

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
WELWYN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 26th JULY 2010 AT
THE PARISH CENTRE LOCKLEYS DRIVE WELWYN
WHICH COMMENCED AT 7.45PM**

PRESENT: Councillor J Blackburn (Chairman) and Councillors M Benson, A Blackett, S Butler, I Colpitts, C Hukin, L McLusky and I Skidmore

IN ATTENDANCE: M Khan (Temporary Office Administrator)

APOLOGIES: Councillors B McKay and P Neville

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Three members of the public were in attendance.

OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Chairman welcomed all present and opened the meeting.

2010/062 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Councillor Colpitts declared an interest in item 2010/ 069 (2) Sports and Social Club

2010/063 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST JUNE 2010

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 21st June 2010 be approved and signed".

Unanimously agreed.

2010/064 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24th MAY 2010.

Minute Number 2010/054. The Chairman reported that the refurbishment of the White Hill Centre is now complete and that the work had been carried out to a high standard by a local contractor.

2010/065 CASUAL VACANCY

A notice was posted advertising a Casual Vacancy on the Parish Council following the resignation of Dr. Ober. As during the statutory period no election was called, the Council are able to Co-opt a parishioner to fill this vacancy. The Council to consider applications to fill this post.

There have been no expressions of interest in the casual vacancy to date. Councillors have been asked to approach suitable parishioners.

2010/066 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Planning and Licensing Committee. Councillor C Hukin Chairman of the Committee, presented reports of meetings held on the 29th June and the 20th July 2010 and answered questions.

2010/067 THE FORMER CLOCK MOTEL SITE

A report from Councillor Skidmore was circulated with the Agenda as Appendix 1.

Following discussion it was agreed that this item be included on the next Planning & Licensing Committee Agenda for discussion.

2010/068 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

A report by Councillor Skidmore was circulated with the Agenda as Appendix 1a

Following discussion it was proposed by Councillor Skidmore, seconded by Councillor Benson and

RESOLVED "that the Parish Council endorse the Parish Plan Action Groups intention to work with CDA for Herts to survey the need for affordable housing in Welwyn Parish".

Unanimously agreed

2010/069 REVIEW OF RENTS RECEIVED FROM TENANTS OF COUNCIL OWNED PROPERTY

1. Welwyn and District Bowls Club Lease

The Bowls Club advised they consider the valuation undertaken by Brown and Lee Chartered Surveyors, had not made allowances for the fact the existing club house had been enlarged and improved by the Bowls Club since the lease was granted. This could reduce the rental charge for the lease. Following discussion with Brown and Lee Chartered Surveyors, a meeting was held between Brown and Lee Chartered Surveyors and the Bowls Club on site to resolve this issue. The Parish Council awarded a grant of £ 10,000 to the Bowls Club in 1989 towards renovation of the Club House which will also affect the valuation. Brown and Lee Chartered Surveyors revised report to include a revised valuation report plus the original valuation report were circulated with the Agenda of the Full Council meeting held on the 29th March 2010.

Following a meeting with the Bowls Club and discussion at the Full Council meeting held on the 24th May 2010, Brown And Lee Chartered Surveyors had been requested to provide additional supporting information to their report and the Bowls Club have been requested to provide a copy of their accounts and a list of members by post Code.

Correspondence with the Bowls Club was tabled and is attached as **APPENDIX 1**

An additional Report from Brown and Lee Chartered Surveyors was tabled and is attached as **APPENDIX 2**

As Councillors had not had time to study tabled paperwork it was agreed to add this to the Agenda for next week's Leisure Facilities and Open Spaces Committee Meeting.

2. Sports and Social Club Lease

The Sports and Social Club Lease is due for renewal March 2010. The Sports and Social Club have agreed that Brown and Lee Chartered Surveyors undertake a professional valuation. Brown and Lee Chartered Surveyors were instructed to undertake the valuation. A response from Brown and Lee Chartered Surveyors was circulated with

the Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st June 2010 as Appendix 2. This report advised the Sports and Social Club lease should be increased by inflation only.

The Clerk to obtain details of annual inflation figures from the Central Statistics Office, to enable the rent to be calculated. Response awaited.

2010/070 APPLICATION FOR GRANT AID

Miss Verity Rainey requesting grant aid towards an Internship with the European Union's "Formula Europe Institute" in Brussels. Details were circulated with the Agenda as Appendix 4.

As this project would not bring any benefit to the parish, the request for grant aid was refused

EXEMPT BUSINESS

Under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the following items on the Agenda, the Chairman at this point excluded the public and accredited representatives of newspapers on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of the Act by virtue of the paragraph specified against the items.

2010/071 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING (EXEMPT BUSINESS) HELD ON THE 21ST JUNE 2010

RESOLVED" that the Minutes of the Council Meeting (Exempt Business) held on the 21st June 2010 be approved and signed".

Unanimously agreed.

2010/075 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chairman thanked all present and declared the meeting closed at 9.22pm

Signed.....Chairman, Welwyn Parish Council

19th August 2010.