

South Mimms Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th January 2010 (deferred from 7th January because of adverse weather conditions) in South Mimms Village Hall

Present: Councillor Ian Dempster - Chairman
Councillors :- Yvonne Harverson, and Kenneth Swayne

Ms B M Levy Interim Clerk
Councillor John Usher Divisional Councillor Hertfordshire County Council
9 members of the public

1/10 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Paul Binstead who was unwell.

2/10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5th NOVEMBER 2009

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5th November 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record.

3/10 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of Members' interests.

4/10 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR KEVIN SOLLY

The Council NOTED that Councillor Solly had resigned on 2nd January. Notice of vacancy had been published and if no election was requested the vacancy would be filled by co-option.

5/10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

As comments were required in early December the Chairman and other Members of the Council considered the following applications on 26th November and **RESOLVED** that no objections be made.

TP/09/1614 – Ingham Lodge, Greyhound Lane, South Mimms EN6 3NU. – Two storey rear extension and single storey side extension to provide orangery.

TP/09/1801 – Welcome Break Service Area, St Albans Road South Mimms, EN6 3NE Use of land for hand car wash facility with mobile van and temporary canopy.

TP/09/1859 – 22 Blanche Lane, South Mimms, EN6 3PA Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding and erection of replacement 2 storey, detached 4 bedroom dwelling and double garage.

TP/09/1864 – 22 Blanche Lane, South Mimms, EN6 3PA Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding. (Application for Conservation Area Consent)

TP/09/1942 – 22 Blanche Lane, South Mimms, EN6 3PA Siting of temporary mobile home in rear garden whilst existing main dwelling is being constructed/renovated (Revised Application)

TP/09/1882 – Dancers Hill Farmhouse, Dancers Lane, Barnet EN5 4RX. - Demolition of two storey extension and construction of single storey conservatory. Internal alterations to first floor to incorporate dressing and bathroom to master bedroom and new bathroom to replace existing dressing room.

TP/09/1883 – Dancers Hill Farmhouse, Dancers Lane, Barnet EN5 4RX. - Demolition of two storey extension and construction of single storey conservatory. Internal alterations to first floor to incorporate dressing and bathroom to master bedroom and new bathroom to replace existing dressing room. (Listed Building Consent).

TP/09/1980 – Dancers Hill Farmhouse, Dancers Lane, Barnet EN5 4RX. – Retrospective application for replacement of roof. (Listed Building Consent).

TP/09/1982 – Dancers Hill Farmhouse, Dancers Lane, Barnet EN5 4RX. – Retrospective application for replacement of roof.

TP/09/1944 – 10 Blackhorse Lane, South Mimms EN6 3PR. – Single storey rear extension to utility room (Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Use).

TP/091914 – Highways Agency E R Control, St Albans Road, South Mimms, EN6 3ND – Erection of brick built store within car park together with addition of 4 no. parking bays

A further application was considered at the meeting as follows:-

TP/09/1786 – 85 Blanche Lane, South Mimms, EN6 3PE – Extension to existing rear garage for storage purposes following removal of existing shed – and it was RESOLVED that no objection be made

6/10 SCHEDULES OF PAYMENTS

Schedules of accounts as follows (attached) were **RECEIVED** and **CONFIRMED**:-

26 th November 2009 - Cheques 31 - 32	-	£300.00
6 th January 2010 – Cheques 33 -34	-	£343.14

7/10 BUDGET 2010/2011

The Council considered and **RESOLVED** to approve the budget for 2010/11 (attached at APPENDIX A) and to request a precept of £10,000 from Hertsmeare Borough Council. The Council **NOTED** that the tax base figure for the year was 362 which, based on a precept of £10,000, would work out to be £27.62 per Band D equivalent property. As the tax base had increased by 4 and the precept remained the same, the band D equivalent would be reduced by 31 pence from £27.93

8/10 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the schedule of meetings for 2010/11 be approved.

9/10 UPDATED RISK ASSESSMENT

In accordance with Regulation 4(2) of the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 the Council considered a revised risk assessment which had been updated following the report of the external auditor.

RESOLVED that the revised risk assessment (attached at Appendix B) be approved and that as the Council has no assets and very little capital no insurance policy be taken out present as the cost of such insurance would be disproportionate to the risk involved.

11/10 INTERNAL AUDITOR

NOTED that Mark Edwards had agreed to undertake the role of Internal Auditor and **RESOLVED** that he be appointed to that role

12/10 SECTION 137 EXPENDITURE – GRANT APPLICATIONS

Grant applications had been received from South Mimms Village Hall Management Committee and the White Hart Public House for £150 each towards providing Christmas lunches for elderly residents..

In consultation with the Chairman and other Members of the Council the grants had been approved in advance of this meeting as the funding was required urgently. The cheques had been issued and are included in the schedule of payments listed at minute 6/10 above.

It was further **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would pay for the Christmas tree and lights, as in the previous year, on receipt of an invoice

13/10 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

It was NOTED that little progress had been made on highways issues since the restructuring of the Area Highways Teams. Particular reference was made to the new County Council Composting Site as the entrance was incorrectly addressed on the internet resulting in lorries using Blackhorse Lane instead of St Albans Road. County Councillor John Usher reported that a ‘No HGVS’ sign should have been placed at the entrance to Blackhorse Lane and he would chase this.

It was agreed that a meeting should be sought with the local Highways Manager to discuss outstanding issues.

14/10 HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY – CRIME STATISTICS

No crime statistics had been received but the local Police Constable had reported that the youths responsible for vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the village had been interviewed with their parents and it was hoped that this would produce a positive outcome..

15/10 PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman invited questions from members of the public about items on the agenda.

Minutes of the meeting of South Mimms Parish Council held on 14th January 2010 (continued)

Reference was made to the need some sort of provision for youngsters so that they were diverted away from anti-social behaviour and vandalism. It was suggested that a Youth shelter should be provided but this had been discussed previously and found little favour. It was agreed that Councillors would meet the youths and their parents in an attempt to find a solution.

County Councillor Usher reported that St Giles School had received an excellent report from Government Inspectors.

He also reported the Parish Council's application for a grant for £1,000 to replace two public benches had been approved. St Giles Church was seeking a grant to provide a toilet in the entrance hall but there was insufficient money in this year's budget and he had advised that they apply for a locality grant in the new financial year.

16/10 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, publicity on which might be prejudicial to the public interest

17/10 APPOINTMENT OF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

RESOLVED that the appointment of Helen Rook as Clerk of the Council be approved and that the starting salary should be point 22 on the National Salary Scale rising to point 25 with an increment after the first six months and then annually,

18/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be the Annual Parish Meeting which would be held in South Mimms Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 4th March 2010. This was a statutory public meeting to review the Council's activities during the previous year. It would be immediately followed by an ordinary Council meeting if necessary.

19/10 CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Chairman

Date