Parish Council of Waresley-cum-Tetworth

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting
Thursday, 27 April 2017, 8 pm,
Waresley Village Hall

Present: E Jack (Chair), J Archer, H Richardson, C Thorne
Mr L Broderick, Mrs I Broderick, Mrs R Croot, Mrs S Garner, Mr P Masdin (Waresley Cricket Club), Mrs H Webb, Mr B Woodfield, Councillor R West

Minutes taken by S Sullivan

2017.

34 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillor J Lawton, County Councillor J Wisson and District Councillor B Boddington, Mr C Mear.

35 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None

36 MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 21 APRIL 2016 were read out to the meeting by Councillor Thorne, amended, then signed as a true and correct record.

37 MATTERS ARISING Item 4 It was reported that there was not an unpleasant odour in Manor Farm Road at the present time. Fly-tipping continued to be a problem: Mrs Garner was thanked for her continued vigilance. Mrs Garner paid tribute to the District Council waste department for their prompt action: the best way to obtain prompt action was to telephone, or to complete the on-line form, as reports sent by email took longer to be processed. The authorities have a duty to remove abandoned vehicles wherever they are – the vehicle does not have to be on the highway. This includes caravans and trailers.

38 CHAIR'S REPORT (attached as Appendix A)

39 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS Councillor Wisson had sent a report (attached as Appendix B), which was read out to the meeting by Councillor Thorne:
District Councillors' report Councillor West's report is attached as Appendix C.

The Chair thanked Councillors Wisson and West for their reports, and said that the Parish Council was very appreciative of all their District and County Councillors' work, support for the village and regular attendance at Parish Council meetings. They had all been amazing.

40 PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF A428 – CONSULTATION –
E Jack said that this was a retrospective summary, the consultation period having ended on 23 April. She and fellow councillors had attended various briefing meetings, presentations, and local public meetings. She had attended an exhibition at Wyboston. Councillor Lawton had attended briefing meetings and considered arguments and compiled a list of factors to be taken into consideration. E Jack had contacted the Greensand Ridge Country Landscape Partnership, and CPRE, the Wildlife Trust. CPRE had sent a lengthy reply, referring to studies and reports. The whole village had been heavily involved under the leadership of Richard Jerman. Residents had been encouraged to submit their own responses to the consultation. E Jack had submitted the Council's formal response in favour of the 'Orange' route and strong disapproval of the pink route: it had been copied to the Member of Parliament, St Neots Town Council, Cambourne Parish Council and local councillors.

41 WARESLEY CRICKET CLUB – EXTENSION AND REFURBISHMENT PROJECT The Chair welcomed Mr Phil Masdin, Secretary of Waresley Cricket Club, who updated the meeting on progress on plans to extend the pavilion, and improve facilities, especially for the youth division, the Colts. He said that support would be helpful for their grant applications, which were in progress, quotations having been received. He thanked the Parish Council for their expressions of support so far. The total cost was expected to be in the region of £200,000.
Mr Masdin was thanked for attending the meeting,
The chair observed that £2000 had been raised towards funding specifically for a children's play area in the village and if the cricket club could include a play area in their plans, it might be possible to allocate this sum to them. As this amount had been earmarked for a play area, it was felt it should be spent on one and not on other projects, as had been suggested. To be discussed at a subsequent parish council meeting when the fundraisers could be present.

42 WOOD FARM BIODIGESTER The Chair reported that Mr Charles Mear had been invited, and had hoped to attend but had tendered his apologies owing to pressure of work. He had, however, sent a report, outlining progress so far: the installation was nearly complete; seeding had been taking place and construction of the clamp was underway. About 10 lorries a day would access the site over 3 days during seeding and there would be subsequently more lorries carrying concrete. Mr Mear said that the farm hoped to have an open day for residents to view the biodigester when it was finished. He apologised to residents for the inconvenience caused and thanked them for their patience and forbearance.

From the floor concern was expressed about the size and number of heavy vehicles travelling through the village and in particular in Vicarage Road accessing Wood Farm. The vehicles were very noisy, and caused properties adjacent to the road to vibrate when they went past. As well as construction vehicles for the biodigester, egg lorries were a source of complaint: they were large and came at early hours in the morning. Residents urged that construction work should be completed as soon as possible.
ACTION: E Jack to contact Mr C Mear to pass these comments on.

43 OPEN SESSION

a) **Dead Tree** A large dead tree was reported in the field near the garden centre. ACTION: C Thorne to investigate.
b) **Wastebins** caused a hazard to pedestrians when left out on the footpaths. ACTION: E Jack to place note in *Roundabout* requesting residents to retrieve bins promptly on collection days. Councillor West undertook to contact Huntingdon District Council asking that employees be careful to leave wastebins in the appropriate place.
c) **Dog-fouling in Manor Farm Road** ACTION: E Jack to place note in *Roundabout* reminding residents to clear up after their dogs.
d) **Village of the Year competition:** ACTION: E Jack to investigate an entry on behalf of the village.

44 DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (AGM followed by Ordinary Meeting): Thursday, 25 May 2017, 8 pm, Waresley Village Hall

 29/5/2018

APPENDIX A:

CHAIR's REPORT from Eleanor Jack

Boundary Commission: There were changes in the wards and divisions for both county and district councillors, which affect Waresley. In spite of strong protests, we have been assigned to the St Neots East and Gransden division for the county council, which unfortunately mixes rural and urban communities. The District Council has come to a better solution – we will be part of the Great Paxton ward, which is entirely rural.

Millennium Stone: The face has been cleaned and inscription inlaid in black.

Tree works in the old churchyard: have been completed.

Wooden Seat near Green Lane, Manor Farm Rd: Uprights have been fixed – thanks to Chris Thorne. And then fixed again by Chris after being damaged by contractors mowing the verge (we think).

Highways:

Gransden Rd Traffic Calming: Painted signs on road have been completed.

Drains: Substantial work has been carried out on drains in Gamlingay Rd – set in motion by John Archer. Further work has been done to culvert in Gransden Rd after heavy rain – but this was short term and more work will need to be done.

Sign at junction of B1040 and Manor Farm Rd: This was damaged in an accident involving a stolen car. Re-welded and repainted thanks to Colin Croot and Ian Jack. The sign is now fully restored and most of the cost has been recovered from the insurance.

Horse and Rider signs on B1040: Following a serious accident involving a horse and motor bike on the B1040, we requested "Horse and Rider" signs from Highways as a means of slowing traffic down. These have been refused, but we are still exploring the possibility of financing these ourselves, if we can get contributions from neighbouring parishes.

A428 consultation: The consultation closed on 23 April. The Parish Council has been very active in promoting the orange route and opposing the pink one. More details are under item 8 on this agenda.

Duncombe Arms: It's been a difficult year for the pub, with on and off closure as the management changed, and finally it was put up for sale by Greene King. The parish Council has successfully nominated the pub as an Asset of Community Value, in order to protect the property's status as a public house. The pub now takes on a new life as a free house with sympathetic new owners and is due to re-open soon after major refurbishments.

APPENDIX B:
COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT from Julie Wisson

This has been my last year as the county councillor for Waresley following the Boundary Commissions review of the county boundaries. And sad to say that I will be the last councillor for the Buckden, Gransden and the Offords division which has now become two divisions and I am standing for St Neots East and the Gransden division where I live.

This year on 4 May we are also being asked to vote for the first Mayor of Peterborough and Cambridgeshire as a devolved combined authority. The Mayor will have a budget from central government to spend on Highways, training and apprenticeships and housing with a ring-fenced budget of £170 million to address the housing needs in Cambridge city.

In the past year I have sat on the Children's and Young People's Committee at county council, which I have very much enjoyed. I have very much enjoyed my role as a corporate parent and spent some time on the Foster Panel and attended a group called Voices Matter which is a forum for children in care to speak to social carers and councillors to highlight issues and concerns. Voices Matter was recognised with an award for its excellent joint working in 2016. The number of children in care in Cambridgeshire is at an all time high with numbers approximately 456 including around 70 non-accompanied asylum-seeking children. The high numbers of children in care is an unavoidable increased pressure on the budget.

The full council meets six times a year and sets the budget in February. This year the council agreed to increase the precept by 2% ring-fenced for adult social care only and not to increase the precept to gain any further revenue for the county council.

I was pleased that at the December meeting of the full council my motion to request that the county council enter into discussions with Network Rail regarding providing an alternative crossing at the level crossing between Buckden and the Offords was unanimously supported by the full council. Safety at this crossing is a huge concern and the county and district councils must make it a priority to pressurise Network Rail into improving safety with this level crossing before a fatality occurs.

Further committees at the county council include the Adults Committee, Economy and Environment, Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee and the Constitution and Ethics committee.

I regularly attend parish council meetings and community meetings and recently have been kept very busy with the announcement from Highways England for the proposed A428 routes and options for improvements to the Black Cat Roundabout. I have been working with all the local parish councils and residents to support the proposed the orange route for the scheme and am happy

to forward my letter to Highways England to any resident should they wish to read it.

I have also been involved with the local Speedwatch in Abbotsley. Being a regular horse rider, cycler and jogger/runner on the road I am fully aware of the terrifying speeds that drivers think is acceptable to use on our rural roads. So I am a huge advocate of Speedwatch and slowing traffic through campaigns such as Speedwatch.

I have very much enjoyed working with your district councillors Barbara Boddington and Richard West and all of your parish council who I would like to thank for their time that they give for the benefit of Waresley and I hope that I will be able to continue to serve the residents of Waresley following the elections on 4 May.

APPENDIX C:
DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT from Richard West

Another Council year has passed by – a difficult year with breakdown in services and decisions made that did not serve the best interest of the parish councils.
Customer services need to improve with a culture of 'we are here to serve the electorate'. I remain hopeful that the programme of putting yourself in the shoes of the customer, we can make council services better Online and by phone, quicker, with more choices.
The best example I can give is bank services, which now provide online banking and ATM machines giving a 24-hour service – you no longer have to travel to the bank for services.

Public Transport I am now a member of the Board of Huntingdonshire Association of Community Transport, which provides service for village residents. I would welcome support from the parish councils to encourage residents to become a member of the community service transport- there are social events with ring and ride service. There are community car schemes providing transport for hospital and surgery appointments always need volunteer drivers.

Responsibilities I continue to serve the following Corporate Governance Committee, Licensing Committee, Licensing Sub-Committee and Licensing and Protection Committee, Development Management Committee along with the Overview Scrutiny Panel Performance and Customers Employment Committee vice-chairman and vice-chairman of the Council. Chairman of Hinchingbrooke Country Park joint Group and working with Cambridgeshire County Council.

Trunk Roads There is a need to monitor the construction of the A14 to ensure residents are protected from noise, pollution and the soft landscaping to maintain the landscape. We need to work with colleagues to be fully informed on the A428 plans to rebuild between the Black Cat Roundabout to Caxton Gibbet; and to gain improvements to the A1.

Councillor Barbara Boddington is not able to be here this evening: she is at Gransden, while I have come here. I would like to stress that she cares very much about this community. We work very much together and as a team with our County Councillor.