Parish Council of Waresley-cum-Tetworth

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday, 21 April 2016, 8 pm, Waresley Village Hall

Present: Councillors J Archer, E Jack, J Lawton, H Richardson, District Councillor R West, Mrs S J Bowers, Mr C Bowers, Mrs I Broderick, Mr L Broderick, Mr C Croot

Minutes taken by: S Sullivan
The Chair was taken by Councillor Jack, who welcomed everybody.

2016

43. **Apologies** for absence were received from Councillor C Thorne (Chairman), District Councillor B Boddington, County Councillor J Wisson

44. **The Minutes of Annual Meeting 12 May 2015** were read out, APPROVED as a true record and signed.

45. **Matters arising** From the Open Session: Anglia Water had taken measures to mitigate the unpleasant odour in Manor Farm Road but it was noted that the odour tended to occur in dry weather.
Flytipping continued to be a problem: if it occurred on private land it was the responsibility of the landowner to clear it'; the District Council would clear debris left on the public highway.

46. **Chair's report** was read out by Councillor Jack (attached). It was noted that the carry forward for the financial year 2016/17 would be £2727, compared with £1395 for the year 2015/16.

47. **County Councillor's report** not received.

48. **District Councillors' report** Councillor West read out his report (attached). A report from Councillor Boddington was also read out)report attached). The Parish Council thanked Councillors Boddington, West and Wisson for attending Parish Council meetings when possible and for their service to the community.

49. **Highway Safety Improvements in Waresley** Councillor Archer summarised the achievements over the past year in improving the safety of highways in Waresley. Before explaining the current project, he described the background to the present situation. "There was a desire to improve safety for those – especially children - attempting to cross the road near the Duncombe Arms and to reduce vehicle speed. Two areas had been identified – the Gransden Road near the pub car park, and the entrance from the south end of the village from Gamlingay. Speedwatch volunteers monitored speeds

of vehicles to provide evidence and two schemes were put forward – our case was very well presented but just failed to score sufficient points to secure funding. We therefore turned to what we could do ourselves and looked at Gransden Road. Visibility has been improved by the landowners on either side cutting back overhanging trees and vegetation. We have worked closely throughout with the County Council Highways Department, who are after all the experts on what can legally be done and what is feasible and practicable. It has been decided to mark the road with 'dragon's teeth' and a 30 mph roundel, followed by a 'children and parent' (sign 545). This we hope will reduce vehicle speed and alert drivers to potential hazards. The scheme will cost £1155 and we expect to fund this from the precept. I have been most impressed by Highways –the work should be carried out within the next four weeks. The installation of a mirror on private land near the Duncombe Arms has been very effective in improving visibility."

.

Questions from the floor asked whether speed monitoring had been carried out and highlighted the bends near Manor Farm Road where two serious accidents had recently occurred. Concern was expressed that records of these accidents were not evident on the council's website, despite having been reported. It was explained that once a hazard had been removed, it was also removed from the website. It was suggested that when the improvements to the approaches from Gransden Road had been completed, further monitoring of vehicles should be carried out. The Parish Council could then ask the highways department to reconsider and if possible recommend safety improvements near Manor Farm Road.

The Parish Council thanked Councillor Archer for the huge amount of work he had undertaken on this subject.

50. Open Session

In view of the impending election for Police Commissioner, Mr Bowers said that he wished to ask about the level of police presence in the village. Councillor Jack replied that she had recently returned a police questionnaire to survey issues of concern to the village, which included regular spates of theft from vehicles parked in the nature reserve care park at Waresley Wood, and flytipping. The village was served by a PCSO who also had to serve many other villages.

51. Date of next Parish Council Meeting (AGM followed by Ordinary Meeting): Thursday, 12 May 2016, 8 pm, Waresley Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Chairman's Report April 2016

Chairmanship
Eleanor Jack chair until August. Resigned because of illness. Valerie Coleman chair Nov –Jan. Resigned because she was leaving the parish.
Jan – present – Chris Thorne

New parish councillor
Vacancy caused by Valerie's departure was advertised and subsequently Jonathan Lawton was co-opted to the parish council.

Website
Up to date. Old minutes and agendas 2015-16 uploaded.
Chris, Eleanor and Sylvia have had instruction and passwords and can update certain pages.
New and Events: Has advertised pc meetings and litter pick
EJ can update this site for other village events, but we need to spread the word.

Street Lights
Faulty lights fixed. Quote requested for shield to protect Vine House

Traffic calming
Mirror installed to improve visibility for pedestrians crossing from Duncombe Arms to Vicarage Rd.
Gransden Rd scheme in hand. See item on agenda. Thanks to John Archer for seeing this through.

Super Fast broadband
Waresley upgraded to super fast broadband September 2015. Residents need to negotiate new package with main providers.

Millennium Stone
Quinces to inlay inscription in black- scheduled for spring.

Litter pick.
Parish wide litter pick held last weekend. 19 volunteers collected 44 bags of litter. Most of the roads in Waresley covered and some in Tetworth.

Report to Waresley cum Tetworth Parish Council from Councillor Richard West 21 April 2016

MY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AT DISTRICT COUNCIL

Member of the Corporate Governance Panel, to consider issues of the audit governance and finance to include the Council's constitutional arrangements.
Member of the Development Management Panel, to discharge the powers and duties of the Council for non-executive functions relating to town and country planning and development. Determination of applications for planning permission.
Member of the Employment Panel, to provide the strategic overview of the people management and workforce decisions and issues within the Council.
Member of the Licensing and Protection Panel/Licensing Committee, to discharge the powers and duties of the Council for non-executive functions relating to licensing and registration, health and safety at work and protection of the environment.
Licensing Committee to discharge the functions of the Council as licensing authority under the Licensing Act 2003. To set fees for licences, permits etc., under the Gambling Act 2005.
Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel Economy and Growth (Environmental well-being to scrutinise undertake reviews and formulate recommendations and scrutiny decisions.
Chairman of the Hinchinbrooke Country Park Joint Group working with the Cambridgeshire County Council to maintain the park for the enjoyment of residents of the district.
Nearly at the end of the first year in the role of vice-chairman of the Council along with the Chairman have enjoyed supporting the armed forces events, and volunteering organisations.
Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre Trustee have realised the importance of volunteering for services and the well-being it brings to volunteers.
I enjoy being member of St Peter's Church committee Offord Darcy to provide functions for villagers and support Church Conservation Trust.
Each year the parish Councils carry out their duties and serve their residents it is important the district council support the parish councils. I am hoping improvements in the website will help to find the information required to carry out their duties, in the long term hope changes to planning applications between parish and district will work for the benefit of all.
Enforcement remains an issue over the next few months, member will have scrutiny report to find ways to improve the service, there is need for transparency, their direction supporting local residents and parish council.
There must be more respect shown to parish councils by residents or non-residents when submitting planning applications or changing land use. I urge them to talk to the parish council, Invite visits and maintain dialogue to maintain the village way of life and protect historic heritage.

ANNUAL REPORT - Submitted by District Councillor BARBARA BODDINGTON

Another year, my election in May 2015 seems in the distant past – but very much appreciated support in this Rural Ward with a just under 2000 majority.
My work around the Ward is varied and obviously some personal- but overall working with residents is very rewarding particularly getting good results.
Huntingdonshire District Council has made many major changes during the last year, mainly involving staff with early retirement/redundancies resulting in excess space in the offices. We are now letting the whole third floor of the main building and the top floor of the Civic Suite to private companies. Also The Call Centre will be moving to Pathfinder House in May.
My committees are Planning, Scrutiny (Economy and Growth), Standards, Safety Advisory, Tree Preservation, Development Advisory Group and Senior Appeals Group
Good news NO Council Tax rise at Huntingdonshire District Council – All services maintained.
As Chairman of Development Management Committee many applications come before the panel – but 90% because Town/Parish Councils decisions are in conflict with HDC (quite correct procedure with democracy and transparency), Officers at HDC have to work to Government Policies, but the final decisions are with the Panel holding monthly meetings.
Operations at HDC are very much under review and now the option of a reduction in size of your Bins to a smaller 140 instead of 240 will be welcomed – this is replaced free of Charge and should help elderly or single residents. **Ring HDC Call Centre 01480 388640**
Open Spaces Water Safety Policy is also under review with HDC owned sites with – better signage noting key dangers – Site Rescue Equipment – Edge of waterways protection with removal of dense vegetation with protection of breeding and nesting wildlife particularly in our Nature Reserves – I was fully assured that if necessary certain sites will be a NO-GO area. Work will be undertaken over the next twelve months on all these sites -
Hinchingbrooke Country Park and Paxton Pits including sailing lake – Marina and Weir at St Neots – 14 River Banks - 8 Brooks - 3 Ponds - 11 Balancing Ponds and 13 Drainage Ditches

The Community Chest
Details have been finalize - look at HDC Democracy on A-Z - Grants, closing date early May. As with last year £60,000 will be available maximum one application limit of £5,000. These grants are available to all small organisations in Towns and Villages in Huntingdonshire.
Finally my thanks as always to Waresley Parish Council and their Clerk– working hard for residents, and my help in any way is always available.

Cllr BARBARA BODDINGTON – Tel: 01480 880929 Email
barbara.boddington@huntsdc.gov.uk
Ward consists of -Abbotsley –Gt Gransden – Gt Paxton – The Offords –Toseland – Waresley – Yelling