

# Wareside Parish Council

Minutes of Wareside Parish Annual Council Meeting  
Thursday 16th May 2024 held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr Nicola Gildersleve (NG), Cllr Paul Goodman (PG) (Chair), Cllr Bob Kerr (BK) Cllr Kim Nicholson (KN), Cllr Kerry Raworth (KR) and Cllr Stuart Richards (SR) and Cllr Mike Ryan (MR).

Others: Rebecca Burdick (Clerk) (RB)

Members of the public: None.

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

## 1. Election of Chairman

The PC thanked PG for his hard work as Chairman for the last year and asked if he would continue as Chairman this year. PG agreed and it was unanimously resolved to elect PG as Chairman for the ensuing year. PG signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

## 2. To consider the appointment of a Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year

It was unanimously agreed that as with previous years a Vice-Chairman would not be appointed.

## 3. To receive and accept apologies for absence

None.

## 4. 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.

## 5. To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public

None.

## 6. To approve and sign meeting minutes

a) Thursday 28th March - deferred to June meeting due to RB having not brought the paperwork.

b) Thursday 18th April - as above.

## 7. Planning

a) To consider planning applications received by EHDC

**Application:** 3/24/0594/FUL

**Proposal:** Demolition of dwelling and construction of new dwelling.

**At:** 32 Coanwood Cottages Babbs Green Wareside Hertfordshire SG12 7RT

**WPC comments: Comments made.**

**Planning Appeal:** The White Horse Ware Road Wareside Ware

**LPA Appeal Reference:** 23/00096/REFUSE.

The applicant has appealed to the Secretary of State against the Council's refusal of planning permission for:- **Change of use from public house (with ancillary accommodation) to single residential dwelling.**

**WPC comments:** EHDC has confirmed to the PC that our previous comments, along with all others made, have been forwarded to the planning inspectorate for review as part of the appeal process.

b) To review planning decisions made by EHDC

None.

**8. To receive reports from County Councillor and District Councillor**

County Cllr report received - please see appendix. No District Cllr report received.

**9. To receive updates from Councillors/Clerk on:**

a) Little Oak Heath

i. LOH Maintenance

RB and PG visited LOH this week to check grounds maintenance work had been completed and all areas necessary were included. The work had just been undertaken and PG and RB reported they were happy with the work. RB to contact Chris from E-Scapes Landscapes to discuss frequency of the orchard grass cutting.

NG offered the use of her truck to help clear rubbish from LOH in the first instance, rather than hiring a skip - which was proving logistically challenging. NG said use of the truck would be best after June. RB to circulate dates.

ii. Playground maintenance

On their visit to LOH RB and PG walked around the playground, it was noted that two palings were missing and one was loose, the loose paling was removed and taken away for disposal. The gate latch that had recently been installed was also missing a screw and therefore hanging unable to be used properly. RB and PG to revisit to fix new palings to the fence (RB has spares). Broadmead Leisure are due to undertake repair work on the gate in June, RB to contact them with the update regarding the broken latch to ensure it gets fixed during the scheduled works

Broadmead Leisure emailed to apologise for missing the playground off their inspection round in April, they have confirmed it is on the list for June.

b) Larkshill

Larkshill is looking quite overgrown with the Spring growth. Due to budget constraints maintenance is monthly - next scheduled cut is 30th May - RB to visit after.

**10. To receive update on maintenance of street lighting**

Inspection reports undertaken by Ringway on behalf of HCC have been requested. RB updated the PC that she is being chased to pay the outstanding Street Lighting invoice. She suggested that the "Energy Charge" and "Admin Charge" elements of the invoice be paid as this is not being disputed whilst the "Maintenance Charge" be withheld. It was unanimously agreed to pay the "Energy Charge" and "Admin Charge" of the outstanding HCC invoice.

### 11. To approve noticeboard agreement

RB shared the draft agreement with Wareside Village Hall committee regarding the noticeboard. It was agreed that the PC would pay for postage costs. The PC unanimously agreed the draft could be finalised - RB to send a pdf copy to BK who will share with the committee for approval. RB to order the noticeboard once the VH have approved the agreement.

### 12. Finance

To approve signing of orders for payment online via BACS

| <b>Payee</b>        | <b>Work done/goods received</b> | <b>Amount</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Rebecca Burdick     | Salary (April)                  | £274.28       |
| E-Scapes Landscapes | LOH Maintenance (April)         | £372.00       |
| E-Scapes Landscapes | LOH Maintenance (May)           | £456.00       |
| HAPTC               | Annual membership fee           | £396.72       |
| TP Jones and Co LLP | Payroll (Jan- March)            | £63.40        |

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

BK highlighted the need for better communication methods within the village. It was noted that the most prominent means of communication “The Waresider” no longer is in circulation due to lack of an editorial committee. It was agreed that BK would spend some time before the next meeting thinking up possible solutions KR noted that any ideas need to be realistic and sustainable and also mentioned the possible idea of the red BT phone box being a communication point. KN, PG and RB all mentioned that communication methods has been a longstanding issue, one which the PC have tried to tackle. Any suggestions from BK would be welcomed and BK encouraged input from others if they had any ideas.

It was also agreed that in order to kick start the restoration of the red BT phone box that the PC should meet at the box to get an understanding of work is required - RB to circulate some dates.

**Meeting finished at 9.15pm**

**Next meeting 20th May 2024 at 19.30**

**Signed: .....**

**Date: .....**

**Chair Cllr Paul Goodman**