**
One new planning application was considered:
3/16/0180/HH 12 Lambs Gardens: Single storey rear extension.
Cllr Buck declared a DPI in the application, but for her to leave the room would render the Council inquorate. It was therefore agreed that, since the application was in all respects the same as the notification received under 3/15/2535/PNHH, the Council should repeat its earlier notification of no objections - but with comments, to East Herts Planning. **Clerk**
With the agreement of the Council, the Chairman suspended the meeting at 6.45pm for public comments
 - It was noted that a permanent location for the archive was being discussed. **JB/PR**
 - It was explained that the extra-ordinary meeting was necessary to approve the budget and precept in public and to meet the precept deadline of 29th February.
 - It was explained that East Herts anticipate paying the New Homes Bonus in 2016/17 as budgeted. This will be reduced in 2017/18 and will not be paid thereafter. All

subject to decisions made by central government. A copy of East Herts latest advice on this will be put up on the website.

PR/Clerk

- A letter/email had just been received from Mr Brownhill regarding the possible use of the phone box to house the defibrillator. Not being on this agenda, the issues raised are to be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.

All

The Parish Council Meeting was resumed at 6.58pm

16.026 Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 1st March following the Annual Parish meeting, which will start at 7.15pm

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7pm.

Signed.....**Dated**.....