

Wareside Parish Council

Minutes of Wareside Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 17th February 2022 held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr Paul Goodman (PG) (chair), Cllr Jane Moseley (JM), Cllr Kim Nicholson (KN), Cllr Shu Pillinger (SP), Cllr Stuart Richards (SR) and Cllr Mike Ryan (MR)

Others: Rebecca Burdick (Clerk) (RB) for the final 20 minutes of meeting

Members of the public: Kay Kerr

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

None

2. Declarations of interest and dispensations:

- a) To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda (including non-pecuniary).

None

- b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests.

None.

- c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

None.

3. To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public

Kay Kerr asked the Council if they had any plans for Queen's Jubilee celebrations. She presented a number of options and a discussion followed covering the type of celebration, date and venue. The idea would be for a joint collaboration between the village hall, pubs, school and church - Kay is in the process of contacting each of these. JM to construct an online survey listing the options and to circulate the survey for Councillors to vote - results will then be shared with Kay. A final decision will be made once interest with each of the parties has been gathered.

4. Planning

- a) To consider planning applications received between 20th January 2022 - 17th February 2022

Application: 3/22/0237/HH

Proposal: Demolition of utility room to rear and erection of single storey rear extension.

At: West Barn New Hall Farm Fanhams Hall Road Wareside Ware Hertfordshire SG12 7SD

Application: 3/22/0238/LBC

Proposal: Demolition of utility room to rear and erection of single storey rear extension.

At: West Barn New Hall Farm Fanhams Hall Road Wareside Ware Hertfordshire SG12 7SD

- b) To review planning decisions made by EHDC

Application: X/21/0099/CND

Proposal: Discharge condition 3 (materials), 4 (windows) and 5 (doors) attached to 3/20/2029/LBC

At: 1 Bakers End Wareside Ware Hertfordshire SG12 7SH

EHDC decision: GRANTED

5. To receive reports from County and District Councillor

Cllr Eric Buckmaster's shared his report. See Appendix for full report.

6. To receive updates from Councillors/Clerk on:

a) Little Oak Heath

General

i. Lease extension - PG updated the PC that EHDC has agreed to the amendments suggested by the solicitor and we are awaiting the updated lease agreement.

ii. Grounds maintenance - JM and MR had a useful meeting with Chris from the LOH grounds maintenance provider on the 25th January and circulated the plan for the upcoming year, which included continuation of path cutting, playground and football pitch grass cutting additional suggested work was the maintenance of the newly planted orchard and complete mowing of another section of the heath (rotated yearly) a winter maintenance visit was also discussed. JM awaiting additional quotes at which point the PC will make a decision.

Heath Area:

i. Orchard - The 12 fruit trees have been planted in LOH, maintenance of the area is required to ensure the trees flourish - see above.

b) Other ongoing projects

i) Maintenance of Village Greens and Trees - Council's responsibilities, local residents practices, and management of risks presented by trees were all discussed. Historical practice of local residents voluntarily maintaining small areas of land that are registered as "village green" was highlighted. JM to liaise with a local tree surgeon and visit village greens to assess work required and an estimate of costs.

ii) Village Map - Cllr Eric Buckmaster has approved a £500 locality budget grant to go towards the production of a Wareside Village Walks map. SP to lead on the project and ask for input as required.

7. To receive update on recent pet disappearances in the village

SP described how her cat had been abducted and was now lost, thought to be somewhere in the vicinity of Kettle Green Lane. Police and other agencies have been informed and notices put up in the area. Council agreed that this type of behaviour was unacceptable and supported SP. Councillors to keep a look for black and white cat and spread the word that this type of behaviour could lead to the culprit getting a police record.

8. Finance:

a) To approve signing of orders for payment online via BACS

| Payee | Work done/goods received | Amount |
|-----------------|---|---------------|
| Rebecca Burdick | January Salary | £274.28 |
| Rebecca Burdick | Reimbursement HP laptop | £529.00 |
| Rebecca Burdick | Reimbursement: Office 365 annual subscription | £59.99 |
| Rebecca Burdick | Reimbursement: Keyboard and mouse | £15.99 |

9. Urgent matters not included on this agenda (for full discussion on the next agenda)

None.

Meeting finished at 8.45pm

Next meeting 17th March 2022 at 19.30

Signed:

Chairman Cllr Paul Goodman

Appendix

Item A - Cllr Eric Buckmaster - County and District report for Feb 2022

Strategy to establish 1.8 million new trees in Hertfordshire recommended by councillors

Hertfordshire County Councillors today (Thursday 3 February) recommended the adoption of the county council's first Tree and Woodland Strategy. The strategy sets out the council's approach to improve tree and woodland management in Hertfordshire, as well as outlining ambitions to establish 1.8 million new trees in the county by 2030.

The establishment of 1.8m new trees will support the council's target to improve nature across the county by 20% by 2050 as outlined in its Sustainable Hertfordshire Strategy. In addition, the 1.8m new trees will also play a role in improving air quality and reducing carbon in the atmosphere.

The strategy also outlines ways the county council will improve the management of existing trees and woodlands in Hertfordshire to ensure that they remain as healthy as possible while providing maximum benefits to landowners, wildlife, and residents.

The strategy also includes plans to allow residents and businesses to play their part in establishing and enhancing trees and woodlands in their local communities through grant schemes and volunteering opportunities.

Eric Buckmaster, Executive Member for The Environment said:

“This strategy clearly sets out our approach to increasing the number of trees across Hertfordshire, while also better conserving and protecting our existing trees and woodlands. This approach will play a vital role in our work to tackle climate change and its effects locally.”

“There are also a number of added benefits, the most obvious being the positive impacts on our residents physical and mental health. The ambitions in the Tree and Woodland Strategy will be pivotal in our efforts to make Hertfordshire a cleaner, greener, healthier county.”

Trading Standards Rogues and Scams team update for December 2021 and January 2022

In December the team joined up with the Police's RPU (Roads Policing Unit) as part of a partnership initiative aiming to reduce road casualties and disrupt criminality and provide a rich source of criminal intelligence. Partner agencies represented included HMRC, Environment Agency, and DVSA. In what turned out to be a crisp morning, police officers were deployed to the road network to identify and stop motorists suspected of crime, and other offences of interest to police and partner agencies. Once directed to a designated check site police and partners exercised their legal powers to conduct enquires on the vehicle, motorist and passengers as required, and as legislation allows. The team spoke to a number of businesses on the day, including driveway/landscaping, roofing, scaffolding and gardening companies, handing out guidance on the law and gaining valuable intelligence.

This year's National Consumer Week campaign theme was about misleading environmental and energy efficiency claims. Increasingly many of us are taking steps to be 'greener', eg making our

homes more energy efficient, and installing energy technologies like solar panels. This awareness-raising week aimed to increase consumer confidence to make the best 'eco-friendly' decisions, and avoid 'green scams', examples being fraudsters pretending to offer government grants, pressure selling of goods and services that might not be appropriate for the consumer and making misleading claims.

Residents have their say about our new Health and Wellbeing strategy

Hertfordshire's Health and Wellbeing strategy aims to improve the health of our residents. We are renewing the strategy for 2022-26 so that it reflects current health needs in the county, and we need your help to make sure that we are focusing on the right things.

The strategy is underpinned by five core values:

- Be community-focused
- Make evidence-based decisions
- Communicate clearly
- Build strong partnerships
- Provide early help

We have chosen three ambitions to help everyone live healthy and independent lives.

These are the things that we feel are most important for us to achieve.

- Strong communities
- Healthy and fulfilling lives
- Effective, joined up health and care services

Hertfordshire County Council has recently submitted its bid for government funding to support the introduction of over 20 electric buses in Stevenage.

The Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) scheme is a central government initiative to help local transport authorities introduce zero emission buses, together with the infrastructure needed to support them. The county council, in partnership with bus operator Arriva, were successful with their initial proposal and have now submitted their final business plan. A decision on whether the plan has been successful should be known by March 2022.

The ZEBRA scheme funding would see a total of 27 of Stevenage's ageing diesel bus fleet replaced with new electric ones, which should be in service by 2024.

Sexual Health support for young people

Young people (aged 13+) can access support with relationships and sexual health from HCC Services for Young People (SfYP) at Access Point Projects across Hertfordshire.

These are available for both drop-ins and appointments, and young people can access support for a range of issues including sexual health. Trained staff can provide young people with condoms,

pregnancy testing and the new dual tests (chlamydia and gonorrhoea) as part of a free and confidential service.

Young people can also access support and advice via SfYP's sexual health text service on 07860 057369. Young people are able to find out where they can find services locally as well as get free condoms and dual testing via post.

Dual testing is a simple and effective way for young people to undertake STI testing with results text to their phone within 7-10 days.

For more information on SfYP's sexual health services, please visit www.servicesforyoungpeople.org

Hertfordshire Dementia Strategy 2022-2027 | Hertfordshire County Council

Hertfordshire Dementia Strategy 2022-2027 | Hertfordshire County Council Hertfordshire County Council, East and North Hertfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group are developing Hertfordshire's Dementia Strategy for 2022-2027. The strategy is being Co-produced with the support of carers and individuals with dementia, and our statutory, voluntary, and independent sector partners, and will be signed off in 2022 by the County Council and the two Clinical Commissioning Groups.

We want to ensure that the voices of people with dementia, and their carers, shape how we use our resources most effectively to enable good quality of life for people with dementia, and to ensure that our services and communities are accessible to everyone.

We want to know what you think is important in ensuring that people with dementia and their carers and family receive the right support.

Hertfordshire Mental Health Strategy 2022-2027

We're developing a strategy to make sure every adult in Hertfordshire gets the help they need to enjoy good mental health and wellbeing.

The strategy will set out how health, social care, housing, public health and voluntary sector services will work together to help everyone in our community achieve this.

Consultation start: 21 December 2021

Consultation end: 31 March 2022 (4pm)

We'd like your views on the following draft priorities and themes. We developed these through workshops and focus groups with service users, carers, and health and care system partners.

- Do you think they're the right things to focus on at this time?
- Is there anything missing?
- What feedback do you have about mental health services in Hertfordshire?

After the 12 week consultation period, we'll develop a detailed action plan setting out how we will work together to achieve these objectives. If you'd like to stay involved, Have your say on the draft mental health strategy

East Herts Projects

Hartham Leisure Centre Work continues on the refurbishment of the pool and is anticipated to open in the Spring. A temporary Gym has been set up and demolition and construction of the new extension should commence by the end of March.

Budgets Both East Herts and HCC have been going through very extensive budget examinations with officers and members towards arriving at balanced budgets during extremely difficult times of cost escalation owing to the impact of covid. Inflation currently seems to be running at around 6 percent and is affecting councils of all sizes across the country. My portfolio at County is looking to increase resource/ support for Sustainable Hertfordshire as well as Countryside Rights of way and in the Lead Local Flood Authority. We are also looking for significant capital investment in Waste Disposal infrastructure and Recycling Centres, In other areas a substantial sum will be put in place to support Adult and Children's social care, support for Domestic Abuse Services and greater emphasis on Prevention Services to support individuals and families. Also to increase wages of care workers.