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Parish Council of Waresley-cum-Tetworth
Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 5 March 2019, 8pm,
Waresley Village Hall

Present: E Jack (Chair), J Archer, M Gordon, R Jerman, J Lawton
In attendance: County Councillor J Wisson, District Councillor R West, Mrs R Banks, Mr D Offord, Mrs S Gordon, Mr R Kerr, Mr D Morgan

17 Apologies for absence. None.
18 Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interests. None.
19 Minutes of parish council meeting of 24 January 2019 were read out by Councillor Lawton and were APPROVED and SIGNED as a true record.
20 Matters arising not on the agenda.

Item 7 19/0002/AGDET The District Council had advised that planning permission was not necessary for a polytunnel, after some negotiation with the applicants to reduce the size of the tunnel and site it further from residents. Councillor Jack said that use of the tunnel was seasonal and thus it might not be permanent

Item 12 Finance – website The site had been updated to include the current contact for the Village Hall The account should be placed in the Parish Council's name and ownership: We also needed the ability to update other areas of the website. ACTION: E Jack to contact A Ottley.

21 Open Forum

County Councillor Wisson reported that the decision had been made on the A428 upgrade and that the Orange Route had been chosen – this was good news for Waresley. Waresley's Local Highways Improvement bid would be considered next week.

District Councillor West reported that he would remain alert to planning application and check with the Planning Department to see whether an application for the Garden Centre had been filed. On the East–West railway, it seemed that Route A was the Government's preferred route, but it was important for him to reflect the views of the villages he represented. National Government policies did not take account of individuals or small communities. Gransden/Waresley Wood had been temporarily closed to visitors by the Wildlife Trust – he noted that this was an agenda item. He thanked the Acting Clerk for her services over several years.

Gamlingay Neighbourhood Plan – Mrs Ros Banks asked about the proposed 200m cordon around Gamlingay Wood. The Chair replied that the cordon was a line on a map, outlining the area within which development would be opposed. Waresley PC supported Gamlingay in this but in Waresley several buildings already existed within 200m of the wood.

22 Consultations and procedures

A428 update – the choice of the Orange Route – the one preferred by the Parish Council – was noted and welcomed.

EWRail Consultation – R Jerman summarised the situation – the route options had been whittled down to 5 – a 6th option namely CBRR had been reviewed and seemingly rejected. Route A appeared to be the preferred route as meeting most fully the overall objectives, on grounds of cost, distance, speed of service and therefore time of journey, economic impact, housing delivery – it did, however, have its opponents as it would go close to Wimpole Hall and the RSPB. Although all the councillors had previously supported the CBRR unanimously, as it hadn't made the final 5 in the EWR consultation Jerman recommended the PC should be focusing its support on the 5 routes in the consultation process

The meeting was closed to elicit views from the floor. The meeting was re-opened.

The Parish Council encouraged residents to respond individually before the deadline of 11 March 2019. To help residents, it was AGREED that Councillor Jerman would provide a template summarising the main points. ACTION: R Jerman. It was further AGREED that the Parish Council would respond by letter, preferring Route A, but stating that the opportunity to serve local communities on a northern route had been missed. ACTION: E Jack

23 Planning – Proposed development at Garden Centre It was noted that the proposed public meeting on 6 March had been cancelled.

24 Highways Local Highways Improvement bid for 40 mph buffer zone. Councillor Archer reported that a Council Highways Officer had visited the sites recently and that he hoped to hear very soon whether or not the Parish Council's bid had been successful.

25 Road markings Worn out road markings had been reported. It was understood that, because of budget constraints, they should be repainted in the new financial year. Councillor Archer was thanked.

26 Defibrillator Councillor Gordon reported that a condition attached to the Grant from the British Heart Foundation required that the Defibrillator should not be placed in a coded or locked cabinet. It was AGREED that an unlocked open-access defibrillator would not be acceptable as representing too great a risk to vandalism or theft. It was further AGREED that a different source of grant-funding for a lockable and coded defibrillator and cabinet be sought, e.g. The Community Chest or Heartbeat Trust. ACTION: M Gordon to pursue and report to next meeting. Councillor Gordon was thanked for his work.

27 Streetlights Outside 8 Vicarage Road and bollard light near The Square. It was noted that these had been repaired. √

28 Temporary Closure of Waresley/Gransden Wood The Parish Council deplored the decision of the Wildlife Trust to close public access to the nature reserve without informing the Parish Council. Several residents had complained that although the car park remained open, with access to Browne's Piece, they had walked the path to the reserve entrance only to find it padlocked. It was AGREED to write to the Wildlife Trust expressing the Parish Council's concerns over lack of communication with or explanation to the Parish Council and wider community, the lack of signage in the car park and the timing of the closure, coming at a time when many enjoyed visiting the reserve especially for its floral interest, and the lack of information on when the reserve would again be open to the public. ACTION: E Jack.

29 Old Churchyard – Wall repairs Councillor Gordon reported that he had received one quotation for £ 3520 plus materials. Another from A Touch of TLC for £1475.76 including materials. A third written quotation had been requested but had not been received In view of the urgent need, on the grounds of safety and to catch the appropriate 'weather window', to repair the wall, it was AGREED to accept the quotation from A Touch of TLC. Proposed by E Jack, seconded by J Lawton. ACTION: M Gordon to provide copy of written quotation to the Clerk, and to instruct the builder to proceed. Councillor Gordon was thanked for his work.

30 Trees in Old Churchyard Mr D Morgan reported that he had informed the Diocese and been advised by the Council's Tree Officer. The work would be undertaken towards the end of March. It was AGREED that The Friends of St James should be approached for a donation towards the cost of preserving the trees. ACTION: E Jack. Mr Morgan was thanked for his work.

31 Finance

Payments were AGREED as follows: Clerking services January, February, March £227.25; expenses – none; support for Village Hall £1.000; hire of village hall 2018/19 tba, Section 137 St Neots Museum support £20, Roundabout support £50. Proposed by J Lawton, seconded by R Jerman. ACTION: Clerk – also to obtain invoice for village hall hire.

32 Little Gransden Aerodrome and Cambridge Gliding Club Consultative Committees J Archer reported that the Aerodrome Committee meeting had not been

attended by the proprietors of the Aerodrome, but that they had apologised profusely for their mistake in permitting helicopter movements from the aerodrome – this was expressly forbidden by the planning consent. The Gliding Club Consultative Committee meeting had been more contentious, but the Club's planning application had been broadly approved. It was noted that the next meetings were scheduled for 10 April. Councillor Archer hoped to attend.

33 Handover of clerking services The Acting Clerk confirmed that she would liaise with the Chair and new Clerk Rod Kerr over the handover of material at the end of March. The Parish Council thanked her for her work. The Clerk thanked councillors for their help and support during her time as Acting Clerk.

34 Summary of meeting for *Roundabout.* J Lawton kindly offered to do this.

35 Any Other Business Councillor Gordon asked about the status of the Parish Council's Insurance. The Clerk gave him a copy of the current certificate. ACTION: Clerk to provide recorded minute of payment of premium.

36 Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 14 May 2019 7.30 pm Village Hall.

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